

# ! WATER CONSERVATION

in effect July through September

Addresses ending in ODD numbers

1 3 5 7 9

Water on  
ODD days of the month.

Addresses ending in EVEN numbers

0 2 4 6 8

Water on  
EVEN days of the month.

**THANK YOU**  
*For Your Service at PUD 1*

Michael Ferrier	30 Years
Joyce Gray	25 Years
Darin Hall	20 Years
Roy Munch	20 Years
Jack Janda	15 Years
Steve Brown	10 Years
Vicky Heinrich	10 Years
Kristin Masteller	5 Years

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS regularly meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. at the PUD 1 office in Potlatch. For more information on meetings, agendas and minutes, please visit [www.mason-pud1.org](http://www.mason-pud1.org).

## MASON COUNTY PUD 1 COMMISSIONERS:

### DISTRICT 1

Karl Denison .....(360) 898-2618

### DISTRICT 2

Ron Gold .....(360) 426-9540

### DISTRICT 3

Jack Janda .....(360) 490-1800

### GENERAL MANAGER

Steven Taylor .....(360) 877-5249



Have you signed up for the Email Notification List yet? Be the first to know about scheduled outages and other important PUD information by emailing [kristinm@mason-pud1.org](mailto:kristinm@mason-pud1.org) to join.

# THE CONNECTOR SUMMER 2016



Mason County Forest Festival parade.



[www.mason-pud1.org](http://www.mason-pud1.org)

Find us on



Follow us on





**A**t a recent board meeting, my fellow commissioners and I had a difficult decision to make. After much deliberation, consideration and public comment we passed a resolution to formally oppose Initiative 732, commonly known as the Carbon Tax Initiative. It was difficult for us because both individually and as a commission, we recognize that climate change and the use of fossil fuels are serious issues that need to be addressed. Part of our work as PUD commissioners is to help Washington State's PUDs be leaders in clean energy. Even at our small PUD we have implemented community solar and two commissioners serve on boards for Energy Northwest, which provides carbon free nuclear energy.

PUDs get it. We realize that carbon is an issue, which is one of the reasons why we vehemently fight to protect our hydroelectric system. We ultimately decided we could not support the initiative due to the way it was written. The design of the initiative would have significant financial implications for our PUD without any actual carbon reduction on the part of the utility. Our energy portfolio is already over 95% carbon free thanks largely to our clean, renewable hydro power.

A representative from the organization sponsoring the initiative gave some compelling testimony in our public hearing. I and my fellow commissioners expressed our thanks to him for his input and for helping to educate us further on the issue. We hope that future initiatives will reach out to the public power community so that we can collaborate on carbon reduction efforts that are both impactful and make good economic sense.

This initiative will likely be on the November ballot. It is an issue that not only commands Washington voters' attention this year, but will continue to arise in future years as we all work on tackling climate change. If any member of the public has questions on the impact of I-732 on our PUD we have published the minutes from these meetings on our website. Please also feel free to reach out to our office or any of your PUD commissioners. We appreciate the feedback from our community.



Ron Gold,  
Commissioner, District 2



## Tree Trimming Progress

Our in-house trimming crew has already begun working on clearing lines on the side roads and neighborhoods that need attention. We have put out for bid several sections of our arterial lines along Highway 101. This contracted trimming will occur in late summer or early fall and help reduce the outages on our main lines that serve large groups of customers along the 101 corridor.

We ask that drivers please pay extra consideration to our employees and contractors as they work along the roadways and up in the air on the windy sections of highway. Our number one goal is to be safe and ensure that all our crew members returns home safely each night. Thank you for looking out for us!





View from Mt. Walker

Recently my wife and I hiked Mt. Walker in Jefferson County, which is the end of the PUD 1 service line at the north end of our system. On the US Forest Service website, it appeared to be a fairly easy two mile hike. Once we started we realized that it was steep with 20 switch backs to ascend to the top. The grade was 10% to 20%, of which most was closer to the 20%. We just went slow and steady and eventually persevered. It was worth the effort once we reached the north view. It was beautiful. Then we went to the south view and it was just as impressive. It is so cool to live in the Pacific Northwest and have such wonderful places to experience. As we ate our lunches and enjoyed the view I listened to several people that traveled there from different places, as they had drove to the top and walked out to the view points. As we shared the view I reflected on how our area has so much to appreciate and enjoy that strangers will travel halfway around the world to share the same view.

This experience was much like our small PUD. We provide service for a variety of individuals and their family and friends. Some are full time residents that we see or speak with regularly and others only come out on weekends and special holidays. Every one of our customers deserves equal treatment and service. At Mason PUD 1 we strive to make sure that our services are here to enjoy for both the traveler and locals residents. We work hard to provide exceptional customer service with a hometown feel.

That’s not to say that our work is not challenging. External influences continue to provide steep obstacles with plenty of long windy paths of work ahead, much like the hike my wife and I enjoyed. This year, like the past nine that I have been serving you as GM, will be challenging and rewarding. We have increased pressure on rates from Bonneville Power Administration, increased environmental regulations, and as always, we have

Mother Nature to contend with. Each has a different level of effort and attention needed to continue to provide you with valued and reliable service. As we navigate through our work ahead, we will continue to provide open and transparent communication of the challenges that we are facing and solicit your feedback and consideration, just like with the recent I-732 Carbon Tax Initiative public meeting, our community solar project and our efforts to improve our facilities. Like the Mt. Walker excursion, the hard work pays off when we reach the end of our journey and can enjoy the fruits of our labors.



Thanks for letting us here at Mason PUD No. 1 serve you.

EARN  
FIVE  
BUCKS  
BY GOING  
PAPERLESS!



Customers who sign up through e-pay by September 30th to receive their statements via email instead of in paper format will receive a \$5 credit on their October billing statement. You must stay paperless for one year to keep the credit to your account. Existing paperless customers will also receive the \$5 credit.

Go to [www.mason-pud1.org](http://www.mason-pud1.org) and click “e-bill” to sign up today!



Since our very first Community Solar project went online at the end of April, it has produced enough electricity in its first two months of operation to:

- Power 27 single-family homes for 7 straight days
- Offset as much CO2 as 121 fully grown trees
- Offset as much CO2 as 5,057 pounds of coal would have created
- Produced 6,721 kilowatt hours of clean, renewable energy!



Track it's progress at [solar.mason-pud1.org](http://solar.mason-pud1.org)



PUD1 in the Community

1. Hood Canal students learning about electric careers.
2. Customers enjoying lunch at the PUD 1 Customer Appreciation Event.
3. 1st Grade Field Trip with PUD 1 water department.
4. PUD 1 entry in the Forest Festival Parade with The Varmints playing live on the trailer.
5. Community Solar Project ribbon cutting