

Outdoor Fun Calls for Efficient Lighting

As spring nights grow warmer, your family may want to spend more evenings enjoying the outdoors on your deck or porch.

Make sure the extra outdoor lighting you use does not send your electric bill spiraling.

Many outdoor lights aim to provide security. But some do this by producing large amounts of light and spilling it all over, including up and out.

That means you pay for light that will be lost in space or that will shine through your neighbor's windows instead of on your deck.

If you are still using incandescent or high-wattage bulbs, you are using much more energy than you need to enjoy the outdoors at night.



Follow these tips for more energy-efficient outdoor lighting:

- Install properly shielded overhead security lighting. The shield will concentrate the light, making the best use of it and reducing light pollution.

- Don't use more light than you need. Too much light can give off an uncomfortable glare, which lowers visibility. Shielded lighting will allow you to use a lower wattage bulb and prevent your deck from looking like a stadium.

- With lighting used strictly for security, install a motion sensor

instead of leaving it on all night.

- For security, walkway and porch lighting, use fixtures with a timer or photovoltaic cell unit so lights will turn off in the morning.

- For security lighting, use a low-pressure sodium bulb that gives off the same amount of light with less wattage. For other lights, switch to outdoor application compact fluorescent or metal halide bulbs, the most energy efficient.

- Position outdoor lights to illuminate the largest area possible.

- Try surrounding the area with large candles for a warm, energy-efficient glow. Citronella candles contain a natural bug repellent. Save reading and other light-intensive tasks for indoors. ■

It's the Season to Call Before You Dig

Whether you are planning a major construction project or landscaping your yard, stay clear of underground utilities.

Call the Northwest Utility Notification Center at (800) 424-5555 at least 48 hours before digging or excavating.

The center will contact the appropriate utilities in Klickitat County for you.

When calling, be prepared to give the following information: your phone number, type of work you will be doing, start date, county, city, job location, nearest cross street and special marking instructions, if required.

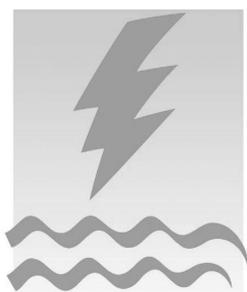
Utility representatives will respond and mark the locations of



your underground utilities. This will eliminate digging equipment from hitting or cutting off power, water, phone, cable or gas lines.

Accidental contact with any of these lines can result in serious injury.

"Call Before You Dig!" is a free service that can prevent dangerous and costly accidents. ■



Klickitat PUD
Owned By Those It Serves