

What's Up at the PUD?

Maintenance



As I'm writing this in mid-February, spring has yet to convince me that it is on the way, but I'm willing to wait a little longer.

With the warmer weather, we will be getting back to maintenance work on our system: pole replacements, tree trimming and right-of-way clearing. One change this year is the use of an in-house tree crew rather than the contractors we have used in the past. Using an in-house crew not only allows us to trim year-round, it also provides jobs to folks living in our community, which means the funds we spend on this work will stay in the area rather than going to a distant contractor.

Another warm weather maintenance practice will be back again this summer, our annual BPA system-wide outage on the third Sunday in July. As soon as BPA confirms July 17, we will let you know. As in years past, we will be hosting a burger and hot dog picnic in the city park.

We have also been working with BPA in their efforts to do a serious survey of the Kettle Falls-to-Republic transmission right-of-way to remove any dead, burned, dying,

and diseased trees from the right of way to protect against both fires and power outages in the future. BPA is working closely with the Forest Service to do the most thorough job possible. If all goes as planned, this work will be going on throughout the summer.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about what's up at the PUD, give me or your PUD commissioner a call or attend our monthly board meeting. Those meetings are held the third Monday of each month in our basement meeting room.

See you next month.

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