## **WATER · POWER · PEOPLE**

News for our residential customers



# Building resilience: EWEB and customers collaboratively tackle greenhouse gas emissions

EWEB is committed to the environmental values of our customer-owners. We proudly support community collaboration toward achieving climate goals, ensuring that our actions consider environmental stewardship, reliable delivery of power and water, and financial sustainability.



#### Planning for a green energy future

EWEB is planning for an energy portfolio that is 95% carbon-free by 2030. Customers participating in our Greenpower program contributed \$125,000 last year towards residential solar installations. Our energy efficiency programs saved more than 14,000 MWh of electricity in 2023 - that's enough to power over 700 homes for a year!



#### Reducing the use of fossil-fuels

From 2010 to 2022, EWEB reduced greenhouse gas emissions from utility fleet vehicles by 64%. Our Electric Mobility Community Grants, funded in part by the Oregon Clean Fuels Program, have helped install charging stations, develop e-bike lending programs, and purchase an electric bus for the McKenzie School District.



### Supporting natural climate solutions

At EWEB's Carbon Forestry Lab, we're working with the University of Oregon to learn how we can accelerate the amount of carbon that plants pull from the atmosphere and pump into the soil. On the McKenzie River, EWEB is part of a team that's restoring expansive floodplain habitats, creating space for the river's natural water quality function and for wetlands to store carbon.





Our \$300 e-bike rebate has helped fund more than 2,000 electric bike purchases since 2022, leading to fewer cars on the road, reduced air pollution, and a healthier community.



Students in the University of Oregon's Environmental Leadership Program visit EWEB's Carbon Forestry Lab as part of their climate solutions class.

## Three steps to a more climate-friendly home

Here in Eugene, we are fortunate to have access to clean, abundant power and water. But climate change poses risks to our community's energy and drinking water supplies and infrastructure.

You might be surprised to learn that you can take meaningful steps at home to help mitigate the impacts of climate change, many of which will also save you money.

**Step #1: Use less energy.** Homes that use less energy produce fewer greenhouse gas emissions. Insulating homes, installing LED lighting, and upgrading to high-efficiency electric heating and cooling systems offer the added benefit of increasing comfort while saving money. We offer rebates and loans to help with efficiency upgrades for homes and businesses. eweb.org/SaveEnergy

Step #2: Use energy off peak. Although EWEB's energy portfolio is composed almost entirely of carbon-free power, we are part of a highly integrate grid that includes coal and natural gas. When the highest ("peak") level of electricity is being used in the region, there is more of this carbon-intensive energy on the grid. Shifting energy use to "off peak" can be as simple as running the dishwasher, charging your electric car, or doing the laundry later at night (after 9 p.m.) or mid-day (between noon and 5 p.m.). Smart grid technology will play a pivotal role in helping EWEB and our customers work together to shift use to off peak times. eweb.org/PowerSupply

Step #3: Watch your water use. It takes a lot of energy to treat and deliver the water you use every day. It takes even more energy to turn it into hot water. Saving water saves energy, which in turn reduces greenhouse gas emissions. Fixing leaks around the house, taking shorter showers, and planting "water wise" landscapes are also great ways to take care of our water source, the beautiful McKenzie River. eweb.org/SaveWater



Many EWEB customers want to take action on climate change. Visit eweb.org/GreenOptions to learn how you can invest in programs like Greenpower and the Carbon Forestry Lab.`

#### **Your Board of Commissioners**

Wards 1 & 8 Matt McRae (President)

Wards 2 & 3 John Barofsky (Vice President)

Wards 4 & 5 John Brown

Wards 6 & 7 Sonya Carlson

At-large Mindy Schlossberg The citizens of Eugene elect five commissioners to four-year terms. They dedicate their service to the utility as volunteers without pay. Commissioners hold regularly scheduled public meetings on the first Tuesday of each month, typically at 5:30 p.m. Our customer-owners are welcome and encouraged to participate. Meetings are streamed live and archived on eweb.org/board.



