

# PWC CONNECTIONS

Your Link to News & Information from the Fayetteville Public Works Commission April 2022

## Upcoming Events

**40th Annual Dogwood Festival**  
Festival Park  
Visit PWC's booth  
Saturday & Sunday  
April 21 – April 24  
[www.faydogwoodfestival.com/](http://www.faydogwoodfestival.com/)

**National Electrical Safety Month**  
May 1st - 31st

**National Drinking Water Week**  
May 1st - 7th

**NC Spring Home Show**  
Crown Expo Center  
May 20th - 22nd

**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.



## PWC Honored with National Award for Reliable Electric Operations



### PWC Maintains Diamond Level Designation, the highest RP3 designation

PWC has received the Reliable Public Power Provider™ (RP3) award for providing consumers with the highest degree of reliable and safe electric service. Of the 275 utilities currently recognized by the American Public Power Association as RP3 winners, PWC is just one of two that has received Diamond Level, the highest designation, six or more times.

This is PWC's sixth Diamond Level designation, since first earning it in 2007. PWC provides electric service to 80,000+ electric customers in the Fayetteville/Cumberland County area. It's the largest Public Power provider in North Carolina and the 35th largest in the U.S. (out of approximately 2,000 providers).

Jon Rynne, PWC's Chief Electric Systems Officer said, "PWC should be extremely proud of receiving the RP3 Diamond level award! This is the 6th time PWC has achieved the highest level possible of this assessment and really demonstrates that our employees

are all doing their best to provide the highest level of service and value to the customers we serve."

The RP3 recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: reliability, safety, workforce development and system improvement. Criteria is based on sound business practices and represent a utility-wide commitment to safe and reliable delivery of electricity. PWC scored a perfect 100 in the RP3 evaluation.



## Reminder: Summer Time-of-Use Hours

PWC made the switch to Summer Time-of-Use (TOU) Rates on April 1st. Beat the Peak and make TOU Rates work for you! Summer Peak will run through October between the hours of 3pm – 7pm. Rates for electricity used during Off-Peak hours will cost 35% less than Peak and will occur 20 hours of the weekday and all day on weekends and PWC observed holidays.

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



## Save the Date: NC Spring Home Show May 20th - 22nd

The North Carolina Spring Home Show is Friday, May 20th – Sunday, May 22nd, at the Crown Expo Center. Be sure to visit PWC's booth for tips on how to lower your water and energy consumption. Plus, speak with conservation experts about ways to save at home, and take home FREE useful conservation items like LED bulbs!

### Event Hours:

Friday, May 20th: 10am – 5pm  
Saturday, May 21st: 10am – 5pm  
Sunday, May 22nd: 10am – 5pm



## CONSERVATION Year-Round Outdoor Watering Schedules

The Odd/Even watering schedules for Fayetteville 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.

### Even

Water Monday, Wednesday, Saturday  
if street address ends in an even number

### Odd

Water Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday  
if street address ends in an odd number

- Think before you water and 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.
- Don't water when it's windy or during the hottest times of day.

## Attention PWC Water Customers

Fayetteville PWC's annual *Water Quality Report* as required by the EPA will be available on May 1, 2022. 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](http://www.faypwc.com). To request a copy by mail, please call 910-223-4009.



## 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."

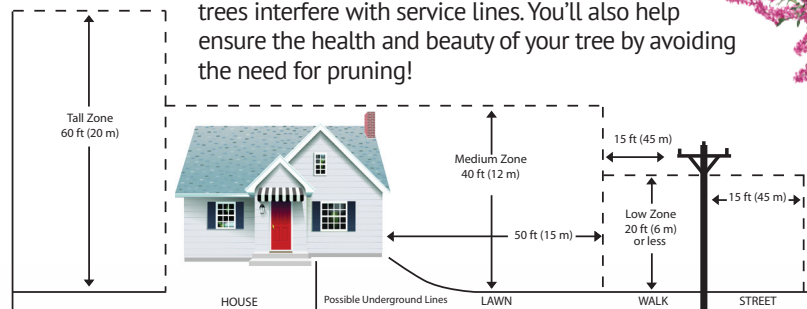


**Plan before you plant** – it's important to make the proper tree selection and to plan ahead to protect our utility lines, as well as lines that provide other services. Consider what the ultimate mature height your new tree will be when it grows. Trees should be planted in an area with adequate growing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

**Plant wisely** – the biggest danger to underground utility lines comes from 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. 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. 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.

With the right tree selection and proper planning, trees and utility lines can "live in harmony." By choosing the right location, you can avoid 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!



## Work Zone Safety Is in Your Hands

While road work may be a hassle, please be courteous and respectful of the workers present. Here are some additional safety tips to keep in mind when you encounter the work zone:

### Minimize your distractions

Distraction-free driving is always important, but this is especially important when you're driving in a construction zone, where it's imperative that you're on high alert. When you enter a construction zone or see that one is approaching, turn down (or turn off) your radio, end any cell phone calls, and keep both hands on the wheel and eyes on the road.

### Look for the orange diamonds.

Several of these signs will be placed alongside the roadway well before the actual construction zone to warn drivers. As soon as you see a "work zone ahead" sign, reduce your speed and be on the lookout for workers, machinery, and obstacles.

### Orange cones and are used to direct the flow of traffic in work zones.

Do not steer into or run over these objects. You will be responsible for any damage to your vehicle if you make contact with construction cones or barrels.

### Flaggers are often used to stop and direct traffic in work zones.

Their instructions supersede any posted or implied traffic signals. Their presence will be announced by orange construction signs that say "flagger ahead." Keep an eye out for flaggers in all construction zones and keep your vehicle as far away from their bodies as possible.

Thanks for helping keep our workers safe while we work to keep your services reliable.

