

GM Steve Wright: Ready to respond



Steve Wright

No matter how much you plan for a disaster, the first look at the aftermath is tough. But, so are the people who are there to help.

That's when our customer-owners – and the community – really see the benefit of the planning and preparation we do.

Just having a good plan is never the point. The value comes from the conversations held as it is developed, the relationships forged and the results from putting the plan to work.

The latest test was the Chelan Complex fires. Similar to the Sleepy Hollow fire, PUD staff was ready to move into an incident command response so we can "talk the same language" of the emergency management first responders.

And, it's also when we saw the benefit of investing in our key assets and in the people who keep them running. (Meet Willie Nierman, line operations general foreman, who is profiled on the flip side.) It was a contributing factor in why our amazing crews were able to restore essential power, fiber and water service as quickly as they did.

All of this is an example of our values: safety; trustworthiness; stewardship; and operational excellence.

Tragic wildfires were the most recent test. But preparation and cooperation are vital to meeting challenges every day.

Community is at the heart of public power, and Chelan County has a very big heart.



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.



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Power where you need it

The need for electricity in Chelan County is growing, especially on the north shore of Lake Chelan between Chelan and Manson.

Chelan PUD engineers are planning a new substation for the area to redistribute existing electric load and handle growth. Customers are invited to review details on possible locations at chelanpud.org/north-shore-chelan-substation.html.

PUD engineers are also studying the need for a new substation to serve Leavenworth.

Powerpay

No paper, no waiting; Get your bill by email

No time to check the mail? Your Chelan PUD bill comes to your email inbox when you use Powerpay. You can get it 24/7 on your:

- Desktop computer
- Tablet, or
- Mobile phone

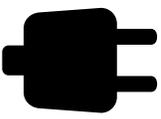
Join the 11,700 PUD customers enjoying the convenience and security of paperless billing. Sign up at chelanpud.org, or by phone (509) 661-8002.

Check out the time-saving ways to pay your bill at chelanpud.org, "Customer Services/Payment Options."

Homeowners: Tune in just the right temp

Too hot, too cold? Here's how to get it just right. Energy-efficient heat pumps provide wonderful cooling in summer as well as warm, energy-efficient comfort in winter. Chelan PUD offers rebates of \$1,400 for converting an electric furnace to a super-efficient heat pump, and \$500 for upgrading your heat pump to a super-efficient model. Call our conservation experts for details at (509) 661-8008.





Plug into the benefits of public power

Celebrate Oct. 3-10 with Chelan County PUD

Connect with your utility

Oct. 3 • 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Pybus Market • Wenatchee

We're charged up about electric vehicles

Leaf, Prius and Spark, oh my! Fit, Focus and Current, there's more.

Last century when people talked about electrification it meant a single light bulb hanging in the middle of the room.

Today, there's a new "electrification." Chelan PUD's clean, renewable, affordable power is increasingly the "fuel" of choice for transportation.

Join us at Pybus Market in Wenatchee as we kick off Public Power Week with an electrifying display of vehicles – including one of Link's electric Current trolleys and electric bicycles - plus prize drawings and angling advice from Dave Graybill, the Fishin' Magician.

And, help us select locations for some of the nine charging stations being installed by the PUD as one of the Public Power Benefits chosen by customer-owners during strategic planning.

Oct. 7 • 5 – 7 p.m.
Lake Chelan Chamber • Chelan

Looking ahead at lake level

With low snowpack, early runoff, lake level above targets and high temperatures behind us, what might be in store for 2016?

Join us at the chamber office, 216 East Woodin Ave. for a look back at 2014-15 and a look ahead at operating ranges for Lake Chelan and the early forecasts for 2015-16 weather patterns.

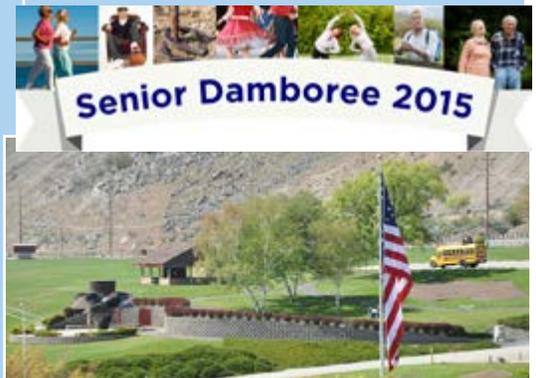
Oct. 10 • 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Rocky Reach • Visitor Center

Grownups get their day

Friendly sports competition, information on health and finances and a salute to veterans are on tap for Senior Damboree at Rocky Reach Visitor Center.

The focus is on adults 55 and older – and all veterans – at this free celebration.

Wear your running or walking shoes and plan to spend the day. Details on the Rocky Reach Visitor Center Facebook page under "Events."



Fall's a great time in PUD parks

Now's the time to apply for Chelan PUD's

day-use parking pass to help us evaluate this public power benefit program. The free pass from Chelan PUD covers the cost of picnicking and parking in the three PUD parks operated by the state. Camping and boat launch fees still

apply at Daroga, Lincoln Rock and Wenatchee Confluence state parks.

Apply online at chelanpud.org or at PUD offices in Chelan, Leavenworth and Wenatchee.

PUD profile: Willie Nierman

On the move when the lights go out

When the power goes out, Willie Nierman and his team are ready to roll.

If wind blows a tree onto a power line, or fire singes a transmission pole, Nierman's job as line operations general foreman for Chelan PUD is to coordinate crews, contractors (when needed) and materials necessary to make sure electric service is restored as safely and quickly as possible.

"This job is very challenging and interactive, as

well as reactive," Nierman said. "It's fulfilling to be able to help customers with their utility needs."

Though responding to disaster situations can be demanding, Nierman said one of his favorite aspects of the job is that each day is different.

"You never know what kind of storm or disaster is going to happen," he said.

Nierman started with Chelan PUD in 1987 as the utility's first lineman trainee after a year at Wenatchee Valley College. He took the job to make money for tuition. The surprise was how much he enjoyed the work, leading him to change his career choice. In the 28 years since, he has worked in line operations as a lineman, journeyman and serviceman.

While he spends most of his time in Chelan County, Nierman said he finds it amazing how the District also reaches out to neighboring counties in need.

"A lot of times our crews are one of the first ones on the scene during a storm or following an accident," he said. "People can be so appreciative. It's so gratifying."

