

Celebrate Public Power Week with Us

Public Power Week is Oct. 6-12. This is an annual celebration of the safe, reliable, and affordable electric service that we provide to customers.

Please join us for these fun, free activities throughout the week:

Calendar Photo Contest

Vote for your favorite photos to be in the 2020 PUD Calendar. You may vote throughout the month of October in our office, online at crpud.net/calendar, or while you're at the Customer Appreciation Dinner.

Customer Appreciation Dinner

Tuesday, Oct. 8 at 5:30 p.m. in the Columbia County Fairgrounds pavilion.

Enjoy spaghetti prepared by the Deer Island Grange and see our Coloring Contest winners.

Tickets are required. They are free at our office while supplies last. Limit six per customer.

EV Ride & Drive

Thursday, Oct. 10, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Test drive electric vehicles at our office in Deer Island. You can find more information about this event on the back side of this newsletter.

Free EV Charging

Charge your electric vehicle for free any time during Public Power Week at one of our newly installed EV charging stations. We have a DC Fast Charger and a Level 2 Charger in our customer parking lot.

Rates Are Changing in October

Our rates are changing on October 1. This change is primarily in response to increased rates from Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), our wholesale power provider.

Beginning October 1, Residential customer rates will increase by 4.5%; Small General Service and Irrigation customers will see a 5.6% increase; Lighting customers will see a 4.15% increase; Industrial customers will see a 3.3% increase; and Large General Service customers will see a 0.5% rate decrease. The overall rate increase across all customer classes is 3.5%.

For Residential customers, the monthly Base charge is increasing from \$12.50 to \$15 and the Energy charge will increase from 7.04¢ to 7.19¢ per kilowatt hour. For the average Residential customer, that means an increase of a little more than \$4 per month. Increases will vary based on your actual energy usage.

New Rate Structure

During their August Meeting, our Board of Directors also voted to change our rate structure starting on October 1, 2020, so that our revenues will be more aligned with the actual costs incurred. This change will not affect our overall revenues.

Current Bill Amount	New Bill Amount	Increase
\$60.00	\$63.51	\$3.51
\$90.00	\$94.14	\$4.14
\$120.00	\$124.78	\$4.78
\$150.00	\$155.41	\$5.41

Under the current rate structure, we collect about 81% of our revenues from variable energy-related charges. However, 60% of our revenues go toward paying for power provided by BPA. The goal is to collect 60% of our revenue through the Energy charge. The other 40% will be collected through the Base charge and a Demand charge, which covers our fixed costs.

Currently, the Demand charge is embedded into the Energy charge as a single unit. The unbundling of the Demand charge from the Energy charge will help us align our revenues appropriately with our fixed costs.

As noted above, you will see an increase in your Base charge beginning October 1, 2019. In October 2020, we will reduce our Energy charge and add a Demand charge to Residential, Small General Service, and Irrigation customer bills.

"We came up with a very good consensus on a plan moving forward. It's just so thoroughly vetted," said Board Member Rob Mathers. "This unbundling effort is something that we need to do."

You will see a Demand charge line item on your bill beginning in February of 2020; however, you will not be billed a Demand charge until October 2020, when you will then be billed \$1.00 per kilowatt for demand. Customers will receive more information about demand and how to lower their Demand charge in the near future.

Learn more at crpud.net/2019rates.

Test an Electric Vehicle at Our Ride & Drive

Are you curious about electric vehicles? You can get behind the wheel of one during our EV Ride & Drive Event during Public Power Week.

Visit our office between 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on October 10 to test drive an electric vehicle.

We are partnering with Forth Mobility and Emmert Motors to host this event. We will have experts on hand to answer your questions about EVs.

You can read about the benefits of EVs at crpud.net/electric-vehicles.



Enter to Win a Quilt and Support GLOW

We are raffling a queen-sized quilt to benefit our GLOW Fund. Tickets are on sale in our office, and will be available at our Customer Appreciation Dinner on October 8. They are \$1 each or six for \$5.

A winner will be drawn at the Customer Appreciation Dinner.

Thank you to the Columbia River Piecemakers Quilting Guild for donating this beautiful quilt.

Our GLOW Fund provides emergency bill payment assistance to low-income customers. Learn more at crpud.net/glow.

Assistance Programs Available for Customers

We offer discounts for customers who meet the state of Oregon's income qualifications.

Following the October 1 rate change, customers who are enrolled in our Special Waiver program will pay a monthly Base charge of \$3 instead of \$15.

Customers on our low-income Senior Discount program will also pay a \$3 Base charge, and will receive a 10% discount on their Energy charge.

In addition to these two programs, we offer emergency bill payment assistance to low-income customers through our GLOW Fund. This program is funded through generous customer contributions, employee fundraisers, and surplus scrap metal proceeds.

You can learn about these programs at crpud.net/low-income.



Plan Ahead for Emergencies

September is National Preparedness Month. It's the perfect time to update your emergency kit. If you don't have an emergency kit, we have suggestions on how to get started at crpud.net/kit.



Help Save a Life

Donate blood during an American Red Cross Blood Drive in our Community Room on October 2.

It is from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. You can sign up online at redcrossblood.org.

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www.crpud.net  facebook.com/crpud  twitter.com/crpudUtility

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

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A COMMUNITY-OWNED UTILITY