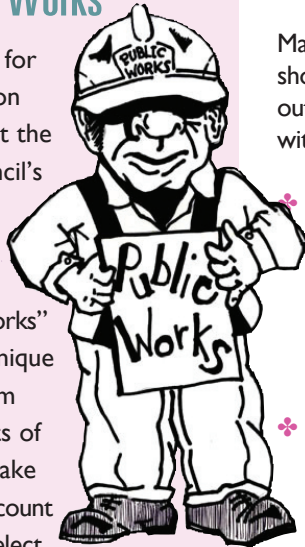


## PWC Presents "Public Works"

Join PWC for 4<sup>th</sup> Friday on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Arts Council's largest art show of the year! "Public Works" features unique works from local artists of all ages. Make your vote count and help select this year's winner. For more information, including info on how you can submit your very own work of art, visit [www.theartscouncil.com](http://www.theartscouncil.com)



## Attention PWC Water Customers

PWC is pleased to present to you our annual Water Quality Report as required by the EPA. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about your sources of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Look for it on our website in May. To receive a copy by mail, please call 910-223-4009.



## PWC on the Air

Join host, Wendy Riddle, for *Your PWC Connections*, anytime on PWC's website or watch on FayTV 7 (Time Warner Cable Government Access Channel 7). Check local listings for dates and times.



This newsletter is printed on Recycled paper containing 20% post consumer waste.

# Volt Vigilance 24/7/365

May is National Electrical Safety Month, but you shouldn't limit "volt vigilance" to just one month out of the year. Stay safe when you come in contact with electricity year-round with the tips below:

- ✦ **Outlets:** Check for outlets that have any loose fitting plugs, which can overheat and lead to a fire. Replace any missing or broken wall plates. Teach children to not insert any objects inside outlets and use outlet covers if you have very young children.
- ✦ **Cords:** Make sure cords are in good condition, not frayed or cracked. Be sure they are placed out of traffic areas and never nail or staple a cord to the wall. When unplugging an object, pull by the plug and not the cord.
- ✦ **Extension Cords:** Check to see that cords are not overloaded. Only use extension cords on a temporary basis, as they are not intended to be used as permanent household wiring.
- ✦ **Plugs:** Make certain your plugs fit your outlets. Never remove the ground pin (the 3<sup>rd</sup> prong) to make a three-prong fit a two-conductor outlet; you can buy an inexpensive adaptor instead.
- ✦ **Light Bulbs:** Check the wattage of all bulbs in light fixtures to make sure they are the correct size for the fixture. Never leave light bulb sockets empty and replace burned-out bulbs immediately.

## PWC = People Who Care!

Fayetteville PWC received state recognition for their support of the United Way when selected as a winner of the Spirit of North Carolina Award. The awards are sponsored annually to provide statewide recognition for outstanding commitment and support to communities through local United Way involvement. This year, PWC employees pledged more than \$116,000 and will impact the lives of approximately 20,000 people

in Cumberland County! This is PWC's 9<sup>th</sup> Spirit of North Carolina Award.

PWC was also the recipient of the Marquis Award for promoting leadership giving and the Spirit of Community Award. Steve Blanchard, CEO/General Manager, was honored by the United Way of Cumberland County as Community Volunteer of the Year.

## Save the Date! Outdoor Watering Schedules

The Odd/Even watering schedules for PWC customers are year round. Following these guidelines is a simple step that goes a long way to conserve our precious water supply and manage our daily water use. Think before you water... don't just water because it is your watering day. Adjust your sprinklers to water only the landscaping in your yard, and be sure not to overwater. One inch of water is usually enough. Always remember to turn off your sprinklers when it rains and don't water when it's windy or during the hottest times of day.

Required Outdoor Watering Schedules for PWC Water Customers

	M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su
<b>Even</b> <small>Water Monday, Wednesday, Saturday if street address ends in even number</small>	Water		Water			Water	
<b>Odd</b> <small>Water Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday if street address ends in odd number</small>		Water		Water	Sprinkler's Day Off		Water

## Quiz: How Green Is Your Garden?

- Over-watering your lawn is bad for the environment and for the grass. About how much water does your lawn really require each week?
  - 0.5 cm
  - 2.5 cm
  - 5 cm
  - 10 cm
- How much water applied to lawns and gardens is lost due to evaporation or run-off because of over-watering?
  - Less than 10%
  - 15 to 25%
  - 35%
  - More than 50%
- Xeriscaping is an eco-friendly gardening practice that involves:
  - Grouping similar plants together
  - Selecting plant species that have low water needs
  - Using recycled water in your garden
  - Growing plants that attract birds and butterflies
- Who needs air conditioning when you—and your neighbors—have lots of trees? On average, how many degrees cooler are tree-shaded neighborhoods in the daytime?
  - 1-3°
  - 4-5°
  - 6-7°
  - 8-9°
- Using less water is one way to make your garden more eco-friendly. For drought-tolerant plants that grow well in sunny, dry spots, look for:
  - Broad, dark green leaves
  - Vibrantly colored flowers
  - Plastic leaves
  - Silver, grey or hairy leaves
- According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the amount of pollution emitted by a lawnmower operating for one hour is equivalent to the amount of pollution emitted by:
  - A car driven for approximately 18 miles
  - A leaf blower running for 30 minutes
  - An electric scooter driven for 62
  - A 747 aircraft taking off

### How did you do?

6-5 correct: Blooming Genius!  
4-3 correct: Sprouting environmentalist  
2-1 correct: Wilting Vine  
0 correct: Green Thumbs Down!  
*courtesy of [ecoliving.scotiabank.com](http://ecoliving.scotiabank.com)*

Answers: 1=B, 2=D, 3=B, 4=A, 5=D, 6=A



# Your PWC Connections

APR/MAY 2014

## Your PWC Connections

is a bi-monthly newsletter for PWC customers and the community. If you have comments, concerns or suggestions for upcoming issues, please contact PWC's Community Relations Office.



## Upcoming Events

### Safe Digging Month

April 1 - 30  
www.call811.com

### Earth Day

Tuesday, April 22

### 4th Friday

#### Downtown Fayetteville

April 25 May 23  
www.theartscouncil.com

### Dogwood Festival Festival Park

Visit PWC's Booth  
April 26-27  
www.faydogwoodfestival.com

### Fayetteville Beautiful City-wide Cleanup

Saturday, May 3  
www.fayettevillebeautiful.com

### National Drinking Water Week

May 4 - 10

### Public Works Exhibit The Arts Council

May 23 - June 21

### Memorial Day PWC Offices Closed

Monday, May 26



## Customer Service

### Telephone Service

483-1382 Monday through  
Friday 8:00 am to 8:00 pm,  
excluding holidays

### We're On It!

1-877-OUR-PWCI

24-Hour Emergency

### Visit Us Online

Pay the easy way at:

www.faypwc.com



## Cool Down This Spring & Summer with Cool Savings from PWC

Hot weather is on the way and making sure your Heating Ventilation and Air Condition (HVAC) system is operating efficiently will soon be a priority. Here in the Sandhills, the hot summers make the heat pump the most common HVAC system choice for this area. A heat pump takes the heat from the air outside the home and pumps it inside through refrigerant-filled coils. On average, 50% of household energy costs go towards heating and cooling. So, if it is time to replace your heat pump and your ducts, consider taking advantage of PWC's new High Efficiency ENERGY STAR® Heat Pump Program and earn up to \$500 in bill credits. This exciting opportunity will not only save you money on your heat pump purchase, but it'll also help you lower your utility bill!

### How do I qualify for the incentive?

- ✓ Be a current PWC electric residential customer and own the home in which the new heat pump is installed.
- ✓ The ENERGY STAR® qualified model must be 14.5 SEER or greater and installed by a licensed contractor.

- ✓ Purchase and installation must be on or after March 1, 2014.
- ✓ Agree to a post purchase audit by a PWC Conservation Specialist. Call 223-4766 or 223-4226 to schedule the audit.

### Additional Information

- ✓ A bill credit of \$300 can be earned for replacing your inefficient heat pump with an ENERGY STAR® qualified model.
- ✓ If a total duct system replacement is installed at the same time as the heat pump replacement, the bill credit increases to \$500.
- ✓ Submit an application and all required documentation to PWC.
- ✓ Call PWC's Customer Programs Call Center at 223-4600 if you have additional questions.

PWC's Heat Pump Program started Mar. 1, 2014 and will be available until further notice. PWC reserves the right to discontinue this program at any time without prior notice.

## Plant Smart to Avoid Tree & Utility Conflicts

A new tree is a beautiful addition to your property, and we all appreciate the natural shade and environmental benefits. In addition to promoting smart planting by reminding you to avoid conflicts between trees and utilities, PWC's Tree Power initiative also promotes how trees benefit our community. Before you plant a tree this spring, always remember "Plan. Plant. Protect."

**Plan** before you plant – it's important to make the proper tree selection and to plan ahead to protect our utility lines, as well as lines that provide other services. Consider what the ultimate mature height your new tree will be. Trees should be planted in an area with adequate growing room, where they will not interfere with overhead lines.

**Plant** wisely – the biggest danger to underground utility lines comes during planting, especially since buried lines can be close to the surface. Remember that trees' roots grow too! Often, the root area of a mature tree is larger than the spread of the branches above, so keep that in mind as you decide how far away from underground lines to plant your tree. Call NC 811 – they will locate and mark utility line locations in your yard for free!

**Protect** our utilities – always follow the zoning guidelines for tall, medium, and low growing trees. Trees that grow as tall as 60 feet are recommended for areas without any overhead restrictions. Trees that grow up to 40 feet should only be planted where the available above ground space will allow them to reach their mature height. Only trees that reach a mature height of less than 20 feet should be planted in the zone within 15 feet around overhead utility lines.

With the right tree selection and proper planning, trees and utility lines can "live in harmony." By choosing the right location, you can avoid the safety hazards, as well as the service interruptions that can occur when trees interfere with service lines. You'll also help ensure the health and beauty of your tree by avoiding the need for pruning!



**TREE POWER**

