Watt's News

December 2008
Volume 21, No 12

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

Electricity, Water, Wastewater, Electricity, Water, Wastewater, Electricity, Water, Wastewater, Electricity, Water, Wastewater, Electricity, Water, Wastewater, Electricity, Water, Wastewater, Electricity, Water, Wastewater, Electricity, Water, Wastewater, Electricity, Water,

Billing Cycles & Due Dates

Your BPU due date is determined by the first two numbers of your account number. We can not change due dates.

Please refer to the chart below and the back side of this newsletter for more detail.

Billing Cycle	Due Date
01, 02, 03, 04, 05	3rd of every month
06, 07, 08, 09, 10	10th of every month
11, 12, 13, 14, 15	17th of every month
16, 17, 18	24th of every month
20, 50	13th of every month

Watt's Weather

Total Precipitation
November 2008 2.50"
November 2007 .15"

Average Temperatures
November 2008 Hi 40 Lo 23
November 2007 Hi 39 Lo 22

Brainerd Public Utilities will be closed December 24 at noon and all day on December 25 and January 1, due to the Holidays.

Easy Payment Options

1. Credit card payment with your Visa or Mastercard
2. On-line payments www.bpu.org
3. Direct payment plan. Application available on our BPU web-site at www.bpu.org
4. Drop your payment in one of our drop boxes located at the following locations:

The Corner of 7th & Laurel St
Outside the Senior Citizen's Center 803 Kingwood Street
Outside the Dollar Store entrance East Brainerd Mall
Outside our business office 8027 Highland Scenic Road

Do Homework When Shopping for Electric Space Heaters

With the cold winter months upon us, there have been a number of advertisements for electric space heaters that claim significant savings in heating costs. While there is savings potential with space heaters, it's important to understand the circumstances necessary to reap those savings and consider potential safety hazards that come with using a portable heater.

Space heaters can effectively take the chill out of the air in a single room, dependent on the model and assuming you keep doors to other rooms closed. The cost savings may occur if you turn off the heat or turn down the temperature in other rooms. The size of the room and the outdoor temperature will also affect the performance of a space heater.

There is some basic functionality common to all electric space heaters.

- They all efficiently turn electricity into heat.
- Plug-in space heaters are limited to 1,500 watts or 5,120 Btu/hour.

A 1,500 watt heater, based on current electric prices, costs approximately $0.08/ hour to operate. Based on these figures, running it eight hours per day for 30 days would cost $19.20/month.

The wattage consumed determines heat production.

If you're in the market for a space heater, consider temperature control and safety features. For more information log on to www.consumerreports.org and search for "space heaters".

NOTICE: All electrical work performed in the City of Brainerd requires a "Request for Electrical Inspection" form to be filed, and work inspected by our inspector. Please call **825-3210** or **829-2193** for more information.

Business & Repair Office Hours
7:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

Business: 829-8726
Repair: 829-2193

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

EMAIL@BPU.ORG WWW.BPU.ORG

BEFORE DIGGING: Call Gopher State One 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.