

Squirrel Caused Outages

June - July 2016



Squirrels and other wildlife are the most common cause of outages for public power utilities across the nation. Douglas PUD is no exception. Squirrels caused nearly 100 power outages last year. To decrease outages, the District has

installed wildlife protection measures. However, those guards are not 100% effective.

The picture above shows where squirrels have chewed the insulation off of wires and even chewed the aluminum neutral wire in half!

Please don't make enticing habitat for squirrels. Don't feed them or leave out pet food. An increasing squirrel population leads to increased power and fiber outages.

We always like to hear what you have to say. Please, if you have any comments or questions write them down and send this back with your payment. Thanks~

Conservation



The Wells Hydroelectric Project is a tremendous asset for Douglas County PUD customers. It provides clean, renewable, low-cost hydropower to our area. Even though the power enjoyed in Douglas County is among the least expensive in the nation, it should not be wasted. Here are some things you can do in the summer to reduce your consumption of this precious resource.

- ☑ Raise your thermostat by two degrees to reduce your cooling system load.
- ☑ Clean or change air conditioning filters regularly. Dirty filters cause air conditioners to work harder and use more energy.
- ☑ Remove dust from the coils of your refrigerator and freezer so they operate more efficiently.
- ☑ Close your blinds during the heat of the day and open your window during the cool evening to give your air conditioner a rest.
- ☑ Turn off heat producing indoor lights and home computers when not in use. Turn off unnecessary outdoor lights.
- ☑ Fire up the barbecue grill to move cooking outdoors.
- ☑ Adjust your dishwasher so dishes dry without heat.



Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County

1151 Valley Mall Parkway • East Wenatchee, WA 98802-4497 • 509/884-7191
P.O. Box 1119 • Bridgeport, Washington 98813 • 509/686-4501
www.douglaspu.org