



## Community Bank N.A.

## UPMC Chautauqua WCA

### Thanks to Our Good Neighbors of the Month!

Community Bank and UPMC Chautauqua WCA are our January Good Neighbors of the Month. Many thanks!

By donating to the John Alfred & Oscar Johnson Memorial Trust/BPU Good Neighbor Fund, they are helping customers in hardship situations that prevent them from paying utility bills.

Customers who pay BPU bills regularly, who receive no social services assistance for utility bills and who experience a sudden hardship may be eligible for help through the fund.

Customers who believe they may qualify should contact the Salvation Army at 664-4108 to make an appointment. The Salvation Army will verify the hardship quickly, and then contact the BPU to validate the payment history. The process is brief and easy.

Companies interested in participating as a Good Neighbor of the Month may contact BPU Communications Coordinator Becky Robbins at 661-1680 or by e-mail: [brobbins@jamestownbpu.com](mailto:brobbins@jamestownbpu.com).

### Safety Hazards: Signs Do Not Belong on Utility Poles



Utility poles must be kept clear of signs and other items for the reliability of our electric system and for the safety of our linemen. It is against

the City Code to post signs or items on utility poles.

Although our linemen often use bucket trucks in their work, they still climb poles in certain situations. Posted signs on utility poles can cause injuries to linemen.

The BPU Yard Waste Site is closed for the Season. Your yellow 2017-18 Yard Waste Site sticker will be used again in Spring-Summer-Fall, 2018.

### City Garbage Rate Holds Steady, Four Small Household Items May be Discarded Each Week

The BPU's 2018 Solid Waste (Garbage/Recycling) budget passed with no rate increase for customers in the City.

The Basic Service Charge in the City remains at \$21 per dwelling unit per month with a credit of \$10.50 a month issued to customers who participate in the Residential Recycling Credit Program each billing period.

The monthly rate for Solid Waste customers outside the City is now \$27.50 a billing period. If they recycle, the rebate is still \$10.50 and the Solid Waste charge becomes \$17.

As in the past, garbage must be bagged and weigh less than forty pounds per bag. The City code also states that bags must be placed in a sturdy garbage can with a lid to prevent animal damage and other issues. Individual garbage bags, recycling bins or other items heavier than forty pounds will be tagged and refused. No loose garbage on the ground is permitted.

An eight bag limit per week continues into 2018. Bags in excess of the eight bag limit will be charged \$3/bag.

The BPU may refuse trash or recycling items that show evidence of bed bug or cockroach activity.

Customers are reminded that there are no specified "clean-up" weeks, but that, **each week, they may now discard four items (compared to one item in 2017) weighing up to forty pounds, similar in size to a regular bag of trash and easily handled by one person.** Examples of such objects include an upright vacuum cleaner, a dining room chair, fans, mops and window blinds. Metal items will not be accepted. It is recommended to call the Garbage Hotline for clarification



before placing items at the curb. In addition, customers may arrange for Special Item Collection by calling the Garbage Hotline at 661-1651,

two business days in advance of their regular garbage day. Four items collected together for one appointment will be discounted. Special Items include electronics and larger or heavier pieces not easily handled by one person.

Examples of Special Item Collection requiring an appointment and fee include large objects such as couches, recliners, easy chairs, dressers, carpet rolls, dry mattresses, appliances and electronics. Items that contain any cooling agent such as refrigerators and dehumidifiers will incur an evacuation charge in addition to the special household item pick-up charge. Examples of electronic items: televisions, computer monitors and objects with digital screens such as microwaves.

More explanation of the Solid Waste policies is included on the back of the 2018 Recycling Calendar which was mailed to customers in December. Additional copies may be requested by calling the Garbage Hotline at 661-1651 or BPU Communications at 661-1680.

The recycling calendar may be obtained at BPU Customer Service, 92 Steele Street, Jamestown; open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday-Wednesday; and 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Thursday-Friday. The calendar may be found under Solid Waste on the BPU website: [www.jamestownbpu.com](http://www.jamestownbpu.com).

### El 2018 calendario del reciclaje de BPU español está disponible para el uso. The 2018 BPU Spanish recycling calendar is available.

The 2018 BPU Spanish recycling calendar is available at BPU Customer Service, 92 Steele Street. Customers may request copies of the Spanish recycling calendar at BPU Customer Service, by calling the Garbage Hotline at 661-1651, Communications at 661-1680 or by accessing the [www.jamestownbpu.com](http://www.jamestownbpu.com) website (under Solid Waste). Copies also are available at the City Hall lobby, the James Prendergast Library, Chautauqua Opportunities, St. Susan Center and at the East Side YMCA.



El 2018 calendario del reciclaje de BPU español está disponible para el uso. Los clientes pueden solicitar copias en español del calendario en Servicio de atención al cliente de BPU, llamando 661-1651 o conseguir acceso al sitio web [www.jamestownbpu.com](http://www.jamestownbpu.com). Las copias están también disponibles en el vestíbulo de Municipalidad, la Biblioteca James Prendergast, Chautauqua Opportunities, St. Susan Center y en el East Side YMCA, 727 E. Second Street.



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## Energy Efficient LED Street Lights Installed



BPU Line Workers are in the process of installing more than 1,050 new energy efficient LED lights to replace high pressure sodium street lights located throughout the city.

A grant awarded by New York State has made the LED street light change-out possible. The new lights should last around twenty years, with a ten-year warranty. High pressure sodium lights last an average of only sixteen years. In addition to the longer life of LED lighting, the efficiency of the lights will save the City electricity, and consequently money, on its street light electric bills.

LED lights are being installed in five separate areas around the City and on some of the main arterials. A few of the arterials include Foote, Forest, Harrison, North Main, Washington and parts of Baker, Fairmount and East Second. There are approximately 3,500 street lights in the City.



*No private business is authorized to accept BPU payments.*

BPU bills may be paid by phone at 661-1660, ext. 3, or online at [www.jamestownbpu.com](http://www.jamestownbpu.com). BPU employees will not call & threaten you about

shut-offs. The BPU will not ask you to meet personnel in a store with a gift card; or tell you to call a phone number that is different from 661-1660. Hang up on scammers and report the call to BPU Customer Service at 661-1660 in order that we may warn other customers.



Jamestown Board of Public Utilities employees pledged individually to raise a total of \$6,193 for the United Way of Southern Chautauqua County for 2018.

### Help Keep Fire Hydrants Clear of Snow

Firemen work to prevent snow build-up around fire hydrants. If you're in good health, help them by shoveling out hydrants on your street.



## BPU Energy Efficiency Programs Announced for 2018

The BPU announced its 2018 Energy Efficiency Rebate Programs for electric customers. Three traditional rebate programs will continue into the new year, while three others will be discontinued in 2018 to allow for future new energy system initiatives.



class 2 or 3 customers qualify for this program. Rebates help underwrite the purchase cost of permanently installed new LED light fixtures and lamps as well as High Bay T-5 fixtures. Occupancy sensors, variable speed drives, NEMA



### Home Energy Audit Program

Home Energy Audits will continue to be offered free-of-charge through New York State's "Green Jobs, Green New York" Program. The 2018 program will provide free audits to New Yorkers with an annual household income of below \$104,000. The BPU subsidizes the audit for households earning more than \$104,000 annually. Both programs also

provide rebates for electric customers who make changes suggested by the audit.

A home energy audit is an in-depth analysis of the building envelope, heating system and electric consuming devices performed by a Building Performance Institute (BPI) certified contractor. The audit includes monitoring of certain electric appliances, a blower door test to evaluate air infiltration, a lighting audit, pipe insulation and combustion efficiency tests of hot water tanks, natural gas furnaces and boilers. A report is furnished to the homeowner at the end of the audit.

BPU rebates cover twenty-five percent of the cost of weatherization improvements recommended by the audit with a \$2,000 maximum limit per property for all residential electric customers; and fifty percent, up to \$4,000, for customers who have used electric as their primary heat source for at least three years. Rebates will be issued in the form of a check.

### ENERGY STAR Rebate Program

The BPU's ENERGY STAR Rebate Program, as in 2017, offers rebates for certain, new ENERGY STAR products as follows: \$35 for residential windows, \$25 for skylights, \$50 for residential entry doors and \$50 for Wi-Fi enabled thermostats. Central air conditioning units will be rebated at \$100 per ton of cooling capacity. HVAC heat pumps are rebated at \$500 per ton of heating or cooling capacity. Geothermal heat pumps are rebated at \$1,000 per ton of heating or cooling capacity. (Note: One ton of capacity equals 12,000 BTU.) Finally, heat pump water heaters will be rebated at \$500.



### Lighting & Motor Rebates for Commercial & Industrial Customers

The Lighting and Motor Rebate Program for Commercial and Industrial Customers carries forward into 2018. Commercial and Industrial customers classified as service

Premium Efficiency Motors, electric vehicle charging stations and HVAC equipment also qualify for the program. Portable equipment and labor costs to install equipment are not included. Any lighting or motor project that is expected to exceed \$1,000 should be discussed with Energy Efficiency Coordinator Dan Reynolds before a project begins, in order to ensure that the project qualifies for rebates.

### Reforming the Energy Vision (REV)

The New York State Energy Plan, including The Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) Initiative, led BPU staff to consider developing and funding other energy efficiency projects by eliminating the costs of three former programs. The discontinued programs include: the Attic Insulation Program, the Weatherization for Commercial and Industrial Program and the Customized Incentive Program for Commercial and Industrial Customers.



Money saved by ending the three 2017 programs will be devoted to projects that reflect the goals of REV which requires that fifty percent of New York's electricity must come from renewable sources by 2030. The State strategy also asks local municipalities to invest in reduction of energycosts through energy efficiency projects in public buildings and facilities and by demonstrating the benefits of using less energy. A third goal is to make clean energy scalable and affordable to all New Yorkers.

A BPU employee team is exploring potential projects involving utility solar energy, LED street lights, electric vehicles, smart meters and battery storage, to name a few. The team currently is researching and studying opportunities before definitive projects are recommended to the Board.

Details on the three 2018 rebate programs are available by contacting Dan Reynolds at 661-1646 or by email: [dreynolds@jamestownbpu.com](mailto:dreynolds@jamestownbpu.com); and by clicking on the Energy Efficiency Opportunities icon on [www.jamestownbpu.com](http://www.jamestownbpu.com).



### Solid Waste Customer Heading South?

Solid Waste customers traveling away from home for at least two billing cycles should notify the BPU by completion of a "Solid Waste Statement" form. If you have built a consistent recycling record with your orange RFID bin, you will be credited \$10.50 per billing period while you are away.

Complete a "Solid Waste Statement Attesting to Being Away from Home" form at BPU Customer Service. The form also is on our website: [www.jamestownbpu.com](http://www.jamestownbpu.com) on the Solid Waste tab or under "Publications" on the home page. You also may call to have a form mailed to you at 661-1651, 661-1680 or 661-1660. Be rewarded for your recycling record!