

Hotline

RiverFest 2019 *Come join the fun!*

Businesses and community organizations have joined together to host RiverFest 2019 for the second time. Last year this event was a smash hit with over 3,000 attendees for its inaugural debut. This is a free, fun, educational family event featuring exhibitors, vendors and entertainment to showcase all the benefits of the Federal Columbia River Power System and highlight the four lower Snake River dams. It will include interactive displays highlighting navigation, irrigation, recreation and power on our rivers. Kids and adults alike will have fun while learning about the positive aspects of our river system.

The event kicks off at 10:00 a.m. with the Master Singers performing the national anthem, followed by a the local Boys and Girls Club Drum Line who took a world championship award. They will lead the crowd to the exhibits. **Come join the fun!**



Save the Date!
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7
10:00AM TO 4:00PM
EAST END OF COLUMBIA PARK

Snake River Dams - Setting the Record Straight

The Snake River dams have been in the news - it seems like continually. At an event hosted by Boise State University on April 23 meant to examine efforts to balance hydropower, salmon, farming and the environment, the topic of dam breaching became the focus. Some speakers called for forums to be created to look at the impacts of potential dam breaching. Others wanted to just remove the dams immediately without any additional discussion or study.



Three federal agencies are already studying the river system - including dam breaching - and will have a draft report for the region to review by February 2020. This effort is

based in science, complies with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and includes opportunities for citizen review as well as significant collaboration with cooperating agencies like Northwest states and tribes. Calls for additional processes and forums, like Governor Inslee's dam breaching study, undermine the existing study and are counterproductive, not based on science, and divert resources from the creation of a credible plan that is best for salmon and the Northwest. The Federal Columbia River Power System has been, is, and will continue to be a critical component of life in the Pacific Northwest. The dams on the Columbia and Snake Rivers provide navigable waters, irrigation, flood control and recreation for generations of residents in the Pacific Northwest and our local region.

Franklin PUD supports the four Lower Snake River dams for the carbon-free, renewable, reliable, low-cost energy they provide. They are an important component of a clean energy future.

Connell Electric Vehicle Charging Station

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held Thursday, May 23 at 222 S. Columbia Avenue in Connell to celebrate the area's first publicly available high speed electric vehicle charging station.

Project partners strategically chose Columbia Avenue for its easy access on and off Highway 395. Travelers coming south from Spokane or east from I-90 to Tri-Cities will have amenities such as dining, shopping and groceries. This electric vehicle fast-charging station is the 6th station to be energized as part of a more than \$1 million, nine-station network along Washington state highway corridors designed to enhance interstate and intrastate electric vehicle travel.



"The City of Connell is excited that we are filling a charging gap and hope that travelers will explore Main Street and our unique antique shops, along with the other great places our city has to offer," stated Maria Pena, City Administrator for the City of Connell.



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Working for You

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American Public Power Association Features Pasco Mayor Matt Watkins

"Pasco, Washington, is powered 100% by "public power" from Franklin PUD. We've long valued the partnership we have with our community-owned and locally regulated utility district. Franklin PUD is 94% clean — having nearby and plentiful hydropower as its main source of power. We value the benefits of hydropower in the Pacific Northwest because it is reliable, renewable, and produces almost zero greenhouse gas emissions. Plus, we need our hydro to back up our other renewable resources, including wind and solar."

"E" = Estimated Bill

If Franklin PUD is unable to get a meter read during the month, we may estimate your bill. The estimated bill is calculated using your actual usage from previous months.

The way you will know if your bill was calculated based on an estimated read is from the code field on the bill. You will see an "E" in the blue bar. Once a meter read is obtained, the estimated read will be adjusted to the actual read.

For questions regarding your billing, please contact our Customer Service Department at 509-547-5591.

Commissioner's Corner

Broadband is Essential for Our Future

Back to the Basics



Roger Wright
2019 President

Franklin PUD provides you with low cost, reliable power, but did you know that we also provide wholesale broadband service?

Broadband, or high speed internet, allows you to quickly access the internet, it increases cell phone reception and browsing, and will continue to enhance real time services like TV streaming, online doctor visits, and the ability to communicate with emergency services while sharing real-time videos with first responders. The possibilities really are endless.

Franklin PUD's first priority continues to be providing safe, reliable, cost-based power to our owners/customers. I continue to be focused on "keeping the lights on" for you. However, high speed internet service is becoming as important as electricity to our customers. Franklin PUD does not provide internet service directly to our customers, nor do we plan to. By law, we are a wholesale provider only of broadband service. Since we have the poles, conduits, wires, and easements across our service area, it makes sense for us to own the backbone fiber that allows retail service providers to bring you reliable high speed internet.

We often take for granted how easy it is to connect to the wealth of information available via the internet. However, in much of eastern Washington, it isn't possible to

access the internet. Recently the Washington State Legislature recognized this and approved a bill signed into law by Governor Jay Inslee which will spur deployment of high-speed internet service in rural areas. Senate bill 5511 launches a \$21 million program to promote rural broadband development.

It's hard to explain how important it is for the success of our community, and our economy, that you have reasonable access to the internet, no matter your zip code. It benefits us all, and I believe maintaining a publicly owned, open access broadband network, is the best way to make that happen at a reasonable cost to everyone.



Please reach out to us with your thoughts and/or needs on high-speed internet. You can reach our Broadband Department by calling 509-542-5905 or e-mailing them at broadband@franklinpud.com. We also have a list of current retail service providers as well as other important information available on our website at www.franklinpud.com/index.php/broadband.

Arbor Day Event with the City of Pasco



Franklin PUD and the City of Pasco recently teamed up for an Arbor Day event in Volunteer Park. The City planted eight trees, with the Kentucky Coffeetree as the "featured" tree. The Kentucky Coffeetree is a larger tree with unique bark and leaf characteristics. This is a rare tree but can adapt to our area. They also handed out 200 tree saplings for community members to plant at home.

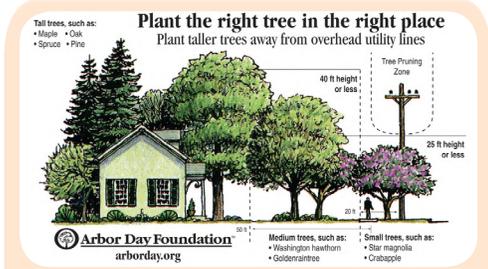
Trees are assets to any community when properly planted and maintained. They help improve the visual appeal of a neighborhood, increase property values, reduce home cooling costs, remove air pollutants and provide wildlife habitat, among many other benefits.

Pasco achieved Tree City USA recognition by the Arbor Day Foundation in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters. This was done by meeting the program's four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

"Trees bring shade to our homes and beauty to our neighborhoods, along with numerous economic, social and environmental benefits" said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation.

"The City would like to especially thank Franklin PUD for their generous donation toward the purchase of trees for the event," said Pasco Facilities Manager, Dan Dotta. "The partnership between the City and PUD for the progress of the Pasco community is something to celebrate and honor."

More information on the program is available at arborday.org/TreeCityUSA.



How to Keep Your Trees Utility Friendly

Did you know that the average homeowner can save up to 20 percent on energy bills by planting the right trees in the right place? That tree can also improve air quality, sequester carbon, help manage storm water runoff, and more.

Below are some tips to help you safely plant your trees

- Always call 811 before digging. Buried utility lines are everywhere. Hitting a line can knock out service to your home and neighborhood or result in fines, damage and serious injury.
- Avoid planting trees too close to equipment like transformers or vaults.
- When planting trees under utility wires, be sure they do not grow more than 25 feet tall when fully mature.
- For help deciding which tree is best for your yard, and how to plant and care for it, request our Tree Owner's Manual. These are available in our Customer Service Department or by requesting one on our website at www.franklinpud.com/programs-services/tree-trimming.



For more information on planting trees, check out these websites:

www.arborday.org
www.trees4you.org

Fuel Mix Disclosure

A report of where your power comes from.

Generation Type	% of Total Generation
COAL	-
HYDRO	85%
NATURAL GAS	5%
NUCLEAR	8%
OTHER*	2%

TOTAL 100%

*OTHER may include, but not limited to: Biomass generation; geothermal generation; landfill gas generation; oil generation; solar generation; waste incineration; or wind generation.

Source: WA State 2017 Fuel Mix Disclosure Report, WA State Dept. of Commerce

