



## New power rates went into effect on April 1

You will see an average monthly increase on your utility bill of \$6.72. The increase will impact all customers differently, based on how much electricity gets used each month. As a public utility, we set rates to cover the costs of essential services. Some factors affecting rates in 2025-2026 include the higher cost of maintaining utility infrastructure, protecting the natural resources around our facilities, and investing in system improvements to ensure you get the most value and quality service you expect. Go to [MyTPU.org/Rates](https://www.mytpu.org/Rates) for more information.

Bill payment assistance is available for income-qualified customers. Visit [MyTPU.org/Assistance](https://www.mytpu.org/Assistance). **U\***



## Plant trees in the right place to prevent damage

If you are thinking about planting new trees in your yard this spring, think location, location, location. Planting in the right place helps prevent power outages, broken underground utility lines, and cracked sidewalks. If you are planting near or under power lines, select trees that don't grow taller than 25 feet.

Visit [MyTPU.org/TreeTips](https://www.mytpu.org/TreeTips) for more info about where to plant and a list of trees recommended for this area based on size and growth patterns.

### Call Before You Dig

To ensure you don't hit a water or electrical line, dial 811 or call 800-424-5555. We'll come out and mark our utility lines. **U\***

## 5 easy steps for a more water-efficient landscape

How we care for our yards affects our environment along with the quality and supply of our drinking water.



Build healthy soil by adding compost.



Choose the right native plants for your site.



Use natural pest and weed control methods.



Inspect your sprinkler system for leaks.



Choose a smart irrigation controller. Apply for our rebate at [MyTPU.org/SmartIrrigation](https://www.mytpu.org/SmartIrrigation).

For more tips, visit [MyTPU.org/YardCare](https://www.mytpu.org/YardCare). **U\***



## Celebrating our power, our planet

The choices we make today shape the future of our planet. With clean, reliable water and clean, renewable hydropower, we're reducing emissions and protecting natural resources for generations. On Earth Day, we celebrate the power we all have to create a healthier, more sustainable world—one action, and one decision at a time.

Learn about actions you can take at [MyTPU.org/WaystoSave](https://www.mytpu.org/WaystoSave). **U\***



## Employees raise over \$276,000 to support local communities

We believe in supporting our neighbors in need and value and appreciate the hundreds of utility employees who band together to help yearly. Through our Community Connection program, our employees gave hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash, product donations, and volunteer time in 2024. People throughout the community needing the most help benefited from assistance with utility bills, food, basic needs, books for children, school supplies, holiday gifts, youth programs, and assistance with repairing and building homes. **U\***



## Our readers know their power outage prep

Congratulations and thanks to the 155 people who participated in the trivia published in the winter issue of *U\* - Utilities & You*. There are three phases of power outage prep: 1) before, 2) during, and 3) after. **U\***

## U\* Trivia – answer and win



When planting trees, near or under power lines, what is the maximum height the trees should grow?

Be one of 50 randomly chosen people with the correct answer, and we will mail you a free prize. To enter, submit your answer by June 30 at [MyTPU.org/Trivia](https://www.mytpu.org/Trivia) or by mail to U\* Trivia, 3628 S. 35th Street, Tacoma, WA 98409. Include your name, phone number, and mailing address for mail-in and postcard entries. **U\***

## U\* Calendar

Find a complete list of our events and office closures at [MyTPU.org/Calendar](https://www.mytpu.org/Calendar). **U\***

## Avoid woes from wayward balloons

Help us keep the lights on and the water clean. When mylar balloons hit power lines they cause power outages. They are non-biodegradable and have a negative impact on water quality due to pollution in riverbeds. If you buy balloons, handle them carefully and ensure they do not release into the air. If they get caught in power lines, call Tacoma Power at 253-502-8602. **U\***

## POWER MOVE #44 Updating your thermostat that's stuck in the 90s



Remember flip phones? Dial-up internet? Burned CDs? Technology has come a long way, so why walk to the wall to adjust the temperature? Here are three reasons to update your thermostat:



A smart thermostat learns your routine, so your home stays comfortable when needed and saves energy.



Are you running late? Heading out of town? Adjust your thermostat from your smartphone; no more heating an empty house or waking up shivering.



Plus, with a \$75 rebate, upgrading is easy.

Some things are worth keeping vintage, but your thermostat isn't one of them.

Learn more about rebates when you upgrade your thermostat at [MyTPU.org/PowerMoves](https://www.mytpu.org/PowerMoves). **U\***



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## New fast chargers in downtown Tacoma

Charging your EV just got easier! New 50 kW DC fast chargers are now available on Market Street near the Tacoma Municipal Building. Operated by Tacoma Power, they offer a flat rate of \$0.40 per kWh with no time-of-use pricing, just affordable charging when needed. Funded through the Washington Commerce Clean Energy Fund, these chargers help power more EVs with clean, renewable hydropower.

Plug in and charge up today. **U\***

## Plan for summer fun at Tacoma Power Parks

As you consider summer recreation, plan to visit one of our four beautiful parks in Western Washington. Enjoy classic tent camping, RV sites, and everything in between.

Visit [MyTPU.org/Parks](https://www.mytpu.org/Parks). **U\***



UTILITIES & YOU

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