



Owner's Manual

Economic Development Grants Awarded

The Northern Wasco County PUD Board of Directors recently awarded \$27,280 in grants to fund three local economic development projects. The recipients are all not-for-profit entities.

The Columbia Gorge Hustlers received \$12,000 to help install 350 stadium-style seats for Quinton Street ballpark. Volunteers have already removed the existing 50-year-old bleachers and the new seats will be installed after the current baseball season.

Northern Wasco County Parks and Recreation was granted \$3,650 as part of a \$12,000 project to install a floating swim dock and ladder at Riverfront Park.

The Dalles Swim Team will receive \$11,630 to complete the purchase of a touchpad-timing-starting system for swim meets at the Ted Walker swimming pool.

NWCPUD received seven grant applications. Unfortunately, while grant requests totaled \$65,530, only \$30,000 was budgeted for this year's program.

To be eligible for consideration, grant requests must be for development or improvement of infrastructure within the PUD service area and have some degree of permanence. Private, for-profit ventures and projects that have received PUD Economic

Development Grant funding twice in a five-year period are not eligible. Grants are awarded by the NWCPUD Board of Directors.

Oregon Residential Energy Tax Credit

Oregon residents can save money and save energy when they purchase equipment, systems and services that qualify for the Oregon Residential Tax Credit.

How It Works

A Residential Tax Credit allows residents of Oregon to deduct the amount of a qualifying item against taxes owed on Oregon income tax filings. Any unused portion of the credit can be carried forward for up to five years.

The equipment must be used in the home where the resident lives or in a second (vacation) home. The home must be in Oregon.

Vehicles must be registered in Oregon to qualify for the tax credit.

What Qualifies

Qualifying items include:

- Hybrid and alternative fuel vehicles
- Clothes washers, dishwashers and refrigerators
- Tankless propane or electric heat pump water heaters
- Heat recovery and energy recovery whole-house ventilation systems
- Wastewater heat recovery

systems that capture waste heat from showers and other uses

- Premium-efficiency heat pumps and air conditioning systems
- Premium-efficiency furnaces, boilers or air handlers
- Sealing duct work or installing a well-designed and sealed duct system in a new home
- Ductless mini-split heat pumps
- Ground-source heat pumps
- Wood and pellet stoves
- Solar water heating, solar space heating and photovoltaic (solar electric) systems
- Wind electric systems

The amount of the tax credit is based upon the energy saved by the qualifying item and the cost of the equipment.

How to Apply

To apply for a tax credit, complete and sign the appropriate application when you buy a qualifying system, equipment or service. Forms and instructions are available from the Oregon Department of Energy, your dealer, contractor or technician.

Send the application to the Oregon Department of Energy along with the receipt or other proof of purchase. The tax credit certificate will be mailed to the applicant.

Claim the tax credit on the Oregon income tax return, but do not attach the documentation to the return. Keep the certificate, a copy of the application, proof of payment and any other supporting documentation.

***Have questions? Find answers at:
www.nwasco.com***

If you have any questions concerning claiming the credit on your Oregon tax return, contact the Oregon Department of Revenue at 1-800-356-4988.

For more information on the Oregon Residential Tax Credit program, call 1-800-221-8035 or go to www.oregon.gov/energy.

Source: Oregon Department of Energy

Celilo Village Housewarming

When the residents of Celilo Village moved into their new homes in June, the lights were on and the electricity was flowing. NWCPUD employees Darlene Way and Becky Holce traveled to Celilo on May 20 as part of a coordinated effort to help residents sign up for needed services.

While new PUD customers usually come into the office to sign up for service, Holce says traveling to the tribal members' new homes just made sense.

"There were 15 families that needed to sign up for services and it didn't make sense for each one of them to spend the time and gas to drive into The Dalles when we could come to them," Holce says.

For thousands of years, Celilo Falls was at the center of economic, cultural and spiritual traditions for Native American tribes. With the completion of The Dalles Dam more than 50 years ago, Celilo Village was relocated away from the banks of the Columbia before the flooding of falls.

The Army Corps of Engineers constructed 15 new homes to replace the original housing and facilities at the village. The project also includes paved roads, new water and sewage lines, parking and a new building for the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

New Payment Options

NWCPUD customers can now pay their monthly power bills with a credit or debit card using Paymentus, a third party automated payment service that accepts Visa, MasterCard and eCheck.

PUD customers can access this service by:

- Calling 1-866-417-2941.
- Making a payment online by going to: www.nwasco.com and following the links.

Prefer to take care of business in person? Stop by the PUD office during regular business hours and our staff can assist with the transaction.

When making a payment, customers should be ready with their NWCPUD account number (located on the billing statement), the balance owed, and their credit card or banking information.

Paymentus charges \$3.95 per credit card transaction for residential bills up to \$300 and \$45 for commercial bills up to \$2,500. Service fees cover payment handling and processing charges.

While many businesses incorporate the cost of credit card fees and service charges in the prices they charge all of their customers, with Paymentus, only those individuals who chose to pay with a credit or debit card are responsible for the service fee.

Paymentus is an independent company providing a service for PUD customers. The utility does not receive any part of the service fee.

To learn more about using Paymentus, please call our office at 296-2226 or go to our Web site at: www.nwasco.com.

Community Calendar

JULY

2,9,16,23,30

The Dalles Farmer's Market, Wednesdays, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at The Dalles Area Chamber of Commerce.

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Music in the Park Concert Series
Acoustic Guitar Summit
featuring Terry Robb,
Mark Hanson, Doug Smith,
Paul Chasman,
6:00 p.m. at The Dalles City
Park, 5th and Union streets.

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Jammin' July Streetfest
Food, music, vendors,
6:00 to 10:00 p.m.
Downtown The Dalles.

17-19

Fort Dalles Pro Rodeo,
7:30 p.m. at the Milt Tumilson
Arena in The Dalles.

For information and related events, go to <http://thefortdallesrodeo.com/events.htm>.

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Northern Wasco County PUD
Board Meeting, 6 p.m.,
2345 River Road, The Dalles.

Non-profit community organizations are encouraged to promote events and activities that support, nurture and enhance the quality of life in communities served by Northern Wasco County PUD. To list an item in the community calendar, please call 298-3302.