



NWCPUD's wreath raffle raises funds for customers in need

NWCPUD employees and their families have been busy creating holiday wreaths for a raffle to benefit the utility's Neighbor to Neighbor program.

The creations— which include those for autumn, Thanksgiving, Christmas and year-round decorating—are on display in the PUD lobby.

Raffle tickets can be purchased at the PUD office for \$1 or five for \$5.

Customers may choose which wreath or item they would like to bid on.

All of the money raised goes directly to the Neighbor to Neighbor program to assist PUD customers who are having trouble paying their power bills because of health or employment problems. The funds help families on an emergency, one-time-per-heating-season basis. All of the money collected goes to people within the PUD's district.

Last year's raffle earned about \$400 for the Neighbor to Neighbor program.

"This is such a win-win situation, where PUD employees and their spouses use their talents to create some very beautiful wreaths that would retail from \$50 to \$100 dollars," says Linda Wilson who coordinates the project.

"For just one dollar, customers can purchase a chance to win the wreath of their choice. Everyone puts their heart and soul into each creation that will help customers in times of financial distress."

The handmade wreaths will be on display until the drawing on December 9th.

PUD customers and the general public are welcome to stop by the NWCPUD office at 2345 River Road to view the wreaths and purchase raffle tickets to win the item of their choice.

"The proceeds go to a good cause— helping our neighbors right here in our community," says Wilson.

NWCPUD Receives Top Award



The Northwest Public Power Association (NWPPA) presented their Excellence in Communication awards at its annual Northwest Innovations Conference on September 21, 2010 in Spokane, Washington.

NWCPUD's Neighbor to Neighbor Wreath Raffle won first place honors in the Wild Card Division and the PUD's September 2009 customer letter took second place.

The competition recognizes top communications efforts from member utilities from NWPPA's service territory, which includes eight western states and two Canadian provinces.

The judges recognized the uniqueness of the Wreath Raffle where customers can purchase tickets for a chance to win a beautiful handmade holiday wreath created by NWCPUD employees and board members and their spouses.

NWPPA is an international association representing and serving customer-owned, locally-controlled utilities in the Western U.S. and Canada. ■

“We also want to thank the many customers who contribute to Neighbor to Neighbor by having a few dollars added to their PUD bill each month and to those who make larger contributions to help those less fortunate,” says Wilson. “It is heartwarming and humbling to see how generous and caring our PUD customers are.”

Contributions to the Neighbor to Neighbor program have helped the PUD continue its tradition of assisting local folks in need. The Mid-Columbia Community Action Program (MCCAP) verifies eligibility and distributes the funds in the form of vouchers. All donations are tax deductible.

For more information about the wreath raffle of how to make a contribution to the Neighbor to Neighbor program, please call 296-2226. ■

Energy Audit: First Step to Lower Heating Costs

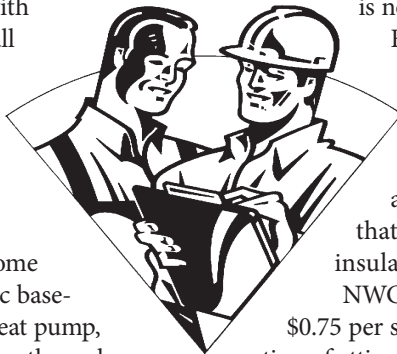
If you heat your home with an electric furnace or wall heaters and want to cut heating costs this winter, call the energy experts at NWCPUD to schedule a free home energy audit.

If you have an older home that is heated with electric baseboards, wall furnace or heat pump, you may qualify for rebates through the PUD’s weatherization program.

To qualify, customers must complete a weatherization program application and return it to our office before beginning any work.

Applications are available at the PUD office. Customers may also go to the PUD website at: www.nwasco.com and click “Can I request an energy efficiency audit?”

Once we receive your application, one of our specialists will schedule an appointment to come to your home.



We will check your insulation areas (attic, walls, floor, duct work), windows, water heater and heating equipment to see how you can save money and energy when heating and cooling your home.

At the end of your audit, we will recommend what work you need to do to bring your home up to today’s insulation code.

Only existing spaces that are electrically heated are covered under the weatherization program and qualify for the free audit or rebates. Room additions, remodeling and new construction do not qualify.

Weatherization rebates are based on the recommended upgrades at the time of the energy audit.

Our energy specialists will provide recommendations based on what will provide your house with the highest energy savings.

For example, an attic with R11 insulation would lose more heat than single-pane windows or a floor that is not insulated.

For this reason, the program will not pay to simply replace the windows if the home also has major areas that are not up to the insulation code.

NWCPUD offers a rebate of \$0.75 per square foot for insulation of attics, walls and floors for both stick-built and manufactured homes.

We will pay up to \$400 for sealing and insulating duct work in an attic or a crawlspace.

The PUD offers rebates of \$5.00 per square foot for window replacements that are rated at .30 U values or lower. Rebates apply to primary windows only.

To see how to qualify for a rebate on the home weatherization projects on your to-do list, contact the PUD’s energy specialists at 296-2226. ■

NORTHERN WASCO COUNTY PUD

Visit our website at:
www.nwasco.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

November 6

“Come as You Art” Art Auction.

Enjoy food, wine and art at The Dalles Art Association’s annual fundraiser, 6 p.m., at The Dalles Civic Auditorium. Tickets \$35 or two for \$65 at The Dalles Art Center, Klindt’s Book Sellers, The Dalles Area Chamber of Commerce, and at the door.

For more information, call 296-4759 or go to: thedallesartcenter.org.

November 11

Veterans Day Parade

Noon, downtown The Dalles.

For more information, call 296-2231.

November 20

St. Peter’s Christmas Bazaar.

Food, crafts and gift items, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., St. Mary’s Academy, 1112 Cherry Heights Road, The Dalles.

For details, call 296-2941.

November 23

Northern Wasco County PUD Board Meeting.

6 p.m., 2345 River Road, The Dalles.

November 26

Starlight Parade.

Annual event welcomes the holiday season with floats, Santa, marching bands and more, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., downtown The Dalles.

Nonprofit community organizations are encouraged to promote their events and activities. To list an item in the calendar, please call 298-3302.