



Watt's News

April 2008
Volume 21, No.4

Official Newsletter of Brainerd Public Utilities, PO Box 373, Brainerd, MN 56401

Summer Sprinkling Credit

Summer is coming and for all our residential customers who like to keep their lawns lush and green, and their gardens plentiful, Brainerd Public Utilities summer sprinkling rates will soon be in effect.

The sprinkling rate will begin after your meters have been read in May. This credit is applied to your sewer charges (waste treatment and waste collection) on the bills you receive in:

- June
- July
- August
- September



For the above months, your sewer charges will be billed on the monthly average water consumption of your bill from:

- December
- January
- February



BEFORE DIGGING: Call Gopher State One Call at **1-800-252-1166** for water and electric locations. All requests for locations must be made by calling the above toll free number at least **48 hours** before digging begins.

NOTICE: All electrical work performed in the City of Brainerd requires a "Request for Electrical Inspection" form to be completed, filed, and work inspected by our inspector. If you need the form or have any questions, please contact BPU at **825-3210** or **829-2193**.



Watt's Weather

Total Precipitation

March 2008 3.25"

March 2007 10.68"

Average Temperatures

March 2008 Hi 35 Lo -1.65

March 2007 Hi 42 Lo 21.00

Lawn Care

Everyday lawn care items such as mowing and watering create impacts on our waters.

For example, excess fertilizer can run off lawns and end up in our lakes and rivers. This can lead to excess plant and algae growth which can be harmful to fish and wildlife.

You can help keep our lakes and rivers clean by doing the following lawn care best management practices:

- Don't blow or rake leaves and other yard waste into the street or gutter.
- Recycle yard waste or start your own compost pile.
- Don't over irrigate. Water only when needed to save money and to prevent over-watering.
- Use fertilizers and pesticides that are phosphorous free.
- Consider using organic fertilizers as they release nutrients more slowly.
- Use pesticides only when absolutely necessary. Use the least toxic product and always read the label.



**Remember,
Only Rain in the Storm Drain!**

2008 Fluorescent Bulb Recycling Program

Brainerd Public Utilities makes bulb recycling as easy as a trip to your local hardware store. And, we'll even help pay the recycling fee. Here's how it works:

- Take your used bulbs*, and one coupon per bulb, to Brainerd Ace Hardware Store at 214 West Washington Street.
- Each coupon gives you 50 cents off the recycling fee for each qualifying bulb you recycle.
- During 2008, Brainerd Public Utilities will redeem up to 10 coupons per household or a small business that is a BPU customer.

Bulb Recycling Is Good For The Environment, And It's The Law



Used fluorescent and high-intensity discharge (HID) lamps require special care because they contain a small amount of mercury. Because mercury is harmful to the environment, Minnesota law prohibits the disposal of fluorescent bulbs in household garbage.

Although fluorescent bulbs may require special care after they've burned out, they'll last up to 10 times longer than incandescent bulbs, and they use 75 percent less energy. With today's improved lighting technology, you can get the same warm quality of light as regular bulbs.

*Circular fluorescent tubes, U-bend fluorescent tubes, compact fluorescent bulbs, high-intensity discharge lamps, fluorescent tubes up to eight feet in length.



Business & Repair Office Hours

7:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

Business 218-829-8726

Repair 218-829-2193

Emergency 24 hour service 365 days a year
218-829-2193

WWW.BPU.ORG

 <p>Brainerd Public Utilities</p>	 <p>Brainerd Public Utilities</p>
50¢ Off Fluorescent Bulb Recycling	
Name _____	Name _____
Address _____	Address _____
City _____	City _____
State _____ Zip _____	State _____ Zip _____
<i>Coupon expires 12/31/08. Limit one coupon per bulb. Coupon valid only when completed.</i>	
 <p>Brainerd Public Utilities</p>	 <p>Brainerd Public Utilities</p>
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