School Field Trips
Did you know that Skagit PUD offers school group tours of Judy Reservoir, the Water Treatment Plant and a visit to a stream within the watershed?

Transportation reimbursement is available for schools served by Skagit PUD water, and includes the bus driver fee plus mileage. The tour is recommended for students ages nine (4th-grade) and up. The program focuses on an exploration of water’s role in our environment and society, with an emphasis on the importance of a safe and reliable water supply.

Large school groups visiting the Water Treatment Plant should plan for 1.5 – 2 hours.

For more information about the Judy Reservoir tour, please visit our website at SkagitPUD.org or call (360) 848-4477.

Do you have a major outdoor project planned this fall? Before you break ground, consider making a phone call first.

Call Before You Dig is a free service that prevents dangerous and costly accidents by helping you stay clear of underground utilities. Skagit PUD customers are reminded to use this service every time they dig, whether they are planning a major construction project or landscaping their yard.

Call 811 or (800) 424-5555 at least 48 hours before digging or excavating. You also can visit www.callbeforeyoudig.org and make your locate requests online.

This service is available 24 hours a day. When calling, be prepared to give the following information:

1. Your name and phone number.
2. The location of the site where you plan to dig. A street address and specific directions are necessary. The site must be marked with white spray paint so we know exactly where you will dig.
3. The type of work you plan to do.
4. The date you plan to begin.

The service will contact all of the appropriate utilities in Skagit County for you, including Skagit PUD. Utility representatives will respond and mark the locations of their underground utilities.

Water lines are marked in blue. Getting these lines marked can keep customers from hitting or cutting off power, water, phone, cable, sewer or gas lines with digging equipment. Within two feet of the spray-painted marks, you should take special care and dig by hand. Accidental contact with any of these lines can result in serious injury.

Each year, the PUD receives more than 3,000 of these location requests, countywide. This service is dedicated to protecting citizens and construction personnel who work around utilities, as well as safeguarding the underground infrastructure of your community.

Work safely this season. Remember to call before you dig.
Skagit PUD has over 25,000 water meters installed in the ground to service homes and businesses. Water use metering is an essential element of efficiency and conservation management, and is necessary in order to conduct a system audit. Metering is a requirement for loss control, accounting and rate making, verification of water and cost savings, and the evaluation of conservation measures. An effective metering program allows comparison of measured flows in the system and metered deliveries to customers, which can be used to identify leaks.

Water meters not only help Skagit PUD collect the revenue it’s due, meters also help pinpoint leaks, locate pressure problems within the distribution system, and identify and study periods of peak and non-peak use among both residential and business consumers. But meters can only perform these feats if they are accurate.

Water meters tend to deteriorate with age. Meters can lose their sensitivity over time and fail to accurately monitor how much water businesses and residences are consuming. Accurate assessment of water usage is vital in keeping utility bills low and conserving water in drought conditions.

In order to ensure water is being accounted for accurately, Skagit PUD field tests, calibrates, and repairs its two-inch and greater meters on a rotating three-year cycle. The larger meters are typically used for businesses, schools, industrial users, agricultural and wholesale accounts where the demand for higher water volumes are required. The smaller 5/8-inch residential meters are bench tested as needed. All testing is done in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommendations or the guidelines recommended by the American Water Works Association.

Are you looking for a low tech, low maintenance way to conserve water and save money this fall? Consider installing a new showerhead.

Did you know that a five-minute shower uses less water than filling the bathtub? The average shower lasts eight minutes. Since a standard showerhead has a water flow of 2.5 gallons per minute, each shower uses 20 gallons of water!

For only $11, Skagit PUD sells a water efficiency kit that contains a multi-mode massage showerhead and ultra-efficient faucet aerators. Install these items today for more efficient and enjoyable showering with better faucet flow.

If you would like more information about simple water-saving ideas, please visit our website at SkagitPUD.org or call (360) 424-7104.

In March, Skagit PUD updated its utility billing system. At that time, all customers were issued a new account number. Previously referred to as the “customer number.”

If you are using an online bill payer, such as a bank to pay your water bill, please update the new account number with your bill payer before making your next payment. The Customer Account Number information can be found in the top right-hand corner of your Skagit PUD bill. Updating is necessary to ensure that your payment is properly credited to your account. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!