



# Power Lines

A monthly newsletter from Columbia River People's Utility District

September 2009

## Join Us in Celebrating 25 Years of Service

August 31, 2009 was Columbia River PUD's 25th birthday. Over the past 25 years we have provided safe, reliable electric service to our customers while keeping our promise of affordable rates.



During Public Power Week October 5-9, please join us in celebrating the benefits of community ownership:

**Lower Rates** - When we began providing electric service in 1984, our residential rates were 5% less than PGE's. Today they are 36.5% lower. In 2009, that savings will keep \$7.9 million in our customers' pockets, helping our local economy.

**Quality Products & Services** - From convenient payment options to efficiency & renewable energy programs, we have the programs & services you want. After all, you deserve great service... it's the privilege of being the owner!

**Reliable Power** - We work every day to maintain the distribution system that delivers power to your home. If your power does go out, our linemen will restore it quickly and do the job well for you.

**Community Commitment** - We sponsor local events like the County Fair & the Sauerkraut Festival, volunteer for local charities & participate in local service clubs. It's all part of our commitment to making Columbia County a great place to live.

On behalf of everyone here at Columbia River PUD, thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

General Manager Kevin P. Owens, P.E.

## Public Power Week Events



### Free Spaghetti Dinner

When: Tuesday, Oct. 6, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Where: Fairgrounds Pavilion

**Seating is limited and tickets are required.**

If you would like to attend, please pick up a ticket at the PUD office in Deer Island.

### Coloring Contest

What: Coloring Contest for grades K-5

When: Now through Sept. 25

Download an entry form from our website:  
[www.crpud.net/community/coloringcontest](http://www.crpud.net/community/coloringcontest)

### Open House at the PUD Office

When: Oct. 5-9, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Stop by and say hello! We'll have refreshments, prize drawings and free compact fluorescent light bulbs for everyone.



24 Hour Outage & Emergency Hot Line: (503) 397-1844 • Email: [info@crpud.org](mailto:info@crpud.org)  
Website: [www.crpud.net](http://www.crpud.net) • Business Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday

## Give Light, Offer Warmth with the Neighbor's GLOW Fund

The long days of summer have come to an end, and chilly winter days are just around the corner. For some families, higher winter electric bills are a burden that can create a major financial crisis. There is help for these families through the Neighbor's GLOW Fund.

Your tax-deductible gift to GLOW helps where help is needed most - every dollar goes to customers needing assistance to avoid disconnection of their electric service. You can make a one-time contribution, or donate a little each month as part of your electric bill. To make a donation, just fill out the form on the back of this coupon and return it with your payment.



# Save Energy Now - With Help from our Energy Experts



Energy Expert Cathy Cartmill tests a home's duct system. Leaky ductwork can increase heating & cooling costs and cause indoor air quality problems.

Using less electricity reduces your energy bills and lessens your impact on the environment. We all know we should be doing it. The question is, how?

We can help!

Our Energy Experts are here to help you find ways to reduce your electric use. Their free in-home and online home energy evaluations for electrically heated homes will help you determine which efficiency upgrades would benefit you most. They also offer rebate and quality assurance programs for a variety of efficiency improvements, including home weatherization, ENERGY STAR appliances, and high-efficiency heat pumps.

To find out more, visit [www.crpud.net](http://www.crpud.net) or call (503) 366-5470.

## We're All Paying For Salmon Restoration Efforts

About 16% of the PUD's \$30 million annual operating budget supports regional efforts to restore threatened and endangered salmon and steelhead runs.

The PUD's wholesale power provider, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), spent \$327 million on fish and wildlife programs in 2008. This included capital improvements at the Columbia and Snake River dams, hatchery operations and improvements, and watershed enhancement projects to improve fish habitat.

In 2008, BPA's revenues were reduced by \$546 million as a result of "spill", which is the process of sending water over the dams instead of through the hydropower turbines to aid fish migration.

The PUD is part of a coalition of farmers, electric utilities and regional businesses, called Northwest RiverPartners, which advocates for fish recovery efforts that are cost-effective and based on the best science. We're working to put responsible policies and programs in place that will improve salmon runs and increase economic



opportunity within the region, while keeping electricity affordable.

To learn more, visit [www.nwriverpartners.org](http://www.nwriverpartners.org).



### How Much Do You Pay for Fish Restoration?

You pay about 1.01¢ per kilowatt-hour of energy used to support regional fish and wildlife programs, primarily efforts to improve salmon runs. Here is a table showing the monthly contributions for a few different bill amounts.

Your Monthly PUD Bill Amount:	Your Monthly Contribution to Fish & Wildlife Restoration Efforts:
\$ 50.00	\$ 7.36
\$ 75.00	\$11.65
\$100.00	\$15.92
\$150.00	\$24.48
\$200.00	\$33.04

# GLOW Donation Form



Please add  \$1  \$3  \$5  \$\_\_\_\_\_ to my bill each month.

My one-time donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

Please add my one-time donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to my next bill.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ PUD Customer #: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Donations to the Neighbor's GLOW Fund are tax-deductible.

