

c nnected

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Shedding Light On Insulation

If you are curious what the best energy efficiency project is, look no further than insulation. It's like a giant blanket for your house. Insulation helps to stop the movement of heat into and out of your home. Adequate levels provide stable temperatures throughout the house, while reducing your monthly utility bills.

How much does my home really need?

Home Type	Attic/Ceiling/ Roof	Floor	Wall
Single-Family	R-49	R-30	R-13
Manufactured	R-22	R-22	
Multifamily-Low Rise	R-49	R-19	R-13
Multifamily-Mid/High Rise	R-49		R-13

How do I know if my home needs insulation?

Call Energy Efficiency Services for a free home energy audit. Our Energy Efficiency Specialists will review the level of existing insulation in your attic and crawl spaces. Based on what you do or do not have, they can recommend the level needed to increase your comfort.

Don't forget to ask about available rebates!

Cowlitz PUD offers a variety of rebates for attic, floor, and wall insulation. Once you have a home energy



audit on file with the PUD, request bids from contractors that are licensed and bonded in Washington State. We recommend getting at least two bids. Submit the bids to Energy Efficiency Services to begin the review and pre-approval process before the work is started.

Our Energy Efficiency Specialists are here to help you every step of the way. Contact us today to get started! Visit www.cowlitzpud.org for detailed incentive information, call **360.501.9514 (Toll-Free: 800.631.1131)**, or send an email to eeservices@cowlitzpud.org.

GREEN POWER



Are you interested in receiving benefits from clean, zero emission wind energy that is easy and affordable?

Residents and businesses can take advantage of the **Renewable Option Program**. This program allows you to affordably purchase the environmental benefits of wind power generated throughout the Pacific Northwest. Renewable option RECs represent renewable energy sources from Pacific

Northwest projects where clean, zero emission wind energy has been delivered to the North American power grid to replace fossil fuel-based electricity.

Visit <https://www.cowlitzpud.org/efficiency/green-power/> to learn more and sign up today!

Warm Neighbor Promotion

Would you like to help your fellow neighbor in need? Enroll in Round Up for Warm Neighbor to give a little!

Ways to Donate:

- **SmartHub** – Open Bill & Pay, select Warm Neighbor, and follow prompts. You can choose a one-time round-up, monthly round-up, or a certain dollar amount each month.
- **In -person** – Donate in our office or Drive -Thru.
- **Bill Stub** – Mail your payment in with the bill stub marked for Warm Neighbor and a dollar amount.

Contact a Customer Service Representative at **360.423.2210** for more information.

SmartHub: Auto Enroll in Warm Neighbor

How to Enroll: Go to Bill & Pay, then Warm Neighbor. From there, click enroll, and choose round my bill up to the next dollar, set a fixed amount, or make an additional one-time donation. Your contribution will appear on your bill as a Warm Neighbor Donation.



Tip of the Month: Avoiding Late Payments

Need a couple extra days to pay your bill? You can request a one-time payment extension through SmartHub or by contacting us.

By maintaining a good payment history you can avoid late fees and having to pay a deposit.

BILL & PAY

- Auto Pay Program
- Billing History
- Budget Billing
- Budget Gauge
- Make a Payment
- Payment Extensions
- Payment History
- Warm Neighbor



AARP Tax-Aide Provides Free Tax Preparation

Longview/Kelso area residents: get your taxes done for free. (No age or income restrictions.) To make an appointment for free tax preparation with **IRS Certified AARP Tax-Aide** volunteers, call the **Longview Library 360.442.5300** or **Lower Columbia CAP 360.425.3430**, through mid-April.

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961 12th Avenue
PO Box 3007, Longview, WA 98632
360.423.2210 | Toll Free 800.631.1131
cowlitzpud.org



Bill Assistance Programs:

LIHEAP: 2024-2025 Season

Schedule your appointment today at www.lowercolumbiacap.org

The Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a Federally funded program administered through CAP.



Are you low-income and struggling to pay your bill? One-time bill assistance of up to \$300 may be what you need to get back on your feet.

How to Apply:

- Complete the [application](#) on SmartHub, in the office, or print from website
- Submit online, email, mail, or drop off the application and required documentation at our office.

WARM NEIGHBOR INCOME LIMITS 2024

FAMILY SIZE	ANNUAL	MONTHLY
1	\$ 50,400	\$ 4,200.00
2	\$ 57,600	\$ 4,800.00
3	\$ 64,800	\$ 5,400.00
4	\$ 72,000	\$ 6,000.00
5	\$ 77,800	\$ 6,483.33

DISCOUNTED RATE PROGRAM

Are you low income and 62+, disabled, active military, or a veteran? You may be eligible to receive up to 30% off your monthly bill.

How to Apply:

- Complete the [application](#) on SmartHub, in our office, or print from our website.
- Submit online, email, mail, or drop off the application and required documentation at our office.

FAMILY SIZE	SDDR 30%		SDDR 20%	
	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	ANNUAL	MONTHLY
1	\$23,475	\$1,956	\$50,400	\$4,200
2	\$31,725	\$2,644	\$57,600	\$4,800
3	\$39,975	\$3,331	\$64,800	\$5,400
4	\$48,225	\$4,019	\$72,000	\$6,000
5	\$56,475	\$4,706	\$77,800	\$6,483.33

Contact Customer Service for more details: **360.423.2210**

Board of Commissioners meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 2pm.

To attend contact mpetterson@cowlitzpud.org