

# Your Utility News

Public Utility District No. 1 of Wahkiakum County  
Winter 2018



## Manager's Corner *By David Trambie, General Manager*



David Trambie

This is such a great time of year to reflect on the many projects that we have been working on as we transition into the New Year.

With reliability as a major strategy of the District's mission statement, District staff has had a very productive year. We recently completed the acquisition of West Side Water Works in Skamokawa. And in an effort to prepare for inclement weather and to reduce potential outages this winter, our line crew completed tree trimming along West State Route 4 from Grays River to Rosburg. Additionally, a new transformer was ordered that will replace the aging existing one that services the entire west side of our county. This project is scheduled to be completed late summer of 2019.

The District has also been involved with the broadband committee that was formed to look into providing high speed internet throughout our county. Since the committee named the District as its lead agency we have completed a feasibility study grant application with Washington State Department of Commerce and have been scheduled to appear before the Community Economic Revitalization Board in January to discuss our application. If accepted, the grant will allow us to ascertain the feasibility to design and construct a fiber optic network designed to increase access to affordable, high-speed, broadband connectivity throughout Wahkiakum County.

Wahkiakum PUD  
PO Box 248, 45 River Street  
Cathlamet, WA 98612  
360-795-3266 or 360-465-2171

## From Your Commissioners



We have been going through a bit of a cold spell lately. Unfortunately there are members of our community that are not able to stay warm because they cannot afford to turn the heat up. I'm sure that none of us likes to see anyone in this situation.

Well, it is very easy for all of us to help using the Residential Energy Assistance Program (explained elsewhere in this newsletter). You can make a donation to this program at any time but the easiest way is when you pay your monthly bill. A Residential Energy Assistance Program contribution line has been included on your monthly statement for this purpose. If each rate payer contributed just one dollar a year, the program would be well funded and if some of us donated every month, think of how much goodwill we can create!

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me by phone at 360-795-3589 or email me at dreid@wahkiakumpud.org.

*Dennis Reid, Commissioner*

**In an effort to reduce energy consumption and prevent severe burns and pursuant to chapter 19.27 RCW, Wahkiakum PUD recommends:** water heaters be set no higher than 120° Fahrenheit (or the minimum setting if the thermostat cannot be set as low as 120°) and thermostats of an individual water heater furnished in a residential unit leased or rented in Washington State to new tenants shall be set no higher than 120° Fahrenheit (or the minimum setting if the thermostat cannot be set as low as 120°).



### WORD CHALLENGE!

D	N	W	A	P	I	C	O	N	S	E	R	V	E
T	W	I	S	E	L	Y	U	H	I	F	A	N	N
R	Y	R	E	D	U	C	E	D	D	J	F	O	J
Q	S	R	O	T	A	R	E	A	K	M	I	B	Q
P	E	U	Y	F	D	H	M	S	E	T	K	A	M
J	C	S	O	W	D	M	G	R	P	J	G	R	S
B	R	A	K	P	A	L	K	M	A	R	O	R	W
R	U	G	D	A	W	T	U	H	U	I	U	E	L
X	O	E	A	E	E	S	E	N	I	A	R	L	I
K	S	T	B	R	N	L	D	R	I	P	S	J	H
U	E	O	I	O	B	X	W	E	P	E	K	I	K
C	R	O	C	N	R	O	P	I	V	R	D	T	L
D	Z	O	F	D	O	C	O	A	O	S	O	Z	R
W	Y	Q	V	X	R	M	H	Q	S	F	I	X	J

- WATER
- WISELY
- REPAIR
- LEAKS
- CONSERVE
- RESOURCES
- REDUCE
- USAGE
- FIX
- DRIPS
- USE
- AERATORS
- MONITOR
- CONSUMPTION

### Your Commissioners'

#### Meeting Schedule:

8:30am 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at 45 River St., Cathlamet

**“Frequently Asked”  
Corner**

**Q. What is the Residential Energy Assistance Program?**



Wahkiakum PUD created the Residential Energy Assistance Program (REAP) in 2011 as an opportunity for community members to help each other by making voluntary contributions to assist low-income residential customers struggling to pay their utility bill.

**How to Donate**

Anyone may make a voluntary contribution to REAP at any time and in any amount, can opt to include a contribution in with a utility payment or elect to have REAP contributions included in their monthly automatic payments and billing statements (customers must specify the funds are for REAP). All of the funds raised by the Residential Energy Assistance Program stay in Wahkiakum County to help local qualifying families in need. It is donations from people like you who fund this important program.

**Who Gets Help**

Residential account holders who occupy the home as their primary residence may apply for assistance once per calendar year. Wahkiakum PUD partners with Wahkiakum County Health & Human Services to screen applicants to ensure they meet eligibility. To apply for assistance, contact Wahkiakum County Health & Human Services at 360-795-8630 or 800-635-5989 to speak to the Community Resource Officer.

**Understanding Your Statements if You Are on Budget Pay Plan**

Here is some useful information to help you monitor your usage, understand your Budget Pay (if you are on the Budget Pay program) and compare your usage (and weather) to last year. If you are signed up for E-billing and do not receive a mailed statement you can always view your statement online by logging into your account at [www.wahkiakumpud.org](http://www.wahkiakumpud.org), select Financial tab then view statement and Payment History at the bottom of the page.

The **Amount Due field** is what you should pay each month by the **Due Date** to keep your account current and avoid late fees.

Here is your previous month's **payment history**.

**Actual Account Balance** is for those customers who are on Budget Pay. This is the difference between what you have paid vs your actual monthly usage throughout the budget year.  
*Helpful Hint: Monitor the Actual Account Balance carefully to ensure you build enough credit to cover your larger winter bills.*

Here is this month's **actual monthly charges** as well as your service description, meter numbers, read dates, the number of days in this billing cycle and your electric and/or water usage for this billing cycle.

Wahkiakum PUD 45 River Street - PO Box 248  
Cathlamet WA 98612-0248  
360.795.3266 or 360.465.2171

Accounts not paid by the due date may incur a late fee

Bill To: [Redacted]

Account Number: [Redacted]  
Statement Date: JUNE 15, 2018  
Due Date: JUNE 30, 2018  
Amount Due: 115.00

Residential Energy Assistance Program Contribution  
Total Amount Enclosed

Notes: ENROLLED IN AUTOPAY

PLEASE RETURN TOP PORTION WITH PAYMENT MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO WAHAKIAKUM PUD - THANK YOU

ACCOUNT NUMBER: [Redacted]  
STATEMENT DATE: 06/15/18

PREVIOUS BALANCE 115.00  
PAYMENT(S) - THANK YOU 115.00CR  
BUDGET BILL AMOUNT 115.00  
AMOUNT DUE 115.00  
CURRENT CHARGES DUE 06/30/18

Pay online at [www.wahkiakumpud.org](http://www.wahkiakumpud.org) (acct. number required)

ACTUAL ACCOUNT BALANCE 90.71

Service Description	Service Period	Multiplier	Days/Usage	Amount
ELECTRIC	05/08/18 - 06/08/18		31 DAYS	
BASE FEE				19.70
KWH USAGE	02216 - 03014		798	62.48
TOTAL FOR:				82.18 *

SERVICE	METER	THIS MONTH	1 YEAR AGO SAME MONTH
ELECTRIC	PER DAY	26 KWH	32 KWH
AVERAGE TEMPERATURE		55F	54F

Here is where **you can compare** this month's daily average electric usage and average temperature to the same month last year.



**Our Website**

[www.wahkiakumpud.org](http://www.wahkiakumpud.org)

**Our Office**

We are located at 45 River Street in Cathlamet. For your convenience, there is a payment drop box for after hours payments available in our parking lot.

**Office Hours**

Monday—Friday  
8:00—4:30 PM (we are closed for lunch 12:00—12:30 PM)

**By Phone**

360-795-3266 or 360-465-2171

**Payment Options**

We accept Visa, MasterCard, Discover, check, e-check, cash and money orders in our office. We also accept payments by phone, in our Payment Drop Box in our parking lot and at [www.wahkiakumpud.org](http://www.wahkiakumpud.org).



**Holiday Office Closures**



Wahkiakum PUD will be closed to recognize the following holidays:

- New Years Day
- Martin Luther King's Birthday
- President's Day
- Memorial Day
- Fourth of July
- Labor Day
- Veteran's Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Friday after Thanksgiving
- Christmas Day

**Reporting an Outage**



During normal business hours, call 360-795-3266 or 360-465-2171. For After Hours Outages call Wahkiakum Co Sheriff's Office at 360-795-3242 or 360-465-2202.