

July 2018 Newsletter



Cut Down on Waste with Paperless Billing

You can reduce the amount of mail coming to your house by enrolling in our Paperless Billing program.

Paperless Billing allows you to view your energy usage details electronically. You will receive an email alert monthly when your statement is available to view.

Simon and Stephanie in Scappoose are enrolled in this program.

"It's nice because I just don't have paper come to my house. The less trees we can cut down, the better," Simon says.

If you would like to learn more, visit crpud.net/paperless or contact Customer Accounts at info@crpud.org or (503) 397-0590.

Board Awards First Economic Development Grant to SHEDCO

St. Helens Economic Development Corporation (SHEDCO) is the first recipient of the PUD's Economic Development Grant. At the June 19 meeting, our Board of Directors voted unanimously in favor of awarding SHEDCO \$5,000 for its Business Development Competition.

"Congratulations, you're our first," Board President Jake Carter told SHEDCO's Al Petersen and Amanda Normine.

Petersen and Normine provided details about the competition during the meeting. The competition is for new or expanding businesses along the Main Street Corridor in St. Helens. Participants receive training and coaching on how to develop a business plan, and present their plan to a panel of judges.

"Business plans are really important," said Board Member Rob Mathers.

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*- Rob Mathers
Board Member*

The winner of the competition receives a \$20,000 no-interest loan and a \$5,000 cash grant to help develop their new business.

"Most of the potential companies that come to us as a Main Street business are smaller by nature. They're service industry companies," Normine explained. "This is a great model for them because the monthly payments are so low. It really allows them to take a breath and open."

The Economic Development Grant Program was implemented in April to promote investment in long-term economic development and growth of business and industry in our service area for the benefit of the local community and our customers. The grant is available to nonprofit corporations for projects meeting certain considerations and requirements.

Anyone interested in learning how to apply for the Economic Development Grant Program can view details at crpud.net/grant.

6 Ways to Save on Water Heating Costs

Water heating is one of the largest energy expenses in a home. It can account for up to 20% of your electric bill. By making a few simple changes, you can cut your hot water use and lower your monthly bill.

- **Take more showers than baths.** Bathing uses the most hot water in an average household. Showers typically use less hot water than baths.
- **Use cold water to wash laundry.** Today's detergents work well in cold water.
- **Use the dishwasher.** Run only full loads. This will use less water than washing dishes by hand.
- **Turn off the water** when you're brushing your teeth, shaving, or scrubbing dishes.
- **Install a faucet aerator and low-flow showerhead.** These reduce water use and energy waste.
- **If you're gone, turn it off.** If you will be away from home for more than a month, turn your water heater off at the breaker.



Efficiency Upgrade Loans Available

In addition to rebates from the PUD, more help is available for your home improvement projects.

Two local credit unions offer loans for energy-efficiency projects. These include adding insulation, installing windows, upgrading your heating and cooling systems, or purchasing new energy-efficient appliances.



Check with these credit unions to see how they may be able to help:

- **St. Helens Community Credit Union** (503) 397-2376 or shcu.org
- **Wauna Credit Union** (800) 773-3236 or waunafcu.org

Stay Cool with a Ductless Heat Pump

Ductless heat pumps provide year-round comfort and can cut your heating costs.

Ductless heat pumps not only heat your home in the winter, they provide cooling in the summer. They distribute cool air quietly and evenly, making your living areas more comfortable.

Ductless systems heat and cool air much more efficiently than traditional electric heaters or air conditioners.

We offer ductless heat pump rebates to customers with electric heat. Amounts range from \$400 to \$1,200.

Visit crpud.net/ductless to see if a ductless system is right for your home.



Please Use Caution in Work Zones

Please drive slowly in work zones.

Help us all go home safely at the end of the day. When you see flaggers, please be cautious and alert.

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Hours: Monday - Thursday, 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. • Friday, closed

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