

CONNECT

APRIL 2023

April is National Safe Digging Month 811 Works for Everyone

PUD Customer, Don Hatcher, is the winner of our 6th Annual 811 Poster Contest. Thank you and awesome job Mr. Hatcher!



Know what's below.
Call 811 before you dig.

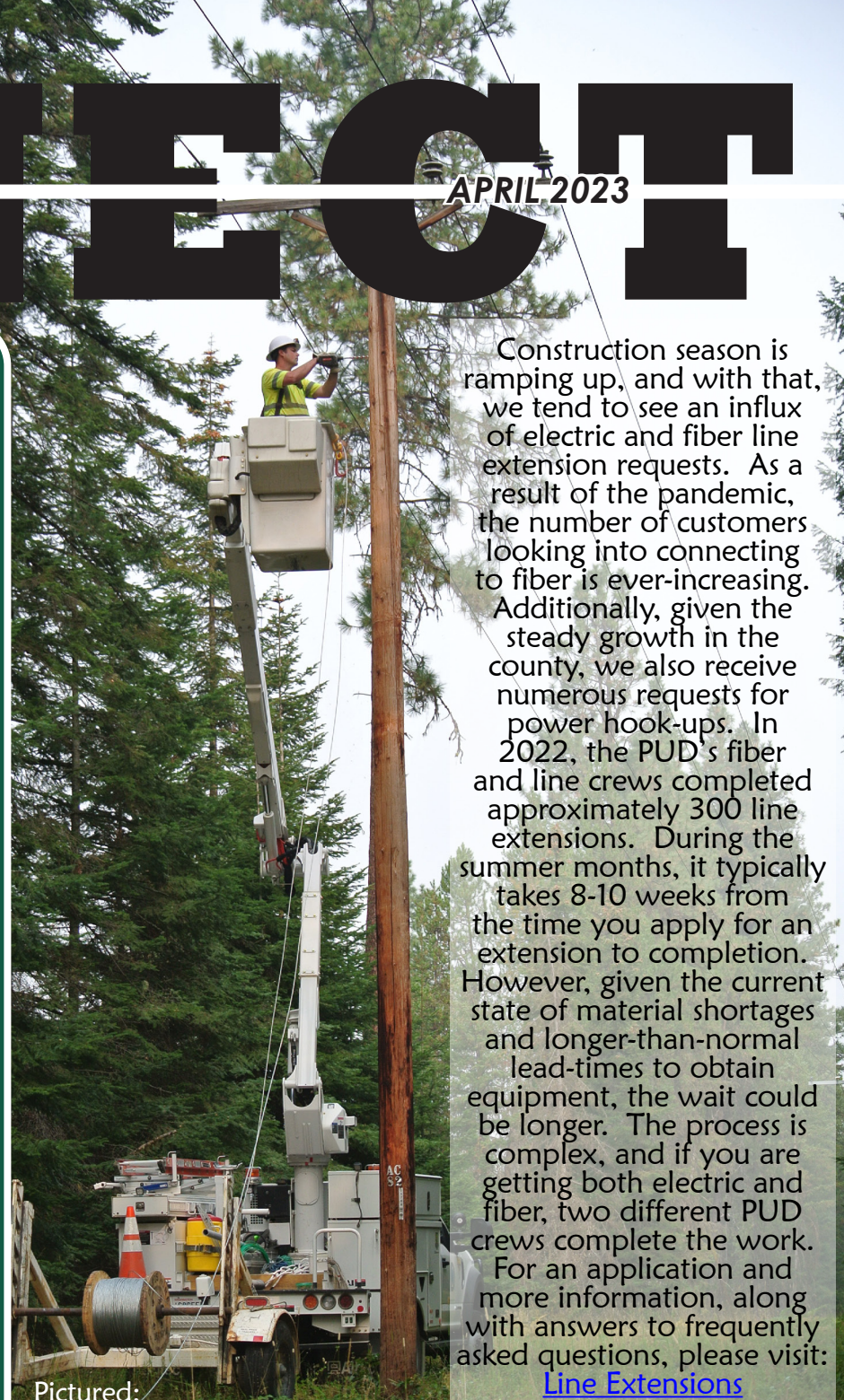
If you are putting in a new fence, installing a mailbox post, or putting in a sprinkler system, 811 is for you. State law requires anyone digging a hole that is one foot deep or more to call 811 at least two business days before starting.

Here is the process:

1. Notify your local one call center by calling 811 or making an online request 2-3 days before work begins.
2. Wait the required amount of time for affected utility operators to respond to your request.
3. Confirm that all affected utility operators have responded and marked their underground utilities.
4. Dig carefully around the marks.

To learn more or submit a locate request to 811, please visit:
[Call 811.com](http://Call811.com)

The 811 Logo is a registered trademark of the Common Ground Alliance.



Construction season is ramping up, and with that, we tend to see an influx of electric and fiber line extension requests. As a result of the pandemic, the number of customers looking into connecting to fiber is ever-increasing. Additionally, given the steady growth in the county, we also receive numerous requests for power hook-ups. In 2022, the PUD's fiber and line crews completed approximately 300 line extensions. During the summer months, it typically takes 8-10 weeks from the time you apply for an extension to completion. However, given the current state of material shortages and longer-than-normal lead-times to obtain equipment, the wait could be longer. The process is complex, and if you are getting both electric and fiber, two different PUD crews complete the work. For an application and more information, along with answers to frequently asked questions, please visit:

[Line Extensions](#)

Pictured:
PUD CNS Technician, Pat Barley

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SPRING IS HERE!

Please stay safe and stay out of rivers during high water.

Hello Spring! April typically marks the beginning of spring runoff, with the peak usually occurring the last week of May to the 1st week of June. Current snowpack levels for the Pend Oreille River drainage appear to be slightly less than average. In spite of the slightly lower snowpack, this year's winter snowfalls will likely cause runoff to be at near-normal conditions. However, other influences for snowmelt runoff include fall soil moisture and weather during the spring which can certainly impact predictions. You can view Pend Oreille River flow and elevation levels here: [Flow & Elevation](#).



CONNECT WITH US!

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Are you considering planting trees or shrubs in your yard this season? If so, it is wise to plan ahead and pick the right tree for the right place. Trees need space to grow both above and below ground. Planting the right tree in the right place helps promote fire safety, reduces power outages and ensures beauty for years to come.

When evaluating plants and trees for your yard, do not plant or landscape near power transformers, or under power lines. Over time, trees grow into the lines causing

the potential for dangerous situations or extended outages. Well planned landscaping will not only add beauty to your yard, it will also ensure that the plants and trees are compatible with overhead utility lines.

Additionally, carefully positioned trees can save on a household's energy use for heating and cooling. A large deciduous (leaf-shedding) tree, planted in the right place, can save money in reduced cooling costs, and allow winter sunshine to reduce heating and lighting costs.

Check out the tree positioning guide below.

