

Watt's News

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

TREE TRIMMING



Trimming trees that touch or are near electric lines is dangerous work that is best left to professionals.

Trees that interfere with Brainerd Public Utilities' power lines, with the exception of service wires to residences or buildings, will be trimmed or removed depending on the circumstances. The goal is to get enough clearance to withstand normal seasonal weather conditions to avoid frequent outages and ensure the safety of people and their homes.

Trimming or removal of trees on private property is the property owner's responsibility. Brainerd Public Utilities will temporarily remove and replace the property owner's service wires to accommodate the tree trimming or removal during normal business hours.

Brainerd Public Utilities requires 24 hours notification to temporarily remove the service wires.

If you would like a tree to be trimmed please call Phil at (218) 829-2193.

Fee for Check Readings and Test/Change Meters

If a BPU customer requests BPU to check the reading of their electric and/or water meter, there will be a \$25 fee for this service if it is requested more than one time, by the customer, within a 12 month period.

In the event a BPU customer requests their electric and/or water meter to be tested and changed more than once in a three (3) year period, the customer will be charged a \$25 fee. If the meter test indicates that the meter is not accurate, the meter will be repaired or replaced, and the \$25 fee will be returned to the customer.



Watt's Weather

Total Precipitation

October 2007 6.21 "

October 2006 1.65 "

Average Temperatures

October 2007 Hi 59 Lo 39

October 2006 Hi 53 Lo 31

Reconnect Fees for Delinquent Accounts that have been Disconnected

Brainerd Public Utilities will charge the following reconnection fees when an account has been disconnected for a non-payment delinquent bill.

Weekdays 7:00 a.m. through 3:00 p.m.	\$ 50.00
Weekdays 3:00 p.m. through 7:00 a.m.	\$150.00
Weekends and Holidays, all hours	\$150.00

Frozen and/or Broken Water Meters

It is BPU Policy if a water meter freezes and breaks, BPU will replace it the first time. If it happens again, the customer is responsible and will be billed the cost of a new meter.

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

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**.



HeatShare



Some of your neighbors will be cold this winter

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Join your neighbors who care by giving to HeatShare.

HeatShare is a voluntary program administered by The Salvation Army. When you give you are helping warm the lives of the elderly, disabled, and others who have nowhere else to turn. It helps the needy survive our long winter by providing funds for heating bills and heating related repairs. HeatShare is a last resort for many who have no other resources available to see them through the winter.

Who is eligible for HeatShare?

- ⇒ Seniors with low incomes and no alternate source of help.
- ⇒ Disabled people whose physical capabilities limit their ability to maintain income to adequately cover energy bills.
- ⇒ People who have had unexpected emergencies within the last 12 months and as a result cannot pay for household energy costs.
- ⇒ People who meet income guidelines and have received or applied for all other possible public funds.

Who supports HeatShare?

You, neighbors, friends, people in big cities, people in small towns, and businesses all help by sending a tax deductible contribution with the form provided below.

HeatShare is one way a small amount can help in a big way.

COLD Warm
HANDS Hearts.

YES! I want to contribute to HeatShare!

I am making a one-time contribution of: \$ _____

Name: _____ Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Signature: _____

Utility Company: _____ Account Number: _____



Please make check payable to HeatShare & enclose this form with your utility payment in the enclosed envelope.

Thank you for your generous tax deductible contribution!



Please Complete:

Return this form with your monthly utility payment

Electric Heating Sales Tax Exemption Form

Electricity sold for residential use is not taxable for the billing months of November through April when sold to customers who use it as their primary source of residential heat. Please complete this form and return it with your monthly utility payment.

This is to certify that the main source of heat for my home (more than 50 percent) is furnished by permanently installed electric heating (not portable) and I, therefore, am eligible for the electric heating sales tax exemption as provided by Minnesota state law. This is for the billing months of November through April only.

BPU Account Number

Customer Name

Customer Telephone Number

Customer Address

Customer Signature

Date

We are Updating our Database

We are updating our files. If you have had any changes in phone numbers ,or your email address in the last 12 months, please fill out the following form and send with your utility payment. All information is for BPU use only.

Customer Name

Customer Telephone Number

Customer Cell Phone Number

Customer Email address

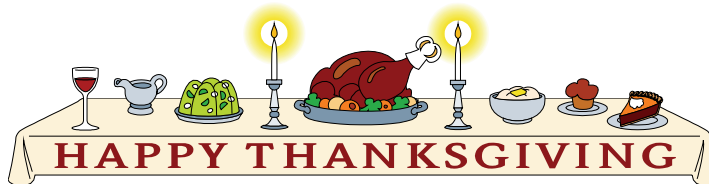


On-Line Billing Payment is Convenient

Making on-line credit card payments to pay your utility bill is available to BPU customers. You access this service by going to our web site:

1. www.bpu.org
 2. Go to Customer Service
 3. Select Paying Online/View Bill
 4. First time users, click on **Registration Page** link, otherwise all returning users may simply login with your e-mail and password.
 5. First time users need to select the **Add An Account** link for your user profile.
- Returning users may click on **Pay Utility Bill On-Line** and follow the instructions provided.

This is a FREE service. This system only allows you to pay your current balance. You will also have the option to view your utility account. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Scott at 825-3205.



How wonderful it would be if
we could help our children and
grandchildren to learn
thanksgiving at an early age.

Thanksgiving opens the doors.
It changes a child's personality ...
thankful children
want to give,
they radiate happiness,
they draw people.

- Sir John Templeton