

CONNECT

JUNE 2025

HELP US BRANCH OUT OF HARM'S WAY

Trees and power lines don't mix, and with wildfire risk on the rise, the PUD needs your help spotting trouble before it strikes.

If you have dead or dying trees on your property that could fall into power lines, let us know. Pend Oreille PUD offers free removal of trees that are within striking distance of power lines and free safety trims for branches within 10 feet of energized lines.

But it's important to note: We don't trim or remove every tree near a power line—**only those that pose a safety hazard.** That means trees that are dead, dying, structurally compromised, or showing signs of failure that could bring them down on our infrastructure.

These efforts are part of our wildfire mitigation strategy, which runs year-round - not just during fire season.

Pend Oreille PUD serves more than 10,000 meters across 1,400 square miles of mostly forested terrain. With that kind of footprint, we can't see every hazard on our own, but you can help.

See a hazard tree? Call us at 509-447-3137.

Let's work together to protect your property, your power, and your community.



FIRE DISTRICTS IN PEND OREILLE COUNTY URGENTLY NEED VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

Volunteer fire departments across Pend Oreille County are calling on community members to step up and serve. From Fire District 2 in the north to Districts 4 and 5 in the central county, and South Pend Oreille Fire and Rescue, local departments are in critical need of volunteers—not just firefighters, but EMTs, drivers, support staff, and more.

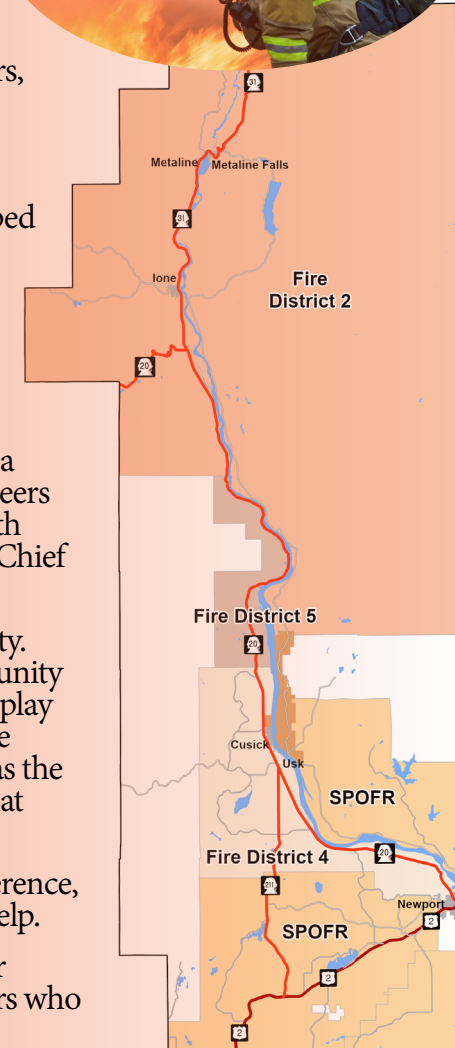
Nationwide, the number of volunteer firefighters has declined sharply over the past few decades. According to the National Volunteer Fire Council, volunteer firefighter numbers have dropped from nearly 900,000 in the 1980s to fewer than 700,000 today—even as calls for service have nearly tripled. Washington State has seen similar trends, especially in rural areas like Pend Oreille County where volunteers are often the only line of defense against wildfires and emergencies.

Most local districts offer training, equipment, and support for those willing to serve. No prior experience is necessary—just a commitment to helping neighbors in need. “We welcome volunteers who want to be part of a community focused organization for both operational and non-operational roles,” said Lawsandra Kramer, Chief of POC Fire District 5. “We make a difference while having fun.”

At Pend Oreille PUD, we know that safety is a shared responsibility. We proudly support our local fire partners and encourage community members to consider volunteering. “Volunteer fire organizations play a critical role in ensuring the safety of rural communities,” said Joe Hathaway, Public Information Officer for the PUD. “They serve as the front line of defense between our residents and the devastation that often accompanies wildfires.”

If you're ready to team up with your community and make a difference, contact your local fire district to learn more about how you can help.

Together, we can strengthen our emergency response, protect our homes, property and county, and support the dedicated volunteers who serve us all.



CONNECT

Now Available: 2024 Annual Report

Want a closer look at how your PUD performed in 2024? Our Annual Report is now live and ready for viewing! Dive into the details of our financials, operations, and accomplishments from the past year.

View it online at: [popud.org Financial Information](https://popud.org/Financial-Information)

Prefer a hard copy? Pick one up at the Newport Administration Building drive-through window or lobby—while supplies last.

Delivering Clean, Reliable Water Across the County

In 2024, Pend Oreille PUD provided nearly 30 million gallons of clean water to about 600 customers through 9 individual water systems.

Consumer Confidence Reports for Riverview, Metaline Falls, Riverbend, Sandy Shores, and Sunvale Acres Water Systems are now available. These reports provide important information about your water quality.

Find your report here: [popud.org Water Service](https://popud.org/Water-Service) or call us at 509-447-3137 for more information.

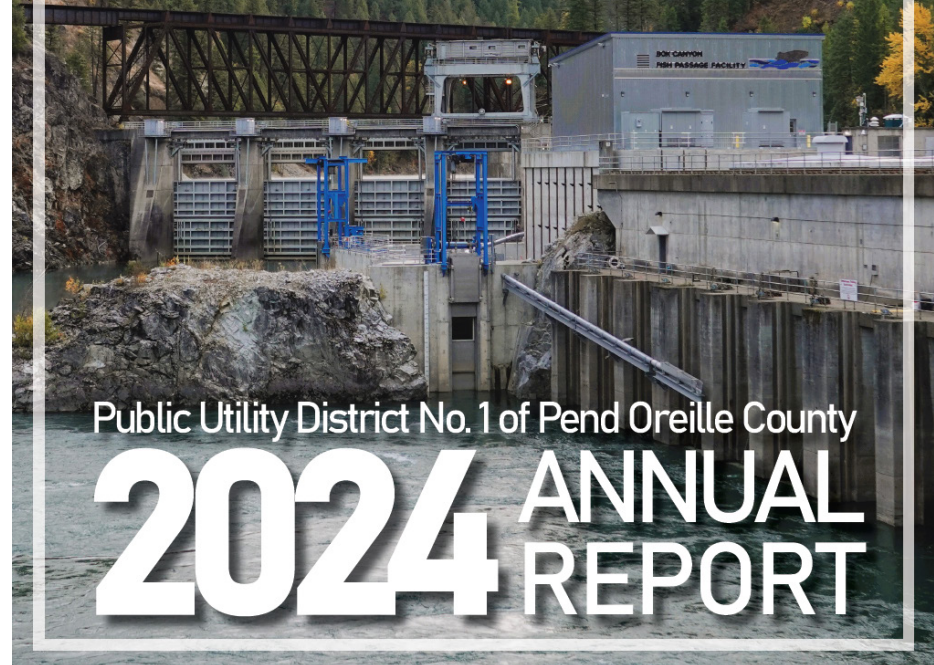


Simplify Your Bills with Budget Billing

Take the guesswork out of monthly payments! Budget billing spreads your energy costs evenly throughout the year—making it easier to plan your finances and avoid seasonal spikes.

Call our Customer Service Team at 509-447-3137 to sign up today!

Already enrolled? Great news, your budget was recalculated in May and will be reflected on your June statement.



CONNECT WITH US!

Main Line: 509.447.3137
North County: 509.446.3137
South County: 509.242.3137
TDD: 800.833.6388

Commissioners:

Curt Knapp: cknapp@popud.org 509.671.1111
Dave Rick: drick@popud.org 509.671.7952
Troy Moody: tmoody@popud.org 509.991.1327

Website: www.popud.org



UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Tue, June 3rd
Newport

Tue, June 17th
Newport

Tue, July 1st
Newport