It's Time to Upgrade

EPUD is making changes to its overall electric system as part of our 2018 System Upgrade project. Throughout the year, we will continue to make significant improvements with the goal of building a stronger, smarter, more resilient electric system and improving our service to you.

As part of the System Upgrade, our effort to replace existing meters with smart meters is currently underway* and is expected to be completed by early 2019.

How Are Smart Meters Different?

Smart meters offer important customer benefits that existing meters don’t.

Take a look at the chart below to see how they compare:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Energy Usage Information</th>
<th>Existing Meters</th>
<th>New Meters**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outage Notifications</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waive Deposits</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Account Flexibility</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Energy Usage

Currently, about 80–85 percent of customers can see their daily usage online, although it is often delayed. The new meters will report usage frequently and reliably, allowing customers to view their usage online hourly, and even receive usage alerts to help avoid high bills.

Outage Notifications

EPUD’s existing meters do not have the capability to send outage alerts. The new meters will notify staff automatically and instantly when power goes out, ensuring that crews are dispatched quickly, without waiting for customers to report the outage.

Waive Deposits

New customers are often required to pay a deposit when opening a new account. The new meters are built to work with prepayment programs. Soon, new customers who enroll in the prepayment program will be able to avoid paying a steep deposit.

Account Flexibility

With the new meters, EPUD will be able to offer more flexibility in how and when you pay your bills, allowing you to tailor your account to fit your budget and lifestyle.

* EPUD has partnered with National Metering to assist with meter exchanges. All EPUD and National Metering employees drive marked vehicles and carry identification.

** Not all features will be available at the time of meter exchange. Some will be developed within the next few years.

Learn More

Earlier this month, you should have received our mailer explaining the System Upgrade in further detail. Email TeamEmerald@epud.org to request another copy. It is also available online as a PDF document, along with answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs).

www.epud.org/system-upgrade/
Long gone are the days when the adults in the household consumed the most electricity. Now, thanks to video games, computers, cell phones, and other electronic gadgets, it’s the younger members of our families who tend to consume the most kilowatts.

With summer vacation almost here, consider recruiting your kids to help conserve energy and save money this summer.

Electronics: Put your kids in charge of their own bedrooms and make a list of ways they can save energy, such as turning off lights, unplugging electronics, and using power strips.

Closed Doors: Make sure your kids know to close the door after exiting or entering your home, especially on hot summer days. If a door is left ajar while the air conditioning is running, the cool air will escape, causing the air conditioner to use more energy.

Play Time: Encourage your children to play outside instead of indoors in front of the computer or TV screen. More time outside the house means less spent on cooling, lighting, and appliances. Have a screen addict? Try requiring one hour of outside play time for each hour of indoor screen time.

Snack Time: Remind kids to decide what they want to eat or drink before opening the refrigerator door. Staring into the open fridge while all the cold air escapes makes the appliance work harder and use more energy to re-cool.

Find more seasonal conservation tips at www.epud.org, My Home, Money Saving Tips.

Summer Events
EPUD will be out in your community this summer, participating in parades and hosting ice cream socials. We hope to see you there!

7/4–Creswell Parade
4th of July Celebration

7/21–Cottage Grove
Bohemia Mining Days Parade
Ice Cream Social 11–3 p.m.

8/11–Marcola
Mary Cole Days Parade
Ice Cream Social 11–3 p.m.

#2WeeksReady: Preparedness for Seniors
Oregon’s Office of Emergency Management (OEM) urges residents to be prepared for at least two weeks following a disaster. This month, we focus on preparedness for seniors. Below are a few important steps recommended by OEM for senior households.

- Label any equipment such as canes, walkers, oxygen tanks or wheelchairs with your name and contact information.
- Keep hearing aids, glasses and other assistive devices near the bedside. Remember, some disasters, particularly earthquakes, may cause items to shift.
- Keep support items such as wheelchairs, walkers and other assistive devices in a designated place so they can be found quickly.
- Conduct a “hazard hunt” in your residence to remove any items that could hinder your movement away from a dangerous area.

For the complete Senior Preparedness document, visit www.oregon.gov/oem/Documents/2_Weeks_Ready-Seniors.pdf.
Get emergency preparedness information & resources at www.oregon.gov/OEM/hazardsprep/Pages/2-Weeks-Ready.aspx.