

July 2018



1893

125 YEARS

RELIABILITY SERVICE COMMUNITY

2018

TACOMA PUBLIC UTILITIES

UTILITIES&YOU

Proud to serve our
community for 125 years



Tacoma Public Utilities' New Leader

The Tacoma Public Utility Board and City Council have confirmed that Jackie Flowers will lead Tacoma Public Utilities as Director.

On August 1, she will join the utility's leadership team as the first permanent female Director, bringing 25 years of experience to benefit TPU customers.

Finding a new Director was an involved process that included a period of customer and employee feedback, screening of 68 applicants, and a public interview process. Many of

you shared what you thought was important in a new Director through our survey and attended a public meet and greet with the candidates in May. On May 23, the Public Utility Board selected Flowers as their top candidate, voted on her contract in June, and then confirmed her appointment with City Council.

Flowers comes from Idaho Falls Power, where she served as the general manager since 2006, overseeing operations similar to those at TPU, including hydropower

generation, power supply, power transmission and distribution, energy efficiency, engineering, operations technology, fiber optic networks, and traffic signalization.

The Board found her ability to connect with the community, staff, and her counterparts at the City of Tacoma as what set her apart as the top candidate.

We welcome her to our TPU community and thank all of you for your contribution to the hiring process! U*

Need help paying your utility bills or know someone who does?

Tacoma Public Utilities offers a variety of payment options, services and programs to help make paying utility bills more manageable. Whether you or someone you know face a short-term financial strain or are on a limited income, we offer several ways to help manage utility accounts, including discounts and credits for customers who meet the assistance eligibility requirements. We also offer free online tools and tips for lowering your power and water bills. Learn more at [MyTPU.org/Assistance](https://www.mytpu.org/Assistance). U*



LEARN ABOUT

TPU's Budget and Rate Process

In our earlier newsletter issues this year, we told you about rate adjustments for both Tacoma Power and Tacoma Water and shared ways you can lower your bill through conservation and manage your monthly costs with budget billing or by choosing your due date. This fall, Tacoma Public Utilities is preparing our 2019-2020 budget, a process that includes rate planning, system maintenance, and improvement projects for the coming two years. If you're interested in learning more about how that process works and hearing about rate adjustments before they go into effect, there are several opportunities for members of the public to participate.

See a complete list of dates and locations for public meetings related to TPU's budget and rate process at [MyTPU.org/Rates](https://www.mytpu.org/Rates).

Are you a member of a community group that would be interested in a presentation about TPU's budget and rate process? Email us at U@cityoftacoma.org for more information. U*

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125 YEARS

RELIABILITY SERVICE COMMUNITY

2018

TACOMA PUBLIC UTILITIES

Celebrating 125 years of service, commitment, community

On April 12, 1893, Tacomans voted to purchase the water and electric utilities from Charles Wright for \$1.75 million.

It was at that point our community decided it would be better served by public utilities than privately owned ones. Although it wasn't phrased this way, that was the foundation for Tacoma Public Utilities' mission statement: **We provide services that are vital to our quality of life.** Since the beginning, one word has governed TPU's approach to serving its customers: diligence.

The road was rocky during the first years, as leaders worked to establish enough supply to meet the growing electric and water demand in the community. Because of the dogged determination of so many, we have made many significant strides in the past 125 years that will carry us forward for another 125 years and beyond:

- We secured the rights and built the city's permanent water supply from the Green River (1913)
- We began municipal railroading in Tacoma (1914)
- We built seven hydroelectric dams
 - LaGrande Dam (1913)
 - Cushman Dam No. 1 (1926)
 - Cushman Dam No. 2 (1930)
 - Alder Dam (1945)
 - Mayfield Dam (1963)
 - Mossyrock Dam (1968)
 - Wynoochee Dam (1994)

- We started being governed by the Tacoma Public Utility Board, created by the City Charter (1953)
- We secured long-term licenses for Cowlitz and Cushman Hydroelectric Projects (2003 and 2010)
- We established a 20-year operating agreement between Tacoma Rail and Port of Tacoma (2013)
- We completed the Green River Filtration Plant (2015)

Those are just some of the major milestones we have accomplished since 1893. There are countless others, and we will celebrate them throughout the year.

Cowlitz River Project

- The Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery and Cowlitz Trout Hatchery opened in 1968.
- By 1970, we had already collected our first 125,000 adult fish at the separator (fall and spring Chinook, plus coho).
- By 1997, we had collected 1,125,000 adults (fall and spring Chinook, plus coho).
- As of 2010, more than 2,125,000 salmon and steelhead adults had been collected.

Cushman Hydro Project

- We released our first 125,000 spring Chinook into the North Fork Skokomish River in 2016.



2043

Want to be a part of our history? Submit your story about the importance of electricity, water and/or rail in your life and we'll include it in a time capsule that will be opened in 2043. The story shouldn't be more than 150 words, and must not include any swear words or personal attacks. Send your story to: **Community & Media Services, 3628 S 35th St., Tacoma, WA 98409. U***

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.

Here are the dates and movie titles:

- **July 13, Coco**
Stewart Heights Park
- **July 20, Star Wars: The Last Jedi**
Fircrest Park
- **July 28, Moana**
Wright Park
- **Aug. 3, Peter Rabbit**
Kandle Park
- **Aug. 4, Coco**
Cirque Park
- **Aug. 10, Cars 3**
Center at Norpoint
- **Aug. 17, Sherlock Gnomes**
STAR Center
- **Aug. 18, Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle**
Chambers Bay

Visit our website ClickCableTV.com to view list of movies or stop in our lobby to pick up a schedule. U*

“Check Out” Your Energy Use at Tacoma Libraries



Curious how much electricity your appliances use? Tacoma Power, Tacoma Public Libraries, and Pierce County Libraries have partnered to provide access to energy use monitors that you can check out from your local branch. The monitors show how much any electronic device uses, the cost of powering them, and their impact on the environment. And it's simple enough for kids to use! Find library locations at MyTPU.org/Calculate. U*

FREE Electric Vehicle Events

Join Tacoma Power this summer to test drive an EV and check out our electric fleet vehicles.

- Saturday, July 21, 10 am to 4 pm, Le May museum
- Saturday, Sept 8, 11am to 3pm, Steilacoom
- Saturday, Sept 15, 10 am to 4pm, Le May museum

Visit MyTPU.org/EVs for details!

Be part of our electric vehicle feedback group!

Have an EV or thinking of buying one? You can help Tacoma Power continue to explore opportunities for more carbon-free transportation options. If you'd like to be part of our customer feedback group, sign up at MyTPU.org/EVs. U*

GO TACOMA!

You saved half a billion!

Since 2010 Tacoma Power customers have saved a collective 500,000,000 kWh of electricity through conservation programs. That's half a billion!

What does that mean? Together you've saved enough electricity to power all of Tacoma for 3 months or the same amount of power generated by a small hydroelectric dam every year.

Tacoma Power gets nearly 85% of our power from hydroelectric dams, which produce carbon-free electricity. Learn more about how to use

less at MyTPU.org/Rebates.

500,000,000 kWh



WE'VE GOT A \$500 REBATE FOR THAT

\$500 TOWARDS A WATER HEATER.

Simply a Smart Choice.

Most people don't spend time thinking about their water heater until it fails, leaving little time to contemplate replacement options. A heat pump water heater is a smart upgrade from your standard electric water heater. It delivers the same reliable supply of hot water while saving on your water heating costs. A standard electric water heater uses more energy than a refrigerator, dishwasher, clothes washer and dryer combined. A heat pump water heater uses 2 to 3 times less electricity to heat the water, which saves you money. Compared to a standard electric water heater, a heat pump water heater uses 60% less energy. That can save you up to \$3,500 over the life of the water heater. Heat pump water heaters are energy efficient, which means they are better for the planet and your wallet. Many also offer a 10-year warranty so you can rest easy with a steady supply of hot water for years to come. If your water heater is more than 10 years old, plan ahead and take advantage of our \$500 rebate. Learn more at myTPU.org/Rebates. U*

Summer Rates for Tacoma Water

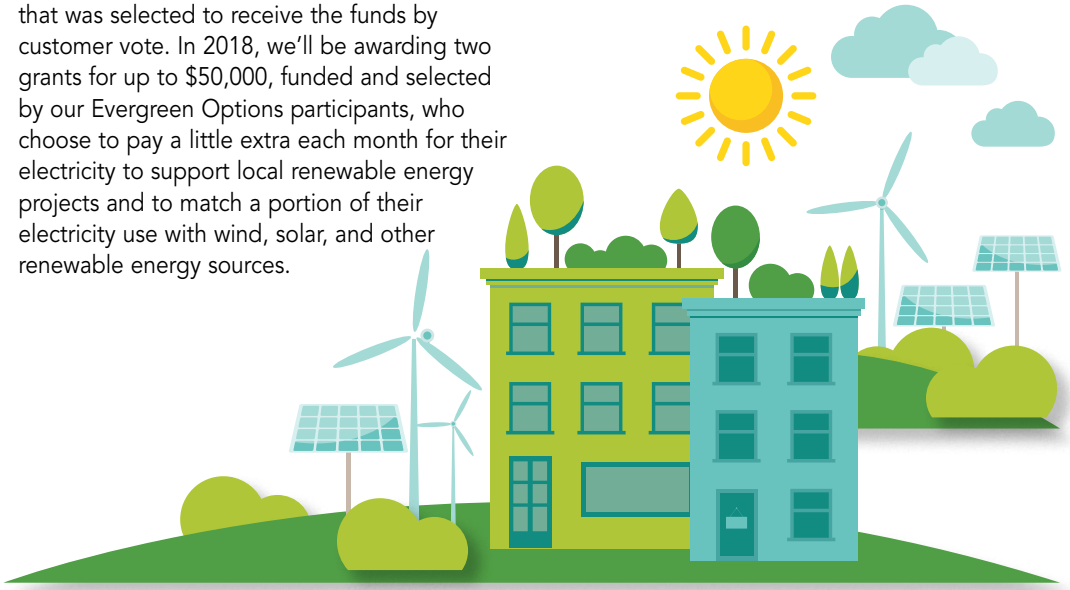
On June 1, our summer rates went into effect. Tacoma Water charges a slightly higher rate for water use above five units (about 3,700 gallons) from June 1 through September 30, when it costs more to provide water during the drier, summer months. The average person uses about 80 gallons of water per day, so to keep your costs down, look for ways to use less at home and in your yard. See our tips for lowering your water use at MyTPU.org/WaterSmart.

EVERGREEN OPTIONS

Accepting Applications for Renewable Energy Grants

From now through Sept. 30, 2018, nonprofits, schools, and government agencies can apply for up to \$50,000 from Tacoma Power toward a renewable energy project. In our January issue, we announced last year's grant recipient, Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, with a winning entry that was selected to receive the funds by customer vote. In 2018, we'll be awarding two grants for up to \$50,000, funded and selected by our Evergreen Options participants, who choose to pay a little extra each month for their electricity to support local renewable energy projects and to match a portion of their electricity use with wind, solar, and other renewable energy sources.

Grant applicants and voters must be enrolled in the Evergreen Options program to participate. Learn more about how you can get involved in supporting renewable energy development in our community at MyTPU.org/Evergreen.



U* readers know how to manage their bills

Congratulations and thanks to the 68 customers who correctly answered the trivia question published in the April 2018 issue of U*. The correct ways budget billing can help manage your utility bill were both a) pay monthly instead of every other month, and b) receive bills of the same amount, based on the previous 12-month average. U*

U* trivia – answer and win!

T or F. Tacoma Public Utilities offers payment assistance programs for income-eligible customers.

Be one of the 50 randomly chosen customers with the correct answer, and you'll get a free pocket-sized tape measure. To enter, submit your answer by July 31 either 1) online at MyTPU.org/Trivia or 2) by mail to U Trivia, 3628 S. 35th St, Tacoma, WA 98409. Be sure to include your name, phone number, and mailing address. U*

City of Tacoma employees and their immediate family members are not eligible to win. One entry per household.



U* Calendar

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

JULY

11 & 25

Public Utility Board Meeting | 6:30 p.m.

14

FREE Lighting event

Lincoln Hardware, 3726 S G St, Tacoma
9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

21

FREE Electric Vehicle Ride & Drive event

LeMay – America’s Car Museum
2702 E D St, Tacoma | 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

AUGUST

4

Proctor Arts Fest & Farmers Market

Proctor District, Tacoma

10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

7

TPU at National Night Out

Fircrest Community Center

555 Contra Costa Ave, Fircrest | 6 to 9 p.m.

8 & 25

Public Utility Board Meeting | 6:30 p.m.

11

FREE Lighting event

Ace Hardware Oakbrook, 8123 Steilacoom
Blvd SW, Lakewood | 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

18

McKinley Hill Street Fair

35th & McKinley Ave, Tacoma

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

25

FREE Back to School lighting event

Costco, 2219 S 37th St, Tacoma
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Hilltop Street Fair

9th – 13th & Martin Luther King Jr Way,

Tacoma | 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

3

Labor Day

TPU offices closed

8

National Drive Electric Week event

Downtown Steilacoom, 1700 Lafayette St

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

12 & 26

Public Utility Board Meeting | 6:30 p.m.

15

FREE Electric Vehicle Ride & Drive event

LeMay – America’s Car Museum
2702 E D St, Tacoma | 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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

Check your utility account status, make payments and sign up for Budget Billing 24/7 at MyTPU.org/MyAccount.



NEW

TPU Pay Boxes

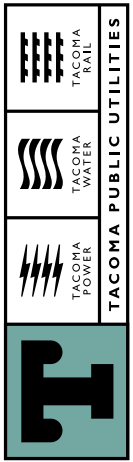
Updated bill payment kiosks are coming to select grocery stores near you in August. The new boxes will accept payment by check, cash, or credit cards. For locations and updates on the installation date for the new boxes, visit MyTPU.org/PayBox. U*





UTILITIES & YOU

We produce and mail this newsletter for about 33 cents each.
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THE END



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