AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM OUR SAFETY SUPERVISOR:

In the aftermath of a major storm, be aware of hazards presented by downed power lines. Storms can cause major disruptions to power supply and vehicular travel, often times blocking roads with power lines entangled in debris. Downed power lines can carry an electric current strong enough to cause serious injury or even death. If you come across a low or fallen line, adhere to the following safety tips:

- If you see a downed power line, move away from it and anything touching it. The ground around power lines – up to 35 feet away - may be energized.
- You cannot tell whether or not a power line is energized just by looking at it. You should assume that all downed power lines are live.
- Do not attempt to move a downed power line or anything else in contact with it by using an object such as a broom or stick. Even non-conductive materials like wood or cloth, can conduct electricity if even slightly wet or dirty.
- Do not attempt to cut or remove trees or debris that are touching downed power lines.
- Be careful not to touch or step in water near where a downed power line is located.
- The proper way to move away from the power line is to shuffle away with small steps, keeping your feet together and on the ground at all times. This will minimize the potential for a strong electric shock.
- If you see someone who is in direct or indirect contact with the downed line, do not touch the person. You could become the next victim. Call 911 for help.
- Do not drive over downed power lines.
- If your car comes in contact with a downed power line while you are inside, stay in the car. Honk your horn to summon help, but direct others to stay away from your car.
- If you must leave your car because it is on fire, jump out of the vehicle with both feet together and avoid contact with both the car and the ground at the same time. Shuffle away from the car.

It is the intent of Cowlitz PUD to have power restored and travel impacts minimized as quickly as possible following storms. Depending on the magnitude, this may take some time and we ask that our customers please be patient and allow us to respond to these issues to ensure their safety. Please report any downed wire to Cowlitz PUD Outage Hotline at (360) 423-1200.

MyAccount is Cowlitz PUD’s customer web portal that provides 24/7 online account access to:

- Enroll in Budget Pay
- Enroll in eBill
- Set up ACH payments
- Make one-time payments or set up reoccurring payments
- Review historical usage
- Ask questions about your account
- Update your mailing address or phone
WE HAVE A REBATE FOR THAT!
Take advantage of our Home Energy Efficiency Rebates

• Heat Pumps
• Ductless Heat Pumps
• Duct Sealing
• Window Replacements
• Insulation Upgrade
• Smart Thermostats

To learn more visit www.cowlitzpud.org or contact an Energy Efficiency Specialist at (360) 501-9514. We can help determine which energy upgrades will make the biggest difference in your home.

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION
April 20th, 10am - 3:30pm
at the Cowlitz County Expo Center
Children’s Pop-up Museum, Giveaways,
Games & MORE!

COMMISSIONER CORNER

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CHECK OUT THE OUTAGE MAP ONLINE

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