

# Celebrate Electrical and Water Safety

By Brandi Meech

Klickitat PUD (KPUD) is marking two important events in May: Electrical Safety Month and National Safe Drinking Water Week.

To celebrate, KPUD would like to invite the community to an open house on Friday, May 6 for free balloons and refreshments.

## Electrical Safety Month

Each year, thousands of fires and household injuries occur as a result of electrical failure and neglect. That is why each year in May Electrical Safety Month is held to remind people how important and powerful electricity is, and how it can harm users who don't give it respect and care.

KPUD reminds its customers to check around the house for potentially harmful or even fatal electrical hazards by:

- Looking for and eliminating overloaded outlets, worn or damaged electrical cords, and appliances that spark.



- Testing your ground-fault circuit interruptors by simply pushing the test button once in a while.

- Not relying on extension cords for everyday use, but installing new outlets in heavily used areas.

- Protecting your children and pets from electrical shocks by placing safety covers on outlets not being used.

- Installing light bulbs that have the correct wattage to match the fixtures.

These precautions help protect your family and home. That is what Electrical Safety Month is all about.

## National Safe Drinking Water Week

For the past 30 years, the American Water Works Association (AWWA) has been celebrating National Drinking Water Week the first week in May.

This year, from May 1 to 7, the AWWA and its member utilities—including KPUD—reflect on the importance of drinking water and its irreplaceable role in our society.

With more than 1 billion glasses of water consumed each day, it is no surprise National Drinking Water Week is such an important event at Klickitat PUD and surrounding communities.

With drought problems occur-

ring in many parts of the world and in the United States, water conservation is an important concern.

Keep in mind some of these interesting facts about water:

- The average five-minute shower uses 15 to 20 gallons of water.

- Each person uses about 100 gallons of water a day at home.

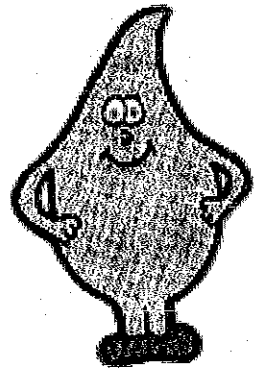
- An automatic dishwasher uses nine to 12 gallons per use, and washing dishes by hand uses more than 20 gallons.

- A dripping faucet wastes up to 2,000 gallons of water each year, and leaky toilets can waste as much as 200 gallons each day.

With these facts in mind, help conserve water by not over-watering your lawn, and by repairing all dripping faucets and leaking toilets as soon as possible.

Don't allow water to run when washing dishes or brushing your teeth.

Be sure to visit the KPUD office on Friday, May 6, to help us celebrate these two important health and safety events. ■



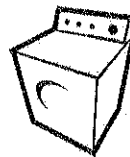
## Cleaner Clothes at Lower Cost

Imagine a washing machine that gets your clothes cleaner, saves water and energy, and is gentler to your garments. It is a new way to do wash at home, and it is called the tumble clothes washer or front loader.

This design translates into substantial savings in water and energy.

### Save on water and wastewater bills

Washing a load of laundry in a standard, top-loading machine uses as much as 45 gallons of water. Washing the same load in a front-loading washer can use 20 gallons less. That adds up to 8,000 gallons per year saved—as much as the average person drinks in a lifetime.



That means less energy, soap and drying time

Saving water also means saving energy to heat the water. High-efficiency horizontal-axis washers can save the average household \$80 a year in electricity used to heat water and dry clothes. For an electric water heater and clothes dryer, the savings add up to 500-kilowatt hours of electricity a year.

Because they have a spin cycle that runs at 100 miles per hour, tumble action machines remove more moisture than top-loading machines. Clothes dry faster so you can set your dryer for less time. Also, tumble action machines can use up to one-third less detergent. ■