

C NNECT

December 2018

Planning for 2019 and beyond

At the end of each summer all of the PUD's departments begin their annual planning process for the following year. The process includes creation of a five-year plan including reliability improvements, capital projects, financial projections, budgets, and staffing plans. Each department works with the finance team to prioritize projects, review cost trends, controls processes and ensure goals are in line with the PUD's strategic plan. With this information, the finance department can present the budget to the commissioners each year. The approval process includes months of public meeting discussions, a budget hearing and ultimately a presentation of the budget to the Commission for approval prior to the end of the year. The public is invited and encouraged to attend these meetings and be heard during the process.

The meter still spins even when you're away

Watch your usage during the winter months to become energy smart by using SmartHub. SmartHub allows you to track your energy usage on a daily basis so you can observe different usage trends. SmartHub has other benefits like the ability to make payments, set up auto pay, and connect with your PUD.



Happy
Holidays!

*From everyone
at your PUD*



CONNECT



Community Network System Is Still Hot

After several promotions and reductions to the cost of electronics equipment, the CNS department continues to add customers. At the end of 2017, the department had 1,911 fiber and 58 wireless connections. In the first nine months of 2018 the department has seen a 36 percent increase in connections (680 new fiber and 49 new wireless). Other large expansion projects included a new wireless tower at the River-

view Bible Camp, which is set to go live by the end of the year. The tower is expected to provide extended service to the River-bend community and reach areas south of the site.

Just like other departments at the PUD, the CNS team continues to work hard to control costs, pay down outstanding debt and plan for the future needs of our customers. It was this proactive planning

that resulted in a price drop of \$400 to the electronics. As the winter weather fast approaches, the CNS team is taking measures to get all underground work done before the ground freezes too deep. Once the ground freezes, the CNS team focuses on other projects and any outage restoration during the winter storms. Please stop by one of the retail service providers to learn more about fiber or wireless in your area.

SAVE ENERGY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON:

- **Switch to LED:** Go with LED lights this year. They use on average 75 percent less energy than the other lights.
- **Keep it clear:** Make sure your tree isn't blocking your heaters, baseboards or vents so they can work properly and more efficiently.
- **Unplug:** Keep items unplugged when they aren't in use like your tree lights, heaters and electronics. Even when your tree lights aren't "on" they are still using energy when plugged into a wall.

2019 CALENDARS ARE IN:

PICK UP YOUR 2019 PUD CALENDAR AT THE NEWPORT OR BOX CANYON OFFICE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST, STARTING DEC. 10. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR WINNERS AND A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT SUBMITTED BEAUTIFUL PHOTOS OF THE COUNTY.

TALK TO US!

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