

Watts News

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF BRAINERD PUBLIC UTILITIES, PO BOX 373, BRAINERD, MN 56401

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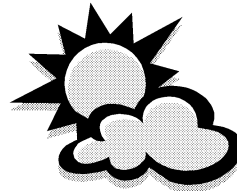
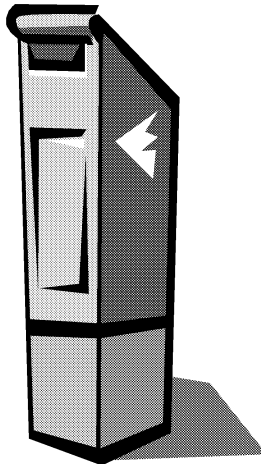
DEPOSITS

All new customers who have not had service from Brainerd Public Utilities in the last 12 months or have had a bad credit history are required to pay a deposit. A \$60 deposit is required for residential accounts and a minimum of \$100 is required for commercial accounts. The customer will be billed for the required amount. On your first utility bill you will have a line item that states: Customer Deposit and the amount charged. Your deposit will be credited to your account with interest once you have paid your account in full and on time for 12 consecutive months. When you move out of your residence and a final billing is done, your deposit will be credited to your final bill. On your final bill you will have two separate line items that states Deposit Refund and Deposit Interest. If your final is less than your deposit, the remaining balance will be mailed to you at your forwarding address.

DROP BOXES

Brainerd Public Utilities has five payments drop boxes for your convenience. There is no need to place a stamp on your payment when placed in these boxes. These payments are picked up daily at 7:00 am Monday through Friday. They are located at:

1. 8027 Highland Scenic Road (Our Business Office).
2. The Corner of 7th and Laurel Street.
3. Outside the Westgate Mall by the Rafferty's Entrance (This drop box has been temporarily removed because of sidewalk work. We will return it as soon as the work is finished).
4. Outside the Senior Citizen Center at 803 Kingwood Street.
5. The drop box outside East Brainerd Mall has been moved from the entrance of Cub to in front of the Dollar Tree Store.



Watt's Weather

Total Precipitation

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| June 2005 | 7.02" |
| June 2004 | 1.74" |

Average Temperatures

| | | |
|-----------|-------|-------|
| June 2005 | Hi 76 | Lo 57 |
| June 2004 | Hi 72 | Lo 48 |



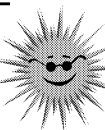
TRIVIA HISTORICAL WATER TOWER

1. What year was construction of the Concrete Water Tower completed?
2. Capacity of the Tower was _____ gallons of water.
3. What was the height of the Tower?
4. What other Minnesota City has a concrete water tower like ours?
5. What year did citizens of Brainerd wage a "Save the Water Tower" campaign?

ANSWER ON OTHER SIDE

ENERGY SAVING TIPS:

1. Change your air conditioner filter. During the cooling season, this helps improve efficiency and extend the life of your air conditioner.
2. Raise the thermostat setting when you are away. You can save approximately \$100.00 in the summer by raising your thermostat's temperature from 72 to 78 degrees.



WASTEWATER RATE INCREASE

The Brainerd Public Utilities Commission (BPUC) at its regular monthly meeting held on May 31, 2005, authorized a rate increase for the wastewater treatment department that will become effective September 1, 2005. The new monthly service fee of \$5.00 would be used to cover fixed costs of the wastewater treatment department; such as administration, billing, insurance, etc. that are not currently being covered by the commodity charge of \$2.00 per 1,000 gallons of water treated.

The fixed charge portion of the bill remains the same each billing period, regardless of meter size, because the costs are not related to the amount of wastewater flow treated. Currently BPU does not charge a monthly service charge for wastewater treatment. However, the current commodity charge of \$2.00 per 1,000 gallons treated would remain the same.

The BPUC also at its regular monthly meeting, held on May 31, 2005, voted to approve as a component of the monthly service charge, a charge for the repayment of the debt service related to the bonds that will be issued as part of the wastewater treatment plant expansion project. The method selected would require 50 percent of the debt service repayment to be paid made via the monthly service charge (based on size of water meter in service) and the remaining 50 percent would be paid by wastewater connection fees collected from new customer connections to the system.

The exact amount of the monthly portion related to the repayment of debt will be determined at the time the bonds are issued. However, since financial projections are based on a number of assumptions, it will be necessary for BPU to evaluate the actual financial performance each year and to make necessary adjustments as required. At the present time it is anticipated the monthly service charge related to debt service will range between \$6 and \$7 per month for residential customers and up to \$44 to \$45 per month for large commercial customers.

DIRECT PAYMENT OF YOUR UTILITY BILL

You can make your life easier with the Direct Payment Plan. You can have your payment made automatically from your checking or savings accounts. Your bills get paid on time, every time. It is dependable, flexible, convenient and easy. Just call 829-8726 for more information or have an authorization sent to you.

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 Brainerd Public Utilities at 825-3210 or 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.



Watt's Cooking

Sweet & Sour Chicken

10 minute prep time.

Cooking time is approximately 1-1/4 hrs.

A whole chicken fryer cut up.

Mix together:

1-8 ounce bottle of Russian Dressing (Dark Red Kind)

1-Envelope of Onion soup mix

1-10 ounce jar of Apricot preserves

1-Tablespoon of water

In a 9 x 13 pan arrange chicken pieces in the bottom of the pan. Pour mixture over the top and cover with foil. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes and remove foil for the last 30 minutes or until the chicken is no longer pink inside.



Minnesota

Water Facts:

- Water is the most common substance found on earth.
- The only water we will ever have is what we have right now.
- In a 100-year period, a water molecule spends 98 years in the ocean, 20 months as ice, about 2 weeks in lakes and rivers, and less than a week in the atmosphere.
- Each day the sun evaporates 1 trillion tons of water.



Answers to the Trivia Historical Water Tower:

1. 1921
2. 300,000
3. 141 feet
4. Pipestone
5. 1968

Business Office Hours 7:00 - 3:30, 829-8726
Repair/Service Operations Office Hours 7:00 - 3:30, 829-2193
Emergency 24 hour service 365 days a year, 829-2193
EMAIL@BPU.OG OR WWW.BPU.ORG