



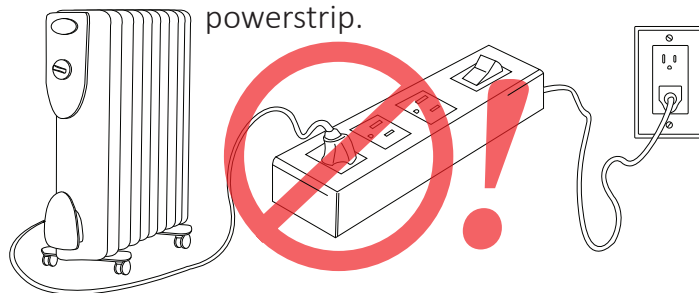
**Jefferson County**  
Public Utility District

**December 2023 Newsletter**

# Holiday Electric Safety

Cold, crisp days and long winter nights are upon us, filled with the glow of holiday lights, warm homes, and higher electric usage. With higher usage comes the need for greater electrical safety. Keep your holiday season merry and bright with these electric safety tips.

- Own a real Christmas tree? Keep it watered and use LED lighting for decorations to reduce fire hazard.
- Use the correct size extension cords for your decorations. Don't use cords that are too thin or too long. Don't connect extension cords end-to-end.
- Do not overload outlets. Plug in only a few strands of lights at a time.
- Inspect light strands for frays, cracks, or breaks!
- Ensure you use the right holiday lighting! Are the lights designed for indoor or outdoor use?
- Use a powerstrip for lighting. A powerstrip makes it easier to turn off multiple light strands and features a built-in circuit breaker.
- Turn off lights or use a timer for lighting when you go to bed or leave the house.
- Any space heater should be UL-tested and feature a tip-over safety switch.
- Never plug a space heater into a powerstrip. Space heaters use large amounts of energy and can melt a powerstrip.



## Shedding Light on our Roadways Countywide

The PUD owns and maintains more than 1,000 streetlights across the county. PUD staff works closely with regional partners to design lighting for infrastructure projects like the WSDOT Kearney Street/SR20 roundabout, Cedar Ave pedestrian safety corridor in Hadlock, and future Discovery Rd bikeway and sidewalk project.

Most new light installations feature programmable LED lights. LED streetlights use less energy and can often be dimmed.

Questions about streetlights? You can report streetlight issues online by clicking the Tree & PUD Services button on [jeffpud.org](http://jeffpud.org).



**(360) 385-5800 [jeffpud.org](http://jeffpud.org) 310 Four Corners Rd. Port Townsend WA 98368**

# 96% CARBON-FREE ENERGY

Jefferson county is powered by some of the cleanest most affordable energy in Washington and second-lowest in the country thanks to the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA).

Each year, the WA State Dept of Commerce produces its Electric Utility Fuel Mix Disclosure Report offering a look at the vast world of utility energy sources.

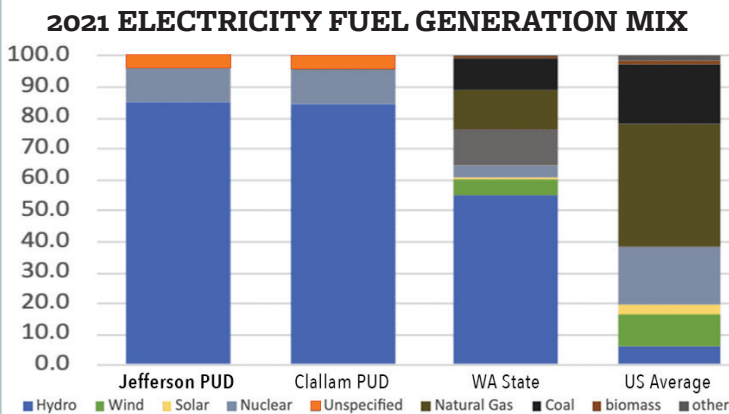
Thanks to BPA, our energy portfolio is an easy one: 84.51% hydropower, 10.89% nuclear, and 4.6% unspecified. Hydro and nuclear power sources are considered non-carbon-emitting. Unspecified sources are power purchases by BPA that may be a mix of wind, solar, and geothermal energy, even coal and natural gas sources, but are not required to report.

Prior to going public in 2013, the largest share of Jefferson County's electricity came from coal-burning power plants, with more than 60% being generated by fossil fuels.

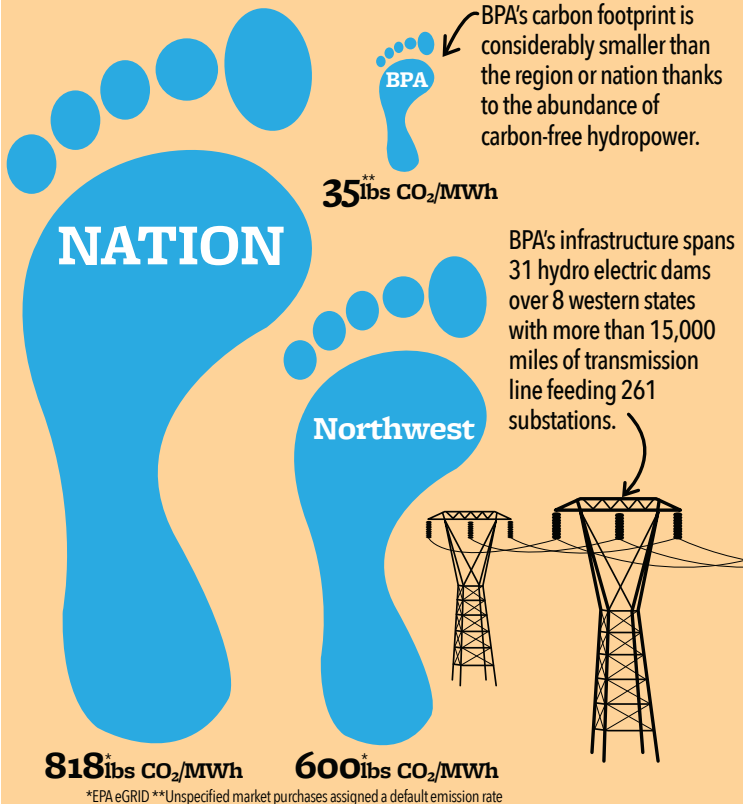
## WATER LEADS THE WAY

Nearly 60% of all energy used in Washington comes from hydropower.

Hydropower is renewable energy from rain and snowmelt that doesn't produce waste or air pollution, saving the equivalent greenhouse gas emissions of more than 10 million cars on the road, according to the BPA.



## CARBON FOOTPRINT COMPARISON



## Water Winterizing Tips

**Let a faucet drip**  
During very cold conditions, keep cabinet doors open to allow air circulation and let the cold water faucet drip slightly. This relieves pressure and allows water to flow, rather than freeze.

**Colder weather means the potential for frozen water pipes. A few simple winterization steps both inside and outside the home can save a lot of cold weather blues.**

**Install Foam Hose Faucet Covers**  
Foam faucet covers can help reduce freezing even in sub-zero temperatures.

**Anti-Siphon Outdoor Water Faucets**  
Helps prevent water backflow into the home when faucet is not in use. Can reduce pipe breakage near exterior of the home.

**Pipe Insulation in Crawl Space**  
Ensure pipes are insulated in unheated spaces such as the crawl space and garage. Ensuring these areas are well insulated can greatly reduce energy loss and save money on utility bills!

**Happy Holidays  
from your PUD!**

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