

CONNECT

JULY 2025

PUD ACTIVATES FIRE-SAFE MODE TO REDUCE WILDFIRE RISK

With hot, dry weather increasing wildfire danger across the region, Pend Oreille PUD has activated Fire-Safe Mode, a seasonal change to how the electric system operates to help prevent wildland fires.

Fire-Safe Mode automatically shuts off power if there's a problem, like a tree branch falling on a power line. Under normal conditions, breakers automatically attempt to re-energize the line up to three times. In Fire-Safe Mode, the system does not attempt to turn the power back on automatically. This may result in more outages, but it greatly reduces the risk of sparks that could potentially start a wildfire in dry conditions.

- If a fault (issue) occurs, power will remain off until line crews inspect and confirm the line is safe. This safety-first approach may lead to more frequent and longer outages during fire season.
- During Red Flag Warnings or other extreme fire conditions, the PUD may activate Elevated Fire-Safe Mode, making the system even more sensitive and always requiring in-person inspections before power can be restored.
- Pend Oreille PUD has implemented Fire-Safe Mode for several years and continues to improve wildfire prevention through system settings, vegetation management, and public safety outreach.
- Customers are encouraged to be prepared for possible extended outages and stay informed. Visit www.popud.org or follow Pend Oreille PUD on social media for updates.
- If you use a generator during outages, follow all safety guidelines and ensure it's properly installed to prevent dangerous backfeed, which can endanger both line crews and the public.

GET YOUR FREE ENERGY SAVINGS KIT & SMART THERMOSTAT!

We're making it easier than ever for you to
save energy - and money - at home.

As part of our commitment to energy efficiency, residential PUD customers can now receive a free Energy Savings Kit packed with practical tools to help reduce their energy use. These kits include two thermostatically controlled outlets and three door sweeps, all designed to help lower your utility bills. Additionally, residential customers with a forced-air furnace or air source or ground source heat pump qualify for a free smart thermostat.

Supplies are limited, and participation is easy. Don't miss out on this opportunity to take control of your energy use and lower your costs at no charge.

To learn more about what's included and how to sign up, scan the QR codes below, visit our website, or simply give us a call and we can help. You'll need your account number to place your order.

*This program is funded by
conservation dollars allocated to the
PUD through the Bonneville Power
Administration.*

SMART T-STAT



ENERGY KIT



CONNECT



AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Our annual Aquatic Workshop will be held on Friday, July 11 from 9:00am to 3:00pm at the Camas Center in Usk. The PUD is again partnering with the County Noxious Weed Control Board to organize this event and help landowners deal with aquatic plant infestation and meet the PUD's goals to minimize herbicide use in the river.

This event is FREE and open to the public. Please register in advance here: <https://www.pendoreille.gov/weed-board/page/aquatic-property-management-workshop>

For additional information, please visit: <https://popud.org/projects/box-canyon-dam/aquatic-weed-control>



Friday, July 11, 2025
9:00am-3:00pm
Camas Center ~ Usk

Submit Your Photos for the PUD's 2026 Calendar

We're looking for stunning images that capture the beauty of Pend Oreille County - its landscapes, wildlife, and outdoor recreation - for our 2026 calendar. If you enjoy photography and have taken pictures that showcase the natural charm of our region, we'd love to see them!

Selected photos may be featured in our printed calendar, on our website, or across our social media channels to help celebrate the place we all call home.

To submit your photos, please email them to communications@popud.org by August 31. Be sure to include your name and a brief description of where each photo was taken.

Let your lens tell the story of Pend Oreille County!



Stay Safe This Summer

July is a time for outdoor fun, but safety should always come first. When using electrical equipment outside, whether it's powering an RV, plugging in tools, or setting up outdoor lighting, make sure you're using cords and outlets rated for outdoor use. Keep all cords away from water and never overload circuits.

If you're grilling or building a campfire, keep flames at least 10 feet away from structures, trees, or anything flammable. Never leave fires or barbecues unattended and fully extinguish them when you're done. Make sure to follow all county burn bans as well.

Planning to enjoy fireworks? Only use legal fireworks and follow all local rules and burn bans. Light them one at a time, keep a bucket of water nearby, and never aim them near people, pets, dry grass, or power lines.

With a few simple precautions, you can enjoy everything summer has to offer - safely.



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, July 1st - Newport

Tue, July 15th - Newport

Tue, July 29th
Box Canyon

Thur, July 3rd
Independence Day -
Office Closed