

May 2017 Newsletter



CRPUD Receives 2016 Community Impact Award

We were honored to receive the South Columbia County Chamber of Commerce's 2016 Community Impact Award. This is awarded to the business, non-profit, or service organization deemed to have made the greatest positive impact on South Columbia County. This business should also support the Chamber through participation of going above and beyond for the greater benefit of the community.

"I am so impressed by the real, deep appreciation that exists in the community for what the CRPUD does and the manner in which the mission is carried out," said CRPUD Board Member Rob Mathers.

The award was presented at the Chamber's Celebration of Excellence & Annual Meeting on March 23. Mathers, General Manager John Nguyen, and Energy Services Supervisor Tim Lammers accepted the award.

Board Appoints Nguyen as GM

At their April 18, 2017, meeting, the Columbia River PUD's Board of Directors appointed John Nguyen as General Manager. Nguyen has served as Interim General Manager since August 2015. He now becomes the third General Manager in the PUD's 33-year history.



John Nguyen

The Board had four options: extend Nguyen's contract as Interim GM, hire an outside firm for competitive recruitment, ask PUD staff to conduct a competitive recruitment, or appoint Nguyen.

"It's all about appointing an experienced and qualified professional manager for the PUD on behalf of all the customers," said Board Member Rob Mathers.

Board President Jake Carter spoke with other utilities, who told him their general manager recruitments using headhunters cost in the \$70,000 range. Having PUD staff conduct a recruitment would take away from their other responsibilities.

In discussion, Board members voiced unanimous support for the PUD's performance under Nguyen's leadership. Board Member Debbie Reed made a motion to appoint Nguyen, and Board Member Craig Melton seconded. It passed unanimously and was applauded by the audience.

Nguyen thanked the Board for the appointment and credited PUD employees for the utility's success. "I have a great staff that I work with and everything that we have done together is because of their dedication and talent. I appreciate them," Nguyen said.

Enter Our Calendar Photo Contest

You are invited to enter the 2018 PUD calendar photo contest. The calendar features scenic photographs taken in Columbia County. Entry forms and contest details are available at www.crpud.net/calendar.



Take Advantage of Our Home Energy Efficiency Rebates

Energy-efficient homes are comfortable to live in and cost less to heat and cool. Upgrading your heating system, replacing your windows, and adding insulation can all make hot summer days more comfortable and lower your winter electric bills.

We offer rebates to customers with electric heat for these energy-efficiency improvements:

- Heat pumps
- Ductless heat pumps
- Window replacements
- Insulation upgrades
- Duct sealing
- Smart thermostats

To learn more, visit www.crpud.net/rebates, or contact our Energy Experts at **(503) 366-5470** or experts@crpud.org. We can help determine which energy upgrades will make the biggest difference in your home.



Call 8-1-1 Before You Dig

If you're planning to dig this spring, be sure to call 8-1-1 at least two working days before you dig. Oregon law requires you contact the utility locating service before you dig to prevent cuts into electric or gas lines.

8-1-1 is a free service that is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Learn more at www.digsafelyoregon.com.



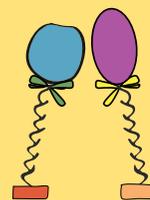
**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

Stay Safe Around Electricity

May is National Electrical Safety Month. Following these tips can help keep you and your family safe from electrical danger.



Keep your body and any tools you're using at least 10 feet away from any overhead power lines.



Weigh down mylar balloons during celebrations so they don't float away and become tangled up in electric lines.

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PUD**
A COMMUNITY-OWNED UTILITY