

PWC CONNECTIONS

Your Link to News & Information from the Fayetteville Public Works Commission April 2021

Upcoming Events

Safe Digging Month
April 1st – April 30th
Call 811 Before You Dig



Air Quality Awareness Week
May 3rd - 7th

Hurricane Preparedness Week
May 9th - 15th

PWC Connections: The Podcast
Listen to PWC's bi-weekly Podcast for FREE on your favorite podcast listening platform. Get your questions answered about your utility services, learn more about PWC, and get the scoop on hot topics!



PWC TV: Now Streaming!



Watch Your PWC Connections anytime on your favorite streaming device in addition to daily airings on Fay TV – the City of Fayetteville's government access channel on Spectrum Cable channel 7. Your PWC Connections is also available on PWC's Youtube channel & website.

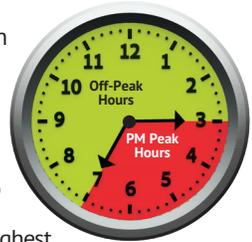


Beat the Peak! Time-of-Use Summer Hours Start April 1st

Summer Peak Hours 3pm – 7pm

Beginning April 1, PWC will make the switch to Summer Peak Time-of-Use Rates. Summer Peak will run through October. With Time-of-Use Rates, you pay different rates for electricity based on the season and the time of day you use it. Summer Peak hours are 3pm to 7pm weekdays, when electricity use is the highest and it costs the most to get it to you. That means electricity rates during Off-Peak are 35% less than the other 20 hours of the day during the week, as well as all hours on weekends and PWC observed holidays.

Summer Peak Hours (April - October) For PWC Electric Customers
3pm-7pm Weekdays



With a few small changes you can reduce your energy usage and your bill. For example, try setting your thermostat to a setting that is comfortable to you, ideally in the 70s or higher from 3pm to 7pm during the week. Even when no one is home, your cooling system is still using energy to maintain the temperature set on your thermostat. By adjusting your thermostat a few degrees during Peak hours, you can save significantly.



Start or program your dishwasher, washing machine and clothes dryer to run and finish before 3pm or to start after 7pm during the week. Or, schedule these chores for any time on the weekend when it costs 35% less to use electricity. Wash full loads of laundry whenever possible and switch your temperature setting from hot to cold. Using the cold cycle can reduce energy use even more. About 90% of the energy used for washing clothes is used to heat the water.

Take advantage of our PWC Incentive Programs to help with TOU and Beat the Peak!

- Smart Thermostat
- Ecobee Peak Savings Program
- Aquanta Peak Savings Electric Water Heater Programs
- www.faypwc.com/residential-programs/

Plant Smart to Avoid Tree & Utility Conflicts

Plan Wisely

If you're planting a new tree, plan wisely so you don't interfere with utility lines or transformers.

- Know how tall the type of tree you choose will grow when it's mature. Plant your tree in an area with adequate growing room, where it won't interfere with overhead lines.
- Consider underground lines, because roots expand too as the tree grows. Be sure to call NC 811. They will come and mark the location of any underground utility lines (for free) so you'll know where not to dig.
- If you have a transformer on your property, trees should be planted where they'll never grow closer than 3 feet to the sides and back of the transformer box. Clearance at the front should be 10 feet to allow utility workers to access the box.

Be Water Wise

With smart planning and preparation, you can have beautiful lawns and gardens that use little water. Keep these tips in mind for your landscaping projects this spring.

- Group plants with the same watering needs together to get the most out of your watering time.

- Choose plants and flowers that grow well in the shade.
- Use mulch around trees and plants to keep moisture in.
- Plant low-water-use grasses (such as Centipede or Bermuda).
- Avoid planting in areas that are hard to water such as steep inclines and strips along sidewalks and driveways.
- Reduce the amount of grass in your yard by planting shrubs, and use ground cover with rock and granite mulching.



National Work Zone Awareness Week

April 26 -30

National Work Zone Awareness Week is an annual spring campaign that encourages safe driving through work zones. The key message is for drivers to use extra caution in work zones. Fayetteville PWC crews work throughout Cumberland County on a daily basis. Here are some reminders to keep everyone safe on the roadways.

Drive Safe. A reminder that work zones need everyone's undivided attention. When approaching a work zone, motorists should always slow down, follow all posted signs, be alert and remain calm. Risky driving behavior affects more than just the driver – everyone's lives and families are at stake.

Work Safe. Technology is helping to make work zones safer by collecting data and automating processes, which can remove workers from dangerous situations and provide motorists with important information. It is also a reminder that work zone safety begins with workers who are dedicated to safety.

Save Lives. If we all work together, we can achieve zero deaths on our roads and in our work zones!



Check Out This Month's Tip from Our Conservationists!

Our Conservation Specialists are experts in saving water and energy year-round, and their tips will help you save water and money this spring.

Did you know that the average household uses nearly 300 gallons of water a day? You can reduce that amount by making a few simple changes at home:

- Repair faucet leaks inside and outside your home.
- Wash full loads of laundry and dishes.
- Install water saving showerheads, toilets, faucet aerators and appliances. PWC water customers can take advantage of our High Efficiency Toilet Program and earn up to three bill credits! Visit PWC online for details.
- Shorten your shower time. Even one minute less will make a positive impact on your utility bill.
- Turn the water off while brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Check your irrigation system for leaks, broken sprinkler heads and incorrect time settings.



Attention PWC Water Customers

Fayetteville PWC's annual Water Quality Report as required by the EPA will be available on May 1, 2021. 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 online at www.faypwc.com. To request a copy by mail, please call 910-223-4009.

Public Power at Work!

As a Public Power Provider, we take pride in providing reliable services to our customers. Our employees live and work here and we want the best for our community. 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 award provides statewide recognition for outstanding commitment and support to

communities through local United Way involvement. This is PWC's 15th Spirit of North Carolina Award. PWC employees pledged \$156,000, which will positively impact the lives of thousands in Cumberland County!

