

UTILITIES&YOU

July 2017



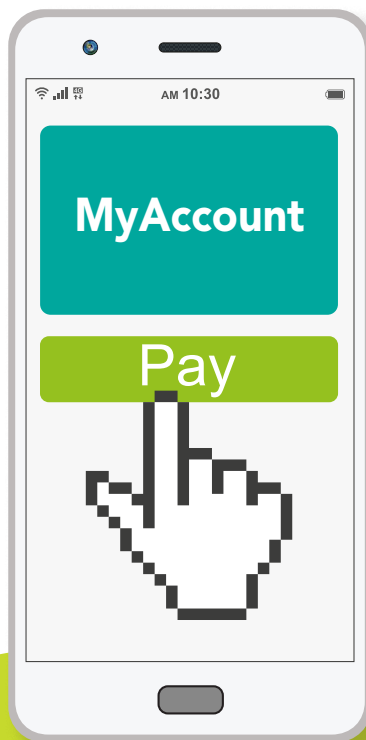
Here comes the sun ...

MyAccount gets an upgrade

This summer, TPU upgraded our online account tools to better serve our customers. The new tools provide an improved mobile experience, consolidated view and payment option for business customers or other customers with multiple accounts, better communications through banner announcements on the site and a streamlined payment process.

MyAccount lets you view and pay bills online, sign up for paperless billing, set your own due date and download your usage data.

Not registered yet? Now is a great time to sign up! Visit MyTPU.org/MyAccount. **U***



MyTPU.org/MyAccount

6 IN A ROW!

Tacoma Power wins national award for new hatcheries



With its focus on restoring fish populations in the North Fork Skokomish River, Tacoma Power was recently recognized for taking a pioneering approach to fish management.

The utility recently took home its sixth-straight Outstanding Stewards of America's Waters Award from the National Hydropower Association. The award honors its two new hatcheries at the Cushman Hydroelectric Project in Mason County.

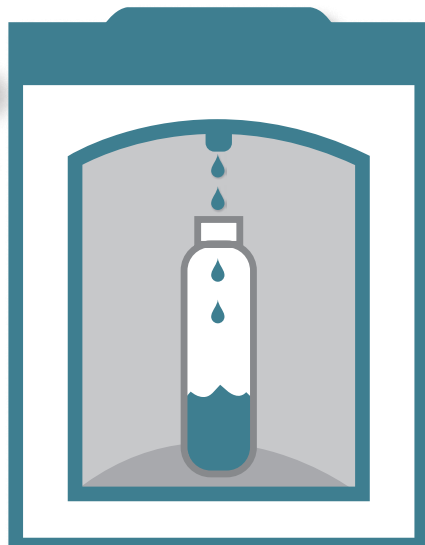
Completing the hatcheries is one of the final pieces in Tacoma Power's recent expansion of its Cushman fisheries programs and facilities, which are part of its federal license to operate its dams. **U***

H2O TO GO

Fill up your reusable bottle with Tacoma Water

Tacoma Water recently teamed up with Metro Parks Tacoma to help people hydrate at STAR Center in South Tacoma. A new hydration station, with two drinking fountains and a special section to fill water bottles, is near the STAR Center's sprayground.

Tacoma Water and the City of Tacoma will soon be bringing you another hydration station – one in the Lincoln neighborhood. Cheers! U*



Water saving tips for summer

- **Time it right:** water early in the morning or late in the evening so less water evaporates.
- **Fewer and longer is better:** giving lawns or other plants a good soak once or twice a week helps grow deeper roots and stronger plants.
- **Know your system:** if you have an irrigation system, check it frequently for leaks and clogged or broken sprinkler heads. U*

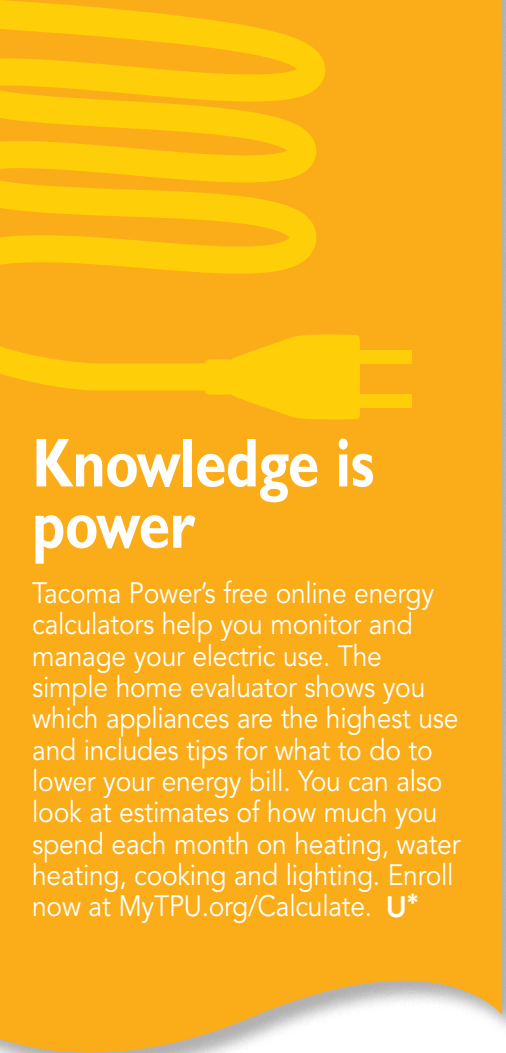
Local nonprofits and schools to receive renewable energy grants

Tacoma Power's Evergreen Options is launching an exciting new grant program! Local nonprofits, school and government agencies that participate in the program can apply for funding from Tacoma Power to help with the purchase and installation of on-site local renewable energy projects. The annual grant program will allow recipients to generate their own electricity from renewable sources such as solar, wind and geothermal, and even get credit for any extra electricity provided back to the utility. Evergreen Options participants will get to vote on who gets the funds!

Evergreen Options is a voluntary green energy program for Tacoma Power customers. While Tacoma Power's electricity comes almost entirely from carbon-free hydro, customers can opt to spend a few extra dollars each month for renewable energy credits that offset their carbon footprint beyond their electric use. This helps support the regional development of renewable energy like wind and solar.

To learn more about the grant program or to find out how you can support renewable energy by enrolling in Evergreen Options, visit MyTPU.org/Evergreen. U*

evergreen options



Knowledge is power

Tacoma Power's free online energy calculators help you monitor and manage your electric use. The simple home evaluator shows you which appliances are the highest use and includes tips for what to do to lower your energy bill. You can also look at estimates of how much you spend each month on heating, water heating, cooking and lighting. Enroll now at MyTPU.org/Calculate. U*

Find hidden prizes at Tacoma Power dams

Grab your smartphone or GPS device and try geocaching – the 21st century's version of a scavenger hunt. Geocaching uses a GPS device and a set of coordinates to lead users to a hidden "cache" or treasure box.

In the Northwest, the Foundation for Water and Energy Education (FWEE) uses geocaching to educate the public on how water can generate electricity (hydroelectric power). They established the "FWEE Hydro Cache Challenge" where geocachers can look for treasures hidden at 13 hydropower projects located throughout the region.

Four of Tacoma Power's dams are FWEE geocache sites, including the Mossyrock Dam, Wynoochee Dam, Cushman Dam No. 1 and LaGrande Dam. Each box contains a postcard of the nearby dam, logbook, pencils and a scroll that outlines the path electricity takes from the dam's powerhouse to Tacoma.

The ultimate goal with this challenge is to provide a fun, interactive way to teach people about the importance of hydropower as a clean and renewable energy source.

For information on the challenge, visit fwee.org. U*



Free fun fact
no GPS needed – approximately 90% of Tacoma's power supply is generated by hydroelectric power!

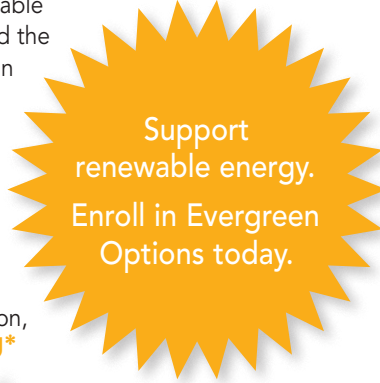
Community Solar celebrates a milestone

This summer, Tacoma Power's Community Solar project will celebrate the first full year of production. The four, 75-kilowatt solar arrays were installed on a rooftop at Tacoma Public Utilities last year to help customers take advantage of state incentives, and we flipped the switch in February 2016. Since then, the project has generated a combined 496,000 kW of electricity, which is enough to power 45 average Tacoma Power homes.

Community solar is an easy, inexpensive way for our customers to support local renewable energy at a lower entry price than rooftop solar. Members share in the cost of the construction but don't have to worry about start-up costs, siting, permitting, securing a contractor or ongoing maintenance.

The sold-out Community Solar project enables participating customers to support local solar energy and receive an annual Washington state solar production incentive payment, as well as payment for the electricity produced from the project. In its first full year, each participant will earn approximately \$35 per solar unit owned.

Interested in supporting renewable energy but don't want to spend the money on solar panels? You can join Evergreen Options. For a small additional monthly fee, you can ensure a percent of the power you use comes from renewable energy sources such as wind and solar generated in the Pacific Northwest. For more information, visit MyTPU.org/Evergreen. U*



PLAY ALL DAY, STAY ALL NIGHT

Camp nearby at a Tacoma Power park

Looking for something fun to do this summer? We can help! Tacoma Power has four parks on the shores of lakes formed by our hydroelectric dams (which, by the way, generate clean, renewable electricity).

Our parks offer tent camping, RV sites with full hookups, ADA-accessible campsites and facilities, year-round day use areas, boat launches, swim beaches, group camp areas, kitchen shelters, hiking and fishing. Features vary depending on the park.

You can take a not-too-long road trip to:

- Alder Lake Park (near Eatonville)
- Mayfield Lake Park (near Mossyrock)
- Mossyrock Park (on Riffe Lake near Mossyrock)
- Taidnapam Park (on Riffe Lake near Glenoma)

Mossyrock and Taidnapam parks visitors should note there are changes to the swim areas and boat launches this year due to new, lower water levels at Riffe Lake. Read more at MyTPU.org/RiffeLake.

Make a camping reservation by visiting TacomaPower.com/Parks or calling 1-888-CAMPOUT. U*



TPU customer gets a home makeover

This past April, more than 70 TPU employees volunteered to transform a customer's home through a partnership with Rebuilding Together South Sound. Volunteers helped clean, paint and build sturdy front and back steps. Through Tacoma Power's programs, the homeowner received new windows and a ductless heat pump to keep her home warm and efficient. Together, the team's contributions help this customer have a healthier, safer home to continue living in for many years to come. **U***



U* readers know their stuff.

Congratulations and thanks to the 269 readers who answered the trivia question published in the April issue of U*. The correct answer to the question, "Will Tacoma Public Utilities ever call a customer to ask for debit, credit or prepaid card information?" is "no!" **U***

Send comments and suggestions to:
u@cityoftacoma.org

WE'RE VERY SOCIAL



facebook.com/MyTPU



twitter.com/MyTPU

U* trivia – answer and win!

True or False? The best times to water your lawn are early in the morning and late in the evening.

Be one of 50 randomly chosen customers with the correct answer, and you'll get a free Tacoma Water shower timer to help you save water this summer. Submit your answers at MyTPU.org/Trivia by July 30. Provide your name, mailing address, phone number and answer to enter. **U***

* City of Tacoma employees and their immediate family members are ineligible. One answer per household.

U* Calendar

All events take place in the Tacoma Public Utilities Auditorium, 3628 S. 35th St., Tacoma, unless otherwise noted.

JULY

4
TPU Offices Closed
for Independence Day

12 & 26
Public Utility Board Meeting
6:30 p.m.

15
FREE workshop | Solar Power: How It Can
Work for You | 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Envirohouse | 3510 S. Mullen St., Tacoma

AUGUST

9 & 23
Public Utility Board Meeting
6:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

4
TPU Offices Closed
for Labor Day

9
FREE lighting event | 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Home Depot
7050 Tacoma Mall Blvd., Tacoma

13 & 27
Public Utility Board Meeting
6:30 p.m.

23
FREE lighting event | 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Home Depot
121 Military Rd. E., Spanaway



You make the call



Area code (253)

Report a power outage.....	502-8602
Start or stop service.....	502-8600
Order Click! Cable TV.....	502-8900
Home weatherization.....	502-8363
Fishing recreation.....	502-8690
Fish & wildlife programs.....	502-8008
Education programs.....	502-8224
Power conservation.....	502-8377
Water conservation.....	502-8723
Report a water emergency.....	502-8384

Bill Payment Assistance

(available for limited-income customers)

- Electric bill assistance – Family Need Program
 - City of Tacoma residents.....572-5557
 - Pierce County residents..... (855) 798-4328
- Click! Cable TV discounts.....502-8900
- Water and Environmental Services
payment assistance and discount rate
info line.....502-8369

CLICK! CABLE TV Free summer movie schedule



Click! is pleased to partner with the parks and recreation departments within the cities we serve to bring families together at our free outdoor movies. All movies start at sunset. **U***

July 8
Secret Life
of Pets
Steilacoom
Park

July 14
Storks
Dacca Field

July 21
Trolls
Fircrest Park

July 22
Pete's Dragon
Chambers
Creek Park,
Central
Meadow

July 28
Lego Batman
Kandle Park

July 29
Hidden
Figures
Wright Park

Aug. 4
Moana
Stewart
Heights Park

Aug. 5
Sing
Cirque Park

Aug. 11
Kubo and
the Two
Strings
Center at
Norpoint

Aug. 12
Moana
Chambers
Creek Park,
Central
Meadow

Aug. 18
Lego Batman
Dacca Field

Aug. 19
Sing
STAR Center



UTILITIES@YOU

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THE END



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Tacoma, WA 98411



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