New Outdoor LED Community Events Signage

Signs to be located at Olympic Hwy N and Olympic Hwy S

Mason PUD 3 has been working with the City of Shelton for several years to identify an alternative to hanging over-the-street banners. The utility has provided the banner hanging service to the community at no charge for many years, however recently discovered that the practice was outside its authority under state law.

In order to continue to help community groups advertise their events, the PUD offered to work with the City of Shelton (who currently permits the banners) to purchase, build and install energy efficient, outdoor LED signs in two locations; Olympic Highway North and Olympic Highway South.

The signs will be owned, maintained, and administered by the City’s parks department.

The city has approved the PUD’s proposal and is developing the policy for its administration. The PUD is proud of its partnership with the city and looks forward to seeing the project completed, scheduled for January of 2016.

The city provided an architectural rendering of the structures to house the LED signs, which the PUD will build. Above is a photo of a similar sign that was demonstrated on-site by the sign manufacturer.

Community groups can contact the city’s parks department for more information about promoting their events on the signs at the beginning of the year.

Mason County PUD No. 3
2014 Utility Fuel Mix Report Revised

Legislation passed in 2000 directed electric utilities in Washington to report their fuel mix to customers each year.

The 2013 fuel mix for PUD 3** (reported in 2014, Revised) listed as a percentage of the total is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOURCE</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hydroelectric</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuclear</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coal</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geothermal</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wind</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomass</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cogeneration</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landfill Gas</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Gas</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuclear</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petroleum</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solar</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wind</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


TOTAL 100%
Electric Rates Increase to Offset Rising Wholesale Rates and State Mandates

PUD 3 implementing 2-year rate increase

Beginning in October of 2016, the residential rate will be $0.727 per kWh and the system charge will be $1.10 per day.

Many factors play into determining the cost of service and establishing customer rates. As a public utility the PUD strives to minimize the impact on its customers while ensuring the long-term financial health of the district and the safety and reliability of the utility’s infrastructure.

Prepare for Winter Storms

While PUD 3 has won awards for its reliability, no utility can guarantee uninterrupted power, especially during winter storms. Power outages can range from a few minutes to several hours or days depending on the severity of the cause. Here are some things you should have on hand in case of an emergency outage:

• Three- to five-day supply of non-perishable food that needs little or no cooking
• Blankets and pillows
• Portable, battery-powered radio and clock
• Flashlights
• Extra batteries
• Manual can opener, bottle opener, and utility knife
• First-aid kit
• Bottled water (minimum two quarts per person per day but preferably one gallon per person per day)
• Candles
• Matches in a waterproof container or a lighter
• Cooler (keep ice or ice packs ready in your freezer)
• Personal hygiene, sanitary supplies
• Cash (ATMs and banks may not be available)
• Pet supplies for three to five days
• Playing cards, games, and books for entertainment
• Prescription medications
• Phone charger for a car

Assemble as much as you can and put it in a storage tub in a place that is easily accessed in the event of an emergency.

REMEMBER, call the pud outage line if you are experiencing an outage: 360-432-5233
watch for updates at www.masonpud3.org, or visit our Facebook and Twitter feeds.

October 1, 2015:
4% increase energy charges
+ $0.10/day system charge

October 1, 2016:
4% increase energy charges
+ $0.10/day system charge

The residential rate will increase from $0.672 to $0.699 per kWh and the system charge will increase from $0.90 per day to $1.00 per day effective with meter readings on and after October 1, 2015.

These increases apply to all PUD rate schedules including residential, small commercial, large commercial, agriculture/cannabis, and industrial.

Neighboring Utility Rates by County

Mason PUD 1 $0.0695 kWh
Mason PUD 3 $0.0695 kWh
Mason PUD 3 - $0.727 per kWh
Puget Sound Energy $0.075 kWh

BPA has raised wholesale power rates 29% over the last two rate periods.
Customers In Need of Assistance

**PROJECT SHARE**

Project Share is an assistance program started in 1983 to assist low-income individuals, as certified by Community Action Council, with their electric bills. The program is a joint effort of Mason PUD 3, the Community Action Council (CAC), local churches, interested citizens, and PUD 3 customers.

Through the generosity of donors last year, more than 330 low-income families were helped with a $175 payment on their account. All contributions to the Project Share fund are allocated to qualified low-income customers of PUD 3 and there are no administrative costs.

To find out if you qualify, contact the CAC at 360-426-9726 or visit their website www.caclmt.org.

**DISCOUNTS**

**Low Income Senior & Low Income Disabled**

PUD 3 offers a low-income discount for senior citizens. Seniors, age 61 and over; who are permanent, year-round customers of PUD 3; and whose annual income is $35,000 or less may qualify. The discount amounts to the removal of the daily system charge. A senior citizen discount application form is available from the PUD, or you may access it on the PUD’s website.

The PUD also offers a discount for low-income disabled persons, which also removes the daily system charge. To qualify, the PUD account must be in the name of the disabled person. The customer cannot live in federally subsidized housing and must be a permanent, year-round customer of the PUD. Call the Community Action Council at (360) 426-9726 to schedule a qualification appointment.

**LOW/MODERATE INCOME WEATHERIZATION**

PUD 3 can pay 100% of low/moderate-income weatherization for qualifying customers.

The PUD has a long commitment to helping its customers save energy and enjoy the comforts provided by the efficient use of electricity. If qualified, the PUD will pay 100% of low/moderate-income residential insulation and accompanying duct sealing projects.

To get started, schedule a FREE pre-insulation inspection with a PUD 3 conservation technician to find out which insulation measures your electrically heated home is eligible for, by calling (360) 426-0777. Be sure to mention that the household may qualify for low/moderate-income weatherization.

**PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

If a customer is experiencing financial difficulties and is unable to pay their electricity bill, they may contact PUD 3 by telephone or visit one of the PUD offices to make reasonable arrangements for payment.

The key to satisfactory credit arrangements is clear communication regarding the difficulties being experienced and a commitment to work with the PUD in taking care of the unpaid balance.

PUD 3 customer service representatives are willing to work with all customers and specialize in referring customers to assistance agencies such as the Community Action Council of Mason County that may be able to provide financial aid.

**LOWER YOUR MONTHLY BILL**

Check out PUD 3’s programs designed to help you lower your monthly bill

Mason PUD 3 offers a wide variety of programs for customers with electrically heated homes that can improve their energy efficiency. There are incentives available on upgrading a home’s heating system, increasing levels of insulation, rebates on new energy efficient appliances, and many more possibilities that you can learn about by visiting our website or contacting the PUD’s conservation department.

We want to help you keep your monthly bills low while maintaining a level of comfort.

The PUD also has a collection of information on its website. It can help a family adjust small habits in their lifestyle and the way they consume electricity in the home that will make large impacts on their monthly electric bill. Please explore the following tips and programs on the PUD’s website or call for more information:

- Home Energy Audit
- Home Lighting Options
- Low Flow Shower Heads
- Weatherization
- Appliance Rebates
- Ductless Heat Pumps
- Conservation Lifestyle Tips

To see if you qualify for the federally funded Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), or for Mason PUD 3’s Project Share, call the Community Action Council (CAC) at 360-426-9726 or visit the website at www.caclmt.org.
Dawn Thompson works in the PUD’s finance department as a financial analyst. That means she deals with the monthly financial statements, annual budget, combined annual financial return, and other special projects.

She graduated from Shelton High School before receiving her associate’s degree from South Puget Sound Community College. After that she earned her bachelor’s degree in accounting from Saint Martin’s University. In addition, she is pursuing her master’s in forensic accounting at Stevenson University.

Dawn began her career with the PUD as a student and worked her way up to accounting before leaving to become the controller for Hood Canal Communications for nearly seven years and then on to the state for another seven years for the Department of Licensing and Department of Corrections before being asked to join the PUD again in 2013.

She has three sons and three grandsons that keep her very busy. She says the kids’ sports consume her life (baseball, football & wrestling). When she has free time, she herself likes to play co-ed softball and go camping with family and friends.

Dawn has a heart for service. She has served as the president of Shelton Wrestling Club for 8 years, pointing out that this is her 9th and last year with the club. She also was a Mason County Youth Baseball board member for a total of 8 years in addition to managing baseball from tee-ball through coach pitch for over 9 years! And of course, with so many kids in school she never fails to find time as a PTSO event volunteer.

Those of us who work with Dawn, know how dedicated to her community she is, but it really was highlighted last month when one Monday, she and her boyfriend Mark decided to teach their boys Reese and Cody a lesson in helping others.

She said they had nothing scheduled on the following Saturday, so thought they may be able to get some donations and make a drive over to Eastern Washington to help the fire victims and first responders.

At 7:30 a.m., she contacted a friend to help her collect donations. Her friend contacted Hood Canal Communications at 8:00 a.m. and by 8:30 a.m. their donation drive was being publicized on social media.

By Tuesday, Taylor United Shellfish volunteered a 53’ semi-truck and driver to deliver donations and Burlington Northern Railroad donated $5,500 to the cause.

By Wednesday, the donation drive was being advertised on KAYO and KMAS. Dawn and her team of volunteers were notified that businesses from Gig Harbor to Auburn to Tumwater were collecting donations to help the #fillthetruck firefighter donation drive.

On Thursday, they were calling around to emergency operations centers (EOC) to see where they could take this large amount of donations to. But since they were so busy she wasn’t getting any answers.

Friday was the big #fillthetruck event in front of Walmart. She said the community came in flocks and left them with full carts! Not only did they fill the semi, but Taylor’s donated another box van to haul two pallets of goods that didn’t fit. Having yet to hear back from the EOC, they set out Friday night to get a head start to Eastern Washington - destination unknown. When she finally heard back from EOC, she called and left a message...again no response.

With a tip from an evacuee that the area was in need of desperate help, they made tentative plans for what area to head to. On Saturday morning at 10:00 she finally received a call from the donation coordinator and confirmed that the area they were headed to was the most in need.

Around noon on Saturday, a total of 16 Shelton volunteers arrived to unload and organize donations at the Stevens County Fairgrounds in Colville. They re-loaded one pallet of food and filled the back of a pickup truck to deliver donations directly to the local fire department.

Dawn said it was one of the most stressful but rewarding experiences of her life. We are proud to have Dawn on our team and as part of our community.

To Report a Power Outage Any Time Call:
Shelton: 360-432-1533
Belfair: 360-275-2833
Elma: 360-861-4247

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