

Watt's News

Watt's Weather

Total Precipitation
 July 2009 6.00"
 July 2008 3.38"

Average Temperatures
 July 2009 Hi 75 Lo 53
 July 2008 Hi 81 Lo 56


Volume 22, No. 8

August, 2009

How to Read Your Bill

This is a sample bill. (Please refer to the key on the back for an explanation.)

DETACH AND RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT. IF PAYING BY CREDIT CARD, PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE.



BRainerd PUBLIC UTILITIES
 8027 Highland Scenic Road • Post Office Box 373
 Brainerd, MN 56401-0373
 (218) 829-8726
 www.bpu.org

Service Location
 100 PINE TREE TRAIL

ACCOUNT NUMBER
 01-12345-00

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:
 BRainerd PUBLIC UTILITIES

AMOUNT PAID

DUE DATE	AMOUNT DUE
07/19/2009	562.35

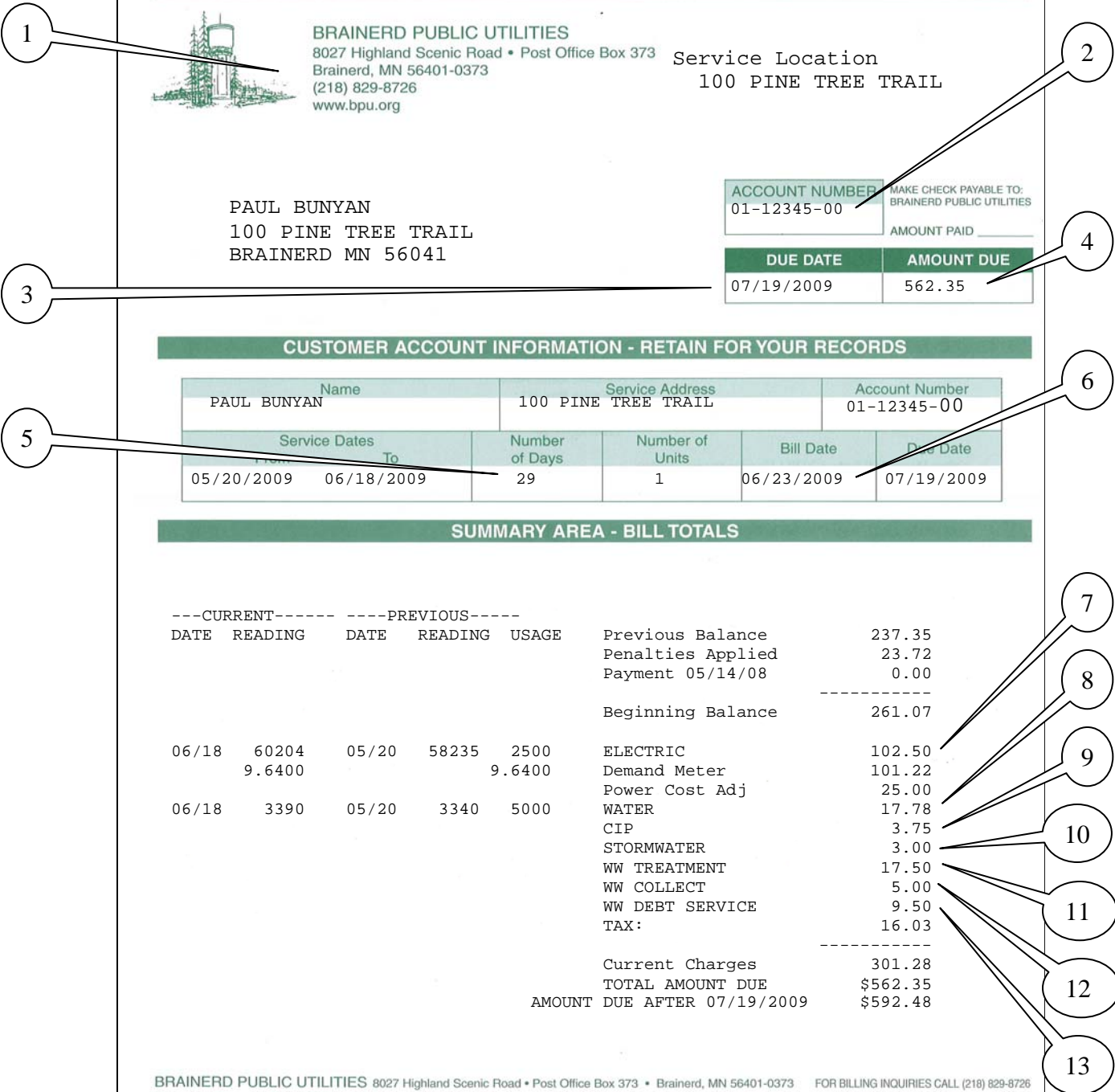
PAUL BUNYAN
 100 PINE TREE TRAIL
 BRainerd MN 56041

CUSTOMER ACCOUNT INFORMATION - RETAIN FOR YOUR RECORDS

Name		Service Address		Account Number	
PAUL BUNYAN		100 PINE TREE TRAIL		01-12345-00	
Service Dates	To	Number of Days	Number of Units	Bill Date	Due Date
05/20/2009	06/18/2009	29	1	06/23/2009	07/19/2009

SUMMARY AREA - BILL TOTALS

---CURRENT---	-----PREVIOUS-----		
DATE	READING	DATE	READING
			USAGE
			Previous Balance
			Penalties Applied
			Payment 05/14/08
			Beginning Balance
06/18	60204	05/20	58235
	9.6400		2500
			9.6400
06/18	3390	05/20	3340
			5000
			ELECTRIC
			Demand Meter
			Power Cost Adj
			WATER
			CIP
			STORMWATER
			WW TREATMENT
			WW COLLECT
			WW DEBT SERVICE
			TAX:
			Current Charges
			TOTAL AMOUNT DUE
			AMOUNT DUE AFTER 07/19/2009



DESCRIPTION KEY

1. **Address and Telephone Number** – Telephone number to call for billing inquiries and BPU’s mailing address and street address.
2. **Account Number** – Often requested when you correspond with us. Your account number changes if you move from one address to another.
3. **Due Date** – Please pay your bill by this date.
4. **Amount Due** – Total amount of charges owing, including both current and past due charges.
5. **Number of Days** – Total number of days in the current month’s billing cycle.
6. **Bill Date** – The date your utility bill is actually billed in our business office.
7. **Electric** – The charge for the kilowatt hours that you use each month.
8. **Water** – The charge for the gallons of water you use each month. The service charge also includes a \$0.53 Minnesota Department of Health charge to accommodate the mandatory State charge that has been placed on each water meter in the State since July 1, 1992.
9. **CIP** – A State mandated 1.5% charge on all electric charges billed to you. The purpose of the Conservation Incentive Program (CIP) is to assist utility customers in becoming more energy efficient and to promote energy conservation.
10. **Stormwater** – This charge is billed on behalf of the City of Brainerd. The revenue collected for this charge is used to maintain and improve the existing storm water drainage system for impervious surfaces (where storm water cannot penetrate into the ground). Residential customers are charged a \$3.00 monthly fee and commercial customers are charged according to the amount of impervious surface their property has. If you have any questions about this charge, please call the City Engineer’s Office at 828-2309.
11. **Wastewater Treatment** – The charge is based on your water consumption. It covers the cost of processing your wastewater.
12. **Wastewater Collection** – This charge also has been added to your bill on behalf of the City of Brainerd to cover the cost of maintaining the City’s wastewater collection system. You are charged \$1.00 per 1,000 gallons of water you use. If you have any questions about this charge, please call the City Engineer’s Office at 828-2309.
13. **Wastewater Debt Service** – This charge is determined by the size of your water meter. The revenue is used to help pay for the expansion and upgrade of the Wastewater Treatment Facility.

EXPLANATION OF OTHER CHARGES ON YOUR BILL

Penalty – There is a 10% penalty applied to your current charges if they are not paid by the due date.

kWh – abbreviation for kilowatt-hour, the unit in which electricity is measured. One kWh is 1,000 watts used for one hour. The number kWh used depends on the wattage (size) of the electrical appliance and the amount of time it is in use.

Demand Meter – Commercial customers that use over 2,500 kWh each month are billed for both kWh and kW (demand). The demand charge is determined during the highest 15 minute period of electric usage during the month. Electrical load scheduling is the key to reducing your peak demand. If you have electric motors, air conditioners or other electrical equipment which are used simultaneously, try to schedule their use at different times of the day or night to minimize peak loads.

Power Cost Adjustment – The power cost adjustment recovers the cost of fuel used in Minnesota Power’s (Brainerd Public Utilities power provider) generating units and the cost of additional purchased energy required to serve your electric needs.

Security Light – A Brainerd Public Utilities customer can have a security light installed for a charge of \$12 per month, per light, plus applicable state and local sales tax. Brainerd Public Utilities will install the pole and maintain the security light.

Sprinkling Credit – All residential customers will get a sprinkling credit applied to their sewer charges for the billing months of June, July, August and September. The rate goes into effect after the water meter is read in May. The credit is based on your water usage in December, January and February.

Deposit Applied – If a customer is required to pay a deposit, according to Brainerd Public Utilities Deposit Policy, the deposit is applied to the customer’s account after 12 months of paying their bill on time; or if a final reading is done, the deposit is applied to the final bill. If the final bill is less than deposit, the remaining balance, if over \$5, will be mailed to the customer.