

CPEND OREILLE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICTONNECT

AUGUST 2026

CELEBRATE NATIONAL HYDROPOWER DAY ON AUGUST 24

Hydropower has been providing clean, reliable electricity in the United States for more than 135 years. Today, it remains one of our nation's most dependable renewable energy sources.

Here at Pend Oreille PUD, we're proud to have been generating clean, renewable hydropower since 1956. For 70 years, Box Canyon Dam has produced carbon-free electricity, supporting the regional power grid and contributing to the Pacific Northwest's reliable energy supply.

On August 24, we join utilities across the country in celebrating National Hydropower Day and recognizing the important role hydropower plays in powering our communities.

Did you know?

- Hydropower provides about **6.6%** of all U.S. electricity.
- It generates about **38%** of the nation's renewable electricity.
- More than **2,200** hydropower plants operate across the country.
- Pumped-storage hydropower provides **91%** of the nation's energy-storage capacity.
- The industry supports more than **66,000 American jobs**.

Unlike generation from wind and solar projects, which can vary greatly based upon real-time weather conditions, hydropower delivers reliable and predictable electricity and can quickly respond to changes in demand. It's one more reason we're proud to continue a 70-year tradition of producing clean, renewable energy right here in Pend Oreille County.



GENERATOR SAFETY PROTECTS EVERYONE, INCLUDING PUD CREWS

Portable generators are a great backup during a power outage but using them the wrong way can put your family and PUD lineworkers in danger.

- ✓ Never plug a generator into a wall outlet or connect it directly to your home's wiring without a properly installed transfer switch. This can send electricity back onto power lines, creating a serious hazard for PUD crews restoring service. Transfer switches should always be installed by a licensed electrician.
- ✓ Always operate generators outdoors, never in a garage, shed, or other enclosed space. Place them at least 20 feet from your home with the exhaust pointed away from doors and windows to prevent deadly carbon monoxide from entering your home.
- ✓ Use heavy-duty outdoor extension cords, avoid overloading the generator, and always shut it off and let it cool before refueling. Store fuel in approved containers away from heat sources and inspect your generator regularly for signs of damage or leaks.

Using your generator safely protects your family, your neighbors, and our lineworkers working to restore your power.





What's in Your Family Emergency Kit?

Your PUD works year-round to provide safe, reliable electric service. But severe weather, wildlife, or other unexpected events can sometimes cause power outages. During wildfire season, additional safety measures such as Fire-Safe Mode can possibly mean more frequent and longer outage times. Preparing ahead of time can make any emergency much easier to manage.

Here are a few simple ways to be ready:

- Talk with your family about what to do during emergencies like wildfires, floods, earthquakes, or severe storms.
- Choose safe places inside and outside your home, along with escape routes and a family meeting spot.
- Make sure everyone knows where flashlights and emergency supplies are kept.
- If someone in your home depends on electrically powered medical equipment, have a backup plan and know where emergency power is available.
- Teach family members how to safely shut off electricity, water, and gas if needed.
- Make sure children know when and how to call 911.
- Pick two emergency contacts—one nearby and one out of the area—and save their numbers in everyone's phone.
- Keep important documents in a waterproof, fireproof container.
- Know your evacuation routes and keep your vehicle at least half full of fuel.



A little preparation today can make a big difference when the unexpected happens.

Keep Cool and Save Energy This Summer

When temperatures climb, a few simple habits can help keep your home comfortable while lowering your energy bill.

- Open windows during cool mornings and evenings, then close blinds or curtains during the hottest part of the day to keep heat outside.
- If using your AC, set your thermostat as high as you're comfortable with and use ceiling or portable fans to help circulate cool air.
- Try to run ovens, dishwashers, and clothes dryers during cooler hours whenever possible.
- Regular maintenance also helps. Replace or clean air filters, keep outdoor cooling units free of leaves and debris, and seal air leaks around doors and windows.
- If you're replacing appliances, look for ENERGY STAR® models, which use less energy.
- Planting trees or adding shade can also help keep your home cooler.

Small changes can make a noticeable difference in both comfort and energy costs all summer long.



CONNECT WITH US!

Main Line: 509-447-3137
North County: 509-446-3137
South County: 509-242-3137
TDD: 800-833-6388
24-Hour Automated Phone Line: 844-971-1058



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, Aug 4 - Newport
Tue, Aug 18 - Newport

**Visit us at the Pend
Oreille County Fair
Aug 20-23**