



Stay Clear of Danger!

**A downed power line may not be a dead line.
It could cause serious injury or death.**

Assume all power lines are energized and dangerous. Lines that are de-energized could become energized at any time. Never touch a downed power line—and never touch a person or object that is touching a power line. Follow these tips to stay safe around a downed power line:

- Immediately report a downed power line to your utility company and call 911.
- If you see someone who has been shocked and is in direct or indirect contact with a downed power line, do not touch the person. Efforts to pull an electric shock victim away could make you a second victim. Warn others to stay away.
- If a power line falls across or near your vehicle while you are in it, stay inside until help arrives. If you must exit, jump clear so no part of your body is touching the car when you land. Keep both feet together and shuffle or hop at least 30 feet away from the vehicle.
- Do not try to move tree limbs that are on or near a power line.

Calling Before You Dig ...

Call Before You Dig! is a free service that prevents dangerous and costly accidents by helping you stay clear of underground utilities. Klickitat PUD customers are reminded to use this service.

Use it every time you dig, whether you are planning a major construction project or just landscaping your yard.

Call **811** or **(800) 424-5555** at least **48 hours** before digging or excavating. Or you can visit www.callbeforeyoudig.org and enter your locate requests online. This service is available 24 hours a day. When calling, be prepared to provide the following information:

- Your name;
- Your phone number;
- The location of the site where you plan to dig. (A street address and specific directions to the site are helpful. Marking the site with white spray paint helps us know exactly where you plan to dig);
- The type of work you plan;
- The date you plan to begin.

The service will contact all the appropriate utilities in Klickitat County for you, including Klickitat PUD. All utility representatives will respond and mark the locations of your underground utilities.

The representatives for electrical lines are Tim Garrigus, Bernie Predeek and Dan Charters. They respond to the requests from the notification center and mark the underground power lines, cables or conduits, and lighting cables with red spray paint.

Did you know Klickitat PUD provides water or wastewater service to many communities throughout the county?

Water and/or sewer lines are maintained by the PUD in Dallesport, Glenwood, Klickitat, Lyle, Ponderosa Park, Rimrock, Roosevelt and Wishram. If you happen to be digging in one of these communities, a member of the PUD water-wastewater crew will respond and mark the appropriate water and sewer lines. These crew members are Rod Kiser, Tim McMurrin, Howard Sinor, Brandon Walter and Greg Watson.

Water is marked in blue, and sewer and drain lines are marked in green.

Marking these lines prevents digging equipment from hitting or cutting off power, water, phone, cable, sewer or gas lines. Take special care and dig by hand when you are within two



Travis Heilman demonstrates how underground power lines are located and then marked in red paint.

KPUD photo

feet of the spray-painted marks. Accidental contact with any of these lines can result in serious injury.

“Any time you disturb the earth, you run the risk of accidentally digging into underground power lines, sewer and water mains, cable TV lines or other services,” says Engineering Assistant Mike Blumenstein. “When you want to get started on a project, it can be a nuisance to wait for two working days while utilities mark their services, but those two days can save your life.”

Each year the PUD receives more than 1,300 service location requests, countywide. This service is dedicated to protecting citizens and construction personnel who work around utilities, as well as safeguarding the underground infrastructure of your community. Calling before beginning any excavation prevents damage to underground facilities, service interruptions and bodily injury.

Work safely this season. Remember to call before you dig. ■