

Monthly Newsletter of Emerald People's Utility District

May 2009

**Contents**

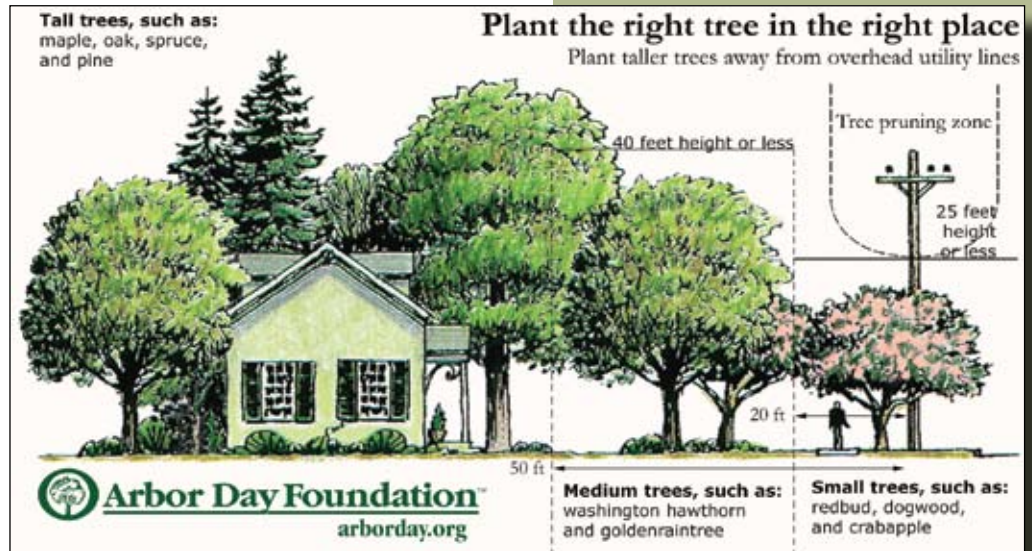
- FRONT:**  
 All About Trees  
 Marathon Water Heaters
- BACK:**  
 Go Ductless  
 EPUD in Your Community  
 EPUD Yard Sale May 15  
 Hydro Power Public Hearing  
 Helping Hands

**All About Trees**

Spring is in the air and with it, many new blooms and branches on our neighborhood trees. Trees enhance our quality of life, as they beautify and help weatherize our homes and neighborhoods. Yet improperly selected or sited trees can cause major problems. Trees are the #1 cause of outages in EPUD's rural district. Storms bring trees and limbs down on power lines, disrupting service and creating hazardous conditions. Even in good weather, a tree growing too close to a power line can endanger lives.

EPUD works hard to give you the most reliable service possible. You can be a partner in this by managing vegetation on your property and following a few simple guidelines. Before you plant a new tree this spring, consider a few tips from EPUD:

- ☛ When planting near power lines, choose trees that will grow no higher than 25 feet at maturity. Power-friendly trees like vine maple, golden desert ash, Mt. Fuji cherry, Japanese tree lilac, flowering plum, and serviceberry give you many options for spring and fall color, tree shape/size, and fruit.
- ☛ Avoid planting trees directly under power lines. Within 30 feet of power lines, select trees that will grow no higher than 25 feet. Larger trees should be planted more than 30 feet away from power lines.
- ☛ To reduce energy cost, plant deciduous trees east, south and west of your house. You will stay cooler in the summer, while enjoying winter sunlight. Site evergreens and shrubs to block cold winter winds.



**Help Us**

See a limb, branch or leaning tree on or near an EPUD power line? Call us!

**746-1583**

**Trim Safely**

If trees on your property are growing into a power line, DON'T trim them yourself. Call us!

**746-1583**

**Additional Resources**

- EPUD: [www.epud.org](http://www.epud.org), in left menu, click Tree Trimming
- National Arbor Day Foundation: [www.arborday.org/trees](http://www.arborday.org/trees)
- International Society of Arboriculture: [www.isa-arbor.com](http://www.isa-arbor.com)

**Marathon Water Heaters**

EPUD is teaming with Marathon and Roto-Rooter on a special promotion now through October 31, 2009. Specially priced 30-, 40-, and 50-gallon Marathon water heaters are available. Marathon water heaters are super-efficient and have a lifetime tank warranty.

Standard Installation	\$1,070
Roto-Rooter Instant Rebate	-100
Subtotal	\$970
EPUD Rebate Credit	-75
<b>Total for Standard Installation</b>	<b>\$895*</b>

**Call Roto-Rooter at 1-800-438-7686 to schedule your installation**

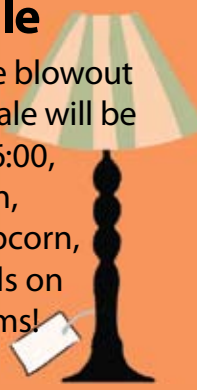
Roto-Rooter will determine if any additional work is necessary to install your new water heater. When they install it, they'll give you the \$100 Roto-Rooter rebate and a rebate form for your \$75 EPUD credit.

\*Quoted price refers to standard installation only and recycling of old tank; does not include costs of permits, Oregon code-required upgrades, or any other upgrades to existing electrical and plumbing, should they be necessary. Extra charges may apply if installation site is not easily accessible or other special circumstances are involved.



## EPUD Yard Sale

EPUD's Energy Store blowout sale and staff yard sale will be **Friday, May 15, 9-6:00**, at our office. Stop in, have some free popcorn, and get GREAT deals on energy-efficient items! All proceeds go to support our Helping Hands assistance program. For more info, visit [www.epud.org](http://www.epud.org).



## Fall Creek Hydro Public Hearing

Join us! EPUD and partner Symbiotics will host a public hearing at EPUD on Friday, May 29, at 7 p.m., to discuss the results of the first year of studies on the Fall Creek Hydro project. Symbiotics will discuss how findings to date are shaping the project as a whole. Public comment is encouraged. For more info, visit [www.epud.org](http://www.epud.org), About EPUD, Power Resources.

## Board of Directors

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Board meetings are 2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. and 1st Mondays at noon, and are open to the public. Join us!

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## We'll Pay You to Go Ductless!

If you heat your home with electric baseboards or wall heaters, EPUD wants to help you pay for an upgrade! We're looking for ten Customer-Owners to participate in a pilot program for ductless heat pumps (DHPs). DHPs use a fraction of the electricity and provide more comfort. The preferred heating and cooling systems in Asia and much of Europe, DHPs use an estimated 25-50% less energy. The program is part of a region-wide effort by Bonneville Power Administration, to determine the costs and potential energy savings of DHPs here. EPUD is offering a \$1,500 rebate and a zero-interest loan up to \$7,500 for qualifying systems. State and federal tax credits may also be available.



Requirements for participation are specific. Homes must be site-built and have permanently-installed electric zonal heat, such as baseboards, wall heaters, or ceiling heat. If you currently have a heat pump or furnace, or have a gas line to your home, you're not eligible for the program. For more information, visit [www.epud.org](http://www.epud.org), Energy Efficiency, Residential Energy Programs, or call 746-1583.

## EPUD in Your Community

April offered many opportunities for EPUD to be involved in our local communities. On Earth Day, April 22, a group of EPUD employees volunteered for the Coast Fork of the Willamette Watershed Council in **Creswell** that is coordinating restoration efforts at Garden Lake Park. We laid bark on trails, maintained plantings, and removed invasive species.



On Arbor Day, April 24, EPUD volunteers joined a class of 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders at Latham Elementary School in **Cottage Grove** and planted five new Power Friendly shade trees in the playground. Students learned about the many benefits of trees, helped dig the holes, and planted the trees.

For more information on EPUD in your community, visit [www.epud.org](http://www.epud.org), My Community. Have a project you would like us to be involved in? Send an email to [webmaster@epud.org](mailto:webmaster@epud.org).

## Help a Neighbor Today!

Our March PowerLines article, Making a Difference Where it Counts, generated an increased flow of donations for our Helping Hands energy assistance program, but more is still needed. Please consider donating to Helping Hands. Your donation helps pay the utility bills of your neighbors in need.

- Please add \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my monthly bill, to be donated to Helping Hands.
  - I want to Round Up for Helping Hands. My bill will be rounded up to the nearest dollar, and the extra cents will be donated to Helping Hands.
- For either of the above options, I understand that I am free to choose each month whether to pay the pledged amount, and that the pledge will appear on each month's bill until I notify EPUD to change the amount or to discontinue it.
- Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation to Helping Hands.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to EPUD, 33733 Seavey Loop, Eugene OR 97405, or return with your bill