

C N N E C T

March 2018

SPOTLIGHT ON ... BRANDON CORKILL



Started at the PUD: 2008
Journeyman Lineman,
lone

Favorite Food:

Meat Lovers Pizza

Favorite Color:

Green

Favorite Movie:

Braveheart

Favorite Show:

Game of Thrones

Brandon is a hardworking member of our linemen team. He genuinely cares about serving the needs of our customers.”

-Colin Willenbrock
PUD General Manager

Brandon was born and raised in lone, where he met his wife of ten years, Nicole, while in high school. They have three boys and a girl (ages 7, 5, 2 and 1). Brandon attended Avista Line School, a year later came to Pend Oreille PUD to start his apprenticeship, and hasn't left since. Brandon's family owns a horned lizard, which they feed crickets and grasshoppers to, and a dog named Luna. Their family enjoys camping and their two oldest like riding motorcycles. Brandon's favorite part about the PUD, "Linework with the guys and tying in wire."

PUD helping customers save money and energy since 1992

NEWPORT, WA – The Pend Oreille County Public Utility District has been working hard to find creative ways to help customers save money and energy since developing the Energy Conservation Program over 25 years ago.

The program, which is funded by the Bonneville Power Administration, offers customers a variety of incentives to help them save money. For customers that upgrade to a qualified Ductless Heat Pump system, the PUD can offer them up to an \$800 rebate. Another incentive is for ENERGY STAR clothes washers. Customers can get up to a \$30 rebate for qualified purchases. As part of this program, the PUD was also able to replace the majority of the street lights throughout the county with energy efficient LED lights. "Besides saving money for our customers, each kilowatt we save extends the benefits of our renewable hydro resources," said Mark Cauchy, PUD Director of Regulatory and Environmental Affairs. "Delivering cost effective energy efficiency improves customer choice of products and leads to more job creation in the long term."

Since 2015, the PUD has completed over a dozen successful commercial energy conservation projects throughout the county. The projects include three lighting upgrades at the Newport Community Hospital, several lighting and energy efficiency upgrades at Ponderay Newsprint Company, upgrades at Selkirk High School, and upgrades for the Washington State Department of Transportation. The PUD has also successfully completed 39 heat pump projects for our residential customers and donated 1,000 energy efficiency kits to customers that included LED light bulbs and an energy efficient shower head.

"The kit giveaway has always been one of our most popular programs," said Cauchy. "While each kit alone doesn't save a bundle of energy, it does introduce new technology to the masses and is one way to save together."

"PNC has always been very aggressive with its conservation efforts and has saved millions of kilowatt hours," said Mark. "Community projects at the schools, fire districts and local hospitals are a

double win as they save money, meaning our tax dollars are stretched further."

When the program was initiated in 1992, PUD's could apply for funding to establish a weatherization program to help their customers conserve energy with the installation of energy efficient windows, home insulation, and heat pumps. The BPA also funded a program called Super Good Cents (SGC) which focused on helping newly constructed homes that were built to certain specifications. The program is now known to most as ENERGY STAR. Overtime the program shifted again into what is currently known as the Energy Conservation Program. Currently, the program funding is based off of utilities purchases from BPA.

"With the PUD's focus to lower costs, we have reduced our purchases from BPA and have limited funds left for the upcoming year," said Cauchy. "However, we are actively looking for more ways to seek other funds in the future and are still taking requests for projects from our customers." Visit popud.org or call 509-447-3137.

CONNECT



Wellhead Protection... It's up to all of us:

Protecting our water supply by preventing contaminants from reaching wells has never been more important. The following tips will help protect your home and property.

- If you garden, remember that fertilizers, pesticides, fungicides, and herbicides might be soluble in water and leach into the ground-water. Consider using organic compost material and natural pesticides. Spilled pesticides that are poisonous should be cleaned up as quickly and completely as possible.
- Waste oil, paint thinners, and solvents pose a high health risk to ground water pumped out of a well. Do not dispose of solvents, degreasers, waste oil, cleaning fluids, gasoline, paint thinners, or radiator fluid by pouring them into sinks, toilets, or by burying them in the ground. When working on your car, pick up any spills with absorbent material, place in a zip block bag, and dispose of it properly. Ask your landfill or waste pick-up operator how to dispose of it.
- Chemicals or fuel oil improperly stored and/or exposed to the elements can pose a threat to drinking water. Store chemicals in sound containers off the ground. Periodically check containers for corrosion, and replace if necessary. Ask your landfill or garbage pick-up operator how you can safely dispose of household chemicals. Water from underground sources forms the primary source of drinking water for an estimated 65 percent of Washington residents. Protecting this valuable resource is everyone's responsibility.

What do I do when there is an outage?

The best way to report an outage is to call us by phone. When we are experiencing a high volume of calls, we encourage you to leave a detailed message with your address or stay on the line until you connect with one of our friendly Customer Service Representatives.

Visit www.popud.org/power-outage for outage updates, information on outage preparation and what to do when the power goes out.



neighbors
in need

ENROLL IN OPERATION ROUND UP TODAY

100% OF EVERY DOLLAR PROVIDES
EMERGENCY ENERGY ASSISTANCE GRANTS
TO HOUSEHOLDS IN OUR COUNTY.



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
POPUD.ORG/OPERATION-ROUND-UP
OR CALL 509-447-3137

BE SAFE ⚡ BE SOUND
BE SAFE AROUND
DOWNED POWER LINES



⚡ STAY AWAY

Downed lines, like the ones above, may still be energized so stay at least 35 feet away.

⚡ DON'T GET OUT

Never assume downed lines are off, insulated or safe. Call or wait for help!

⚡ SHUFFLE AWAY

If lines fall on your vehicle, call or wait for help.
If you must exit:

- Leap free with both feet together
- Don't contact the ground and the vehicle at the same time
- Shuffle away 35-40 feet keeping feet close together

TALK TO US!

Main Line: (509)-447-3137
North County: (509)-446-3137
South County: (509)-242-3137
TDD: (800) 833-6388
www.popud.org

Commissioners:
Dan Peterson: 509-671-0289
dpeterson@popud.org
Rick Larson: 509-442-3777
rlarson@popud.org
Curt Knapp: 509-671-1111
cknapp@popud.org