

# Hotline

FRANKLIN  
**PUD**



THE POWER IS YOURS  
[www.franklinpud.com](http://www.franklinpud.com)

Issue: September/October 2020

## Celebrating Public Power Week

Join Us, October 4 - 10

We take pride in providing our customers with safe, reliable, low cost power. Each year, during the first full week in October we celebrate public power! Our events will look a little different this year as we move to virtual experiences, but be on the lookout for information on what public power means to our community, useful tips to save energy, our programs and services, and fun activities for kids.

Franklin PUD along with other area utilities, the Pasco Chamber of Commerce, and community organizations, also had plans to help carry out the 3rd annual RiverFest event at Columbia Park on October 10th. We are in the process of pivoting to an online virtual and social media event. Details will be coming soon and will be promoted on the RiverFest Facebook event page as well as on our social media accounts.

Public Power Week is an annual national event coordinated by the American Public Power Association in Washington, D.C. The American Public Power Association is the voice of not-for-profit, community owned



utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. The Association represents public power before the federal government to protect the interests of the more than 49 million people that public power utilities serve, and the 93,000 people they employ. It advocates and advises on electricity policy, technology, trends, training, and operations. Its members strengthen their communities by providing superior service, engaging citizens, and instilling pride in community-owned power. Learn more at [www.publicpower.org](http://www.publicpower.org).

## Wi-Fi Hotspots Available

If you have a student that needs Wi-Fi, check this out!



As many kids are beginning their new school year with at-home learning, we want to remind you that free wi-fi hotspots are still up and running. If you don't have internet service at your home or have limited access - please take advantage of this resource.

Franklin PUD Broadband is working in collaboration with State agencies to make wi-fi available to all residents with a specific emphasis on remote learning for students. Additionally, this service can be used for job searches, telehealth,

telework, unemployment filing, and census participation.

**Here is a list of hotspot locations:**

### Pasco

Memorial Park, 350 N 14th Ave  
Farmers Market, 101 S 4th Ave  
Pasco Library, 1320 W Hopkins  
West Pasco Library, 7525 Wrigley Dr

### Connell

Community Center, 211 E Elm St  
Connell Branch Library, 118 N Columbia  
Franklin PUD Yard, 619 Clark

### Kahlotus

Kahlotus School District, 100 W Martin St  
Community Pool, Durham Ave & W Martin St  
Kahlotus Branch Library, 255 Weston

**Mesa** - Bailie Land & Cattle Co, 205 1st Ave

**Etopia** - Library, 5240 Etopia West Rd

**Basin City** - Library, 50-A N Canal Blvd

**Other Franklin County Location:** Star School District, 24180 Pasco Kahlotus Rd

For the most up to date information on Wi-Fi hotspots go to: [www.commerce.wa.gov](http://www.commerce.wa.gov).

## Are you Behind on Your Bill?

Please contact us as soon as possible

We understand the last few months have been difficult for many customers because of COVID-19. If you have fallen behind on your bill or have stopped making payments because of the State's moratorium, please let us know.

We are asking all customers with an outstanding balance to contact us. We want to work with you to make sure you have a plan in place and offer information on resources available for assistance.

Our Credit Department is available to assist



you Monday through Friday during the hours of 8:30am to 5:00pm. Please call them at 509-547-5591. We're here to help!

## Working for You

Commissioners:

Bill Gordon, *President*  
Stu Nelson, *Vice President*  
Roger Wright, *Secretary*

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Assistant General Manager:

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Hotline Editor:

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## Contact Us

Main: 509-547-5591

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E-mail: [franklin@franklinpud.com](mailto:franklin@franklinpud.com)

Website: [www.franklinpud.com](http://www.franklinpud.com)

Blog: [blog.franklinpud.com](http://blog.franklinpud.com)

Office Hours:

By phone: 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Drive-thru: 8:00 am - 5:30 pm

## Social



Franklin PUD



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## Join Us!

### RiverFest 2020 Virtual Event

Businesses, community organizations and people of all walks of life throughout the region have joined together to host RiverFest 2020. RiverFest showcases all the benefits of the Federal Columbia River Power System including navigation, irrigation, recreation and power.

Find event details on Facebook at  
**RiverFest 2020!**

Commissioner's Corner

# Our Services are Still Available



**By Commissioner Stu Nelson**  
2020 Vice President

Many things have changed since March when we closed our doors to the public, but I am happy to say that our commitment to you, our customers, has not changed. Franklin PUD continues to strive to meet our customer's needs. When this pandemic began, we all sprang into action. We knew that closing our doors to the public and only being open through the drive-through was going to be a challenge. In hopes of making it easier we extended the hours to 8:00 am to 5:30 pm, Monday through Friday. Customers can use the drive-through for payments, bill inquiries, starting new service, canceling service, and getting help with certifications for low income discounts. Customer Service Representatives are also available by phone at 509-547-5591

from 8:30 am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday.

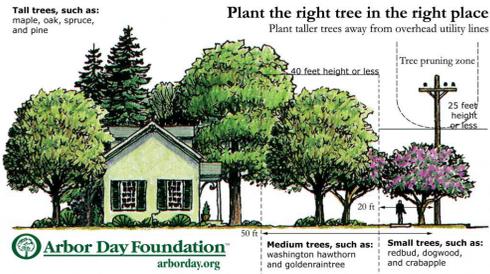
Our Energy Services department is available to help too. They are now offering "virtual home energy audits". With your help, and a little technology, staff can provide an assessment on how to increase your home's efficiency. Staff continues to find new ways to communicate useful information to customers. We have created the Powerline Blog where you can find articles on electrical safety, energy efficient tips, and other breaking news. A link to our Powerline Blog is located on the top right corner of our website's home page at [www.franklinpud.com](http://www.franklinpud.com). Local contractors can continue to work with our Engineering department by calling them at 509-542-5332. We are here to help!

While we all hope to resume our old lives, it may be a while until we get there. As a Commissioner of Franklin PUD, it's important that our customers have access to the services they need. While you may not be able to walk in our building and speak face to face with someone, we offer many new ways to receive the help you need.

In the meantime, I will keep my eye open for you! Stay well!

## Fall is a Great Time to Plant Trees

Deciduous trees provide lasting benefits



sides of your property creates a wall against cold winter winds.

Before planting trees, make sure you are choosing a species that can successfully grow in our climate. Visit the Arbor Day Foundation website and use their Tree Wizard. You will enter your zip code and answer some questions about the type of tree or bush you want and it will give you a list of recommendations.

Fall is a great time to plant trees in our area. Planting the right tree in the right place can help you save energy and lower your electric bill. Trees are also great for our environment.

Properly placed trees save energy by providing summer shade, winter warmth, and can provide shelter from cold winter winds. It is recommended that you plant deciduous trees on the east and west sides of your home. The trees will lose their leaves in the fall and the bare branches will allow the sun to pour through and warm your home. Planting a row of conifer trees on the north and northwest

Before you start any digging project, be sure to call 811 or visit their website at [www.call811.com](http://www.call811.com) a few business days before to request that the approximate location of buried utilities be marked with paint or flags so you don't unintentionally dig into an underground utility line. Hitting a buried line while digging can disrupt utility service, be costly to repair, or cause serious injury or death. Always contact your 811 center, wait the required time for utilities to respond to your request, and ensure that all utilities have responded to your request before putting a shovel in the ground. Every dig requires a call.



Franklin PUD offers Generation Green, a "green power" program to give our customers an opportunity to purchase renewable energy generated from qualified alternative energy resources. This program, which provides a **voluntary option** to customers, is mandated by the State

of Washington through RCW 19.29A.090.

**The amount you pay is above and beyond what you already pay for renewable energy already included in Franklin PUD rates.**

For more information on this program, go to our website at [www.franklinpud.com/energy-efficiency/generation-green/](http://www.franklinpud.com/energy-efficiency/generation-green/).

## Final Environmental Impact Study Released

On July 31, the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) was released by federal action agencies as part of the Columbia River System Operations process.

Developed by the US Army Corps of Engineers, the Bonneville Power Administration, and the US Bureau of Reclamation, with input from tribal nations and Northwest states, the FEIS provides a comprehensive, final analysis of the four lower Snake River dams (LSRD). It balances the needs of salmon, power supply, and social welfare in the Pacific Northwest.

The report concluded that the best option for fulfilling the multiple objectives of improving salmonid survival, providing a reliable electric grid, and reaching the Northwest's clean energy future is to maintain the four LSRD with adjusted operations.



Importantly, the FEIS acknowledges the role of the LSRD as a critical source of affordable and dependable energy for the Northwest and reiterates that without the LSRD, the Northwest would be much more susceptible to energy shortages and regional blackouts.

To read the Final Environmental Impact Study in its entirety please visit the US Army Corps of Engineers website at [www.nwd.usace.army.mil/CRSO/Final-EIS](http://www.nwd.usace.army.mil/CRSO/Final-EIS). You may also sign up to receive updates via e-mail.

## Fuel Mix Disclosure

A report of where your power comes from.

Each year Franklin PUD, along with all other electric utilities in Washington State, is required to publish a fuel mix report identifying the types of generation used to supply the electricity we provide to our customers.

The majority of the electricity Franklin PUD purchased for our customers in 2018 was renewable energy, hydropower generated from dams along the Snake and Columbia Rivers.

Generation Type	% of Total Generation
Hydro	80.67
Natural Gas	3.23
Nuclear	9.87
Unspecified	6.23
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Unspecified power is electricity obtained in a transaction where the seller does not identify a specific generating source, typically through short-term transactions in the bulk power markets.

Source: WA State 2018 Fuel Mix Disclosure Report, WA State Dept. of Commerce

