



Keep your home cool



Your PUD plans for heat waves — and cold snaps — and has enough electricity to meet summer power demand. But, extended periods of 100-degree days can put a strain on customer comfort and household budgets.

“The number one thing customer-owners can do is remember to open and close windows and blinds as temperatures change,” said Josh Mitchell, residential energy efficiency adviser. “If it cools off in the evening, turn off your cooling system and open your windows. When you wake up, shut the windows and blinds to capture the cool air.”



Have a question on saving energy? Contact Chelan County PUD's Josh Mitchell at 661-8008 or conservation@chelanpud.org.

For more tips to save energy and money this summer visit chelanpud.org/SummerTips.

Best ways to save

- Set the air conditioning thermostat at 78 degrees.
- Turn off your cooling system and open your windows while sleeping.
- Close drapes and blinds during the day to block the sun's heat.
- Turn off fans when you're away.
- Change the air conditioner filter monthly during heavy use.



PUD profile: Ron Slabaugh Water when you need it



About 6,200 Chelan PUD water and wastewater customers depend on Ron Slabaugh and his team for essential services.

He credits decisions by PUD commissioners 20 years ago to upgrade District water systems and “ring” the Wenatchee Valley for future growth, which made it possible to meet that night’s firefighting demand.

They operate the District’s five water systems and three sewer systems in suburban and rural parts of the county.

Slabaugh appreciates that few days on the job are the same, since he must work with multiple agencies to meet all the different standards for clean, reliable water and sewer service.

Most days Slabaugh only takes an occasional look at the computer systems tracking water flow and reservoir depth. On Sunday, June 28, he had eyes fixed on the screen for almost 24 hours. He stayed in constant contact with the crew to make sure there was water to fight the Sleepy Hollow Fire as it raged through Wenatchee’s Broadview neighborhood and threw sparks to ignite four fires downtown – across the street from his office.

“You have to bring a lot of agencies and people together. I enjoy that challenge.”

“I was so proud of the crew. We were a team,” he said. “We always had a plan.”

He also likes the satisfaction of working on long-term projects like building new reservoirs.

Slabaugh joined the PUD as a water/wastewater engineer in 2002. He became manager in 2007.

Off the job, he enjoys working on old cars, playing with his Vizsla dogs and spending time with his family.

In your neighborhood: Save the date

We want you to get to know us better — and have some fun while you’re at it. We’re hosting a series of events with activities for kids and ways to learn more about YOUR PUD. Here’s what’s coming up:

- **July 25:** Rock Island hard-hat tours — Registration required by calling (509) 663-7522.
- **Sept. 19:** Wenatchee River Salmon Festival, Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery
- **Oct. 3:** Public Power Week event at Pybus Public Market
- **Oct. 10:** Senior Damboree at Rocky Reach Dam
- **Oct. 25:** Fall Roundup at Rocky Reach Dam

Click, comment and stay in touch

Customer-owners have an important role in helping your public utility make decisions. One example is how your feedback shaped the results of our recent strategic plan.

Staying in touch with you is vital as we put the plan into action. We invite you to join Chelan PUD’s new “E-Panel.” Members will get a short, easy email survey on a different topic every other month. It’s just a quick click for your response.

About 4,000 customers received the first survey in May. Join them by emailing contactus@chelanpud.org and ask us to add you to the E-Panel list.

GM Steve Wright: There's no dust gathering on this plan



Without taking more than a few moments to celebrate our new strategic plan, we're hard at work — with the support of commissioners — putting it into action.

Three principles support the actions laid out in the strategic plan to provide **the best for the most for the longest period of time.**

They are: reinvesting in our physical assets and people; reducing debt by about \$350 million by

2019; and investing in public power benefits. Actions at a recent commission meeting show that our strategic plan is not gathering dust on the shelf. We are actively putting it into action.

Investments include commissioners considering buying more headgates for Rocky Reach Dam to make scheduled work more efficient and safer for employees. We achieved our 2015 goal of paying down debt another \$122 million. And, the first public power benefit program is proving popular,

it's the day-use parking pass pilot program. If you want to participate or learn more, visit our website at www.chelanpud.org.

Following the devastation of the Sleepy Hollow Fire, we recognize that wise investments by PUD commissioners 20 years ago in water system upgrades helped firefighters save homes and businesses. In this issue, read more about Water/Wastewater Manager Ron Slabaugh and how he and coworkers kept water flowing as the flames advanced.



CHELAN COUNTY

Let's talk: We want to hear from you. Talk to us on Facebook.com/ChelanPUD. Find us on Twitter @ChelanPUD • Email us at contactus@chelanpud.org. Give us a ring at (509) 663-8121 or toll-free, (888) 663-8121.



Planning for the day fire strikes

Sometimes there is no stopping a wildfire. Still, there are many things you can do in advance that will help firefighters protect your home when flames approach. Protect your family, too, if it's time to evacuate.



- Replace flammable siding, roof and deck materials with non-combustible materials.
- Replace vent screens with 1/8" or smaller metal mesh.
- Clear brush from along your driveway and make sure your

address sign is visible day and night

- Clear leaves and debris from gutters
- Clear at least a 30-foot space around your house of leaves, dried grass and other flammable materials
- Keep your wood pile at least 30 feet from the house
- Have an exit plan with a pre-set meeting place if there is a wildfire
- Have a list of "must haves" organized to grab if you have to evacuate

Find more tips online at Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition and Firewise.org.

Lake level holding steady

Lake Chelan is an important reservoir for recreation and electricity. Lake level for the foreseeable future is within forecast operating range. To date, license minimum target elevations were met and we expect to meet those through Oct. 1. Check daily lake level readings and get updates on what's planned at chelanpud.org/Lake levels and river flows.

