



News and Views

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City of Jamestown Board of Public Utilities

"Jamestown: Up Close & Wonderful"

January 2021



Axiom & Community Bank: Our Good Neighbors of the Month!

Axiom and Community Bank are our Johnson BPU/Good Neighbors of the Month for January, 2021. Many thanks!

By donating to the John Alfred & Oscar Johnson Memorial Trust/BPU Good Neighbor Fund, they are helping customers in hardship situations that have prevented 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 such as COVID-19, may be eligible for help through the fund. Social Security and HEAP recipients may apply. If you believe that you qualify, 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 by e-mail: brobbins@jamestownbpu.com or by phone at 661-1680 weekdays.

**For a Large Print
Recycling Calendar,
Call 661-1651, 661-1660 or
661-1680.**

Apply for Help on Your BPU Bill as Soon as Possible

If you have accumulated a balance on your BPU utility bill during the State's moratorium on disconnections, please take action now to pay your bill.

When the State lifts that order, you will have to pay your bill to avoid having your utilities shut-off.

Call our Customer Service Office at 661-1660 to request a payment agreement that will help you gradually catch up on your bill. You won't have to pay the full balance all at once if you make these arrangements.

Apply for assistance on your bill through the City's BPU Assistance Program. The City Department of Development has developed a program to help you if:

- 1) You are a resident of Jamestown.
- 2) You were up-to-date on your BPU bill in mid-March.
- 3) You received a shut-off notice from the BPU.
- 4) You don't receive Social Services aid on your BPU bill.

Apply to this program and you could receive enough funding to pay your entire BPU bill that grew during the COVID time period.

Applications are posted on the BPU & City's websites:
www.jamestownbpu.com
www.jamestownny.gov

Completed applications should be submitted to the Department of Development, Jamestown City Hall, 200 E. Third Street, Jamestown, NY 14701.

Awards will be made on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications will be reviewed in the order they are received.

Questions? Call BPU Customer Service Supervisor Heather Flowers at 661-1663 weekdays; or Stephanie Wright at the City Department of Development at 483-7654.

The City procured this funding successfully from a Community Development Block Grant Program to help local residents.

BPU General Manager Dave Leathers stated, "We understand that help from



this grant program is on a first-come, first-served basis. Customers who qualify are urged to apply for this assistance while it remains available to them."

Jamestown City Mayor and BPU President Eddie Sundquist added, "We are pleased that the City received this grant money to help our residents catch up on utility bills left unpaid due to COVID-19 issues. Residents are encouraged to check into this program and apply if they think they are eligible."

Customers also may seek help through the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) at 753-4385; the County Department of Social Services at 661-8200; or the Salvation Army at 664-4108 for aid from the Johnson/BPU Good Neighbor Fund.

Glass No Longer Recycled through BPU Solid Waste Program... You May Place Garbage/Recycling Curbside as Early as 4 p.m.

The BPU no longer collects glass as a curbside recyclable. Customers may take glass to the County Transfer Station, 2570 S. Work Street, Falconer, where no fees are charged for recycling.

Fewer Jamestown residents recycle glass through the BPU and many customers have requested that cardboard, boxboard and plastic be picked up more often. Without glass collection, cardboard, boxboard and plastics will be collected as often as twice a month. Customers may put garbage/recyclables at the curb at 4 p.m. the day prior to their collection day, instead of at 6 p.m. This change was made to accommodate customers who suggested that a time before nightfall would be safer for them to place items at the curb.

El 2021 calendario del reciclaje de BPU español está disponible para el uso. The 2021 BPU Spanish recycling calendar is available.

The 2021 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 website. 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 2021 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, 661-1680 o conseguir acceso al sitio web 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.

BPU to Advance Climate Technology Manufacturing in the Western Southern Tier

The Jamestown BPU has been awarded \$750,000 by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) for its Manufacturing Clean Energy in the Southern Tier application to the “Accelerate the Southern Tier” call for proposals.

The BPU-led program is designed to facilitate company innovation focusing on climate technology, enhancing regional workforce development, creating jobs in this growing sector and strengthening connections among manufacturers across the Western Southern Tier counties of Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Allegany.

The project will include four areas:

Climate Technology Studies designed to evaluate the regional & individual manufacturers’ potential to enter the climate technology manufacturing market in the Southern Tier;

Climate Technology Workforce Development which will augment training & educational programming at Jamestown Community College;

A Climate Technology Manufacturing Conference and Tradeshow held in Jamestown & designed to attract manufacturing interests from across the United States;

A Climate Technology Marketing Campaign promoting the Western Southern Tier’s status as a climate technology manufacturing hub for the expanding domestic supply chain.

Local supporters and participants in the project include: the Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce, the Chautauqua County Industrial Development Agency, the Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth, the Chautauqua County Visitors’ Bureau, the Chautauqua County Education Coalition, the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, the City of Jamestown Department of Development, the Gebbie Foundation, Jamestown Community College, the Jamestown Renaissance Corporation, the Manufacturers’ Association of the Southern Tier and the Small Business Development Center.

More information is posted on our homepage at www.jamestownbpu.com.



BPU ENERGY STAR Rebate Program Continues into 2021 with No Changes

The BPU’s Energy Star Rebate Program continues into 2021, with no changes to the 2020 plan.

The project this year again will provide rebate credits on residential customer electric accounts for the purchase and installation of certain new ENERGY STAR-certified products listed below:

Residential Window	\$35
Skylight	\$25
Residential Entry Door	\$50
Heat Pump Water Heaters	\$500
HVAC Heat Pump	\$500/T*
Central AC Unit	\$100/T*
Geothermal Heat Pump	\$1,000 per Ton*

*One ton of heating or cooling capacity equals approximately 12,000 BTU.



All products must be new and ENERGY STAR-certified to qualify for rebates. For more information concerning minimum standards visit: energystar.gov/products.

For rebates, mail or bring in receipts to our Customer Service Office from the purchase of a new product; the completed rebate form; and the energy guide that is provided to you by the retailer where you bought the product. For windows, skylights and doors, you must also provide the

original NFRC labels.

More information may be found on our website at www.jamestownbpu.com. Click on the yellow “Energy Efficiency” tile on our home page. BPU Energy Efficiency Coordinator Dan Reynolds is available for questions at 661-1646 or dreynolds@jamestownbpu.com.

Brochures are available in our Customer Service Office, 92 Steele Street.

Assigned Garbage Can Program Tentatively Scheduled for June, 2021

A BPU-provided garbage container will be delivered and assigned to your residence as part of your monthly Solid Waste charge.

There will not be an added fee for the initial container. The can will be the property of the BPU and assigned to your service address, similar to the orange recycling bin that is assigned to your home now.

The garbage containers, however, will not be used to track participation to receive rebates as we do with our recycling rebate program.

Semi-automated collection occurs when one employee wheels the containers into place behind the garbage truck for the truck’s lifting mechanism to empty the contents into the vehicle. The collection will be performed by one Solid Waste employee driver and one Solid Waste employee to assist with the containers.

Solid Waste customers have requested that the BPU provide garbage containers because they have found buying cans themselves to be

costly.

This type of collection increases efficiency while improving safety. Worker injuries are reduced; neighborhoods appear cleaner and safer; and residents will find less litter, odor and pest problems because lids always remain on the container.

Containers are convenient, easy to roll on wheels and extremely durable.

We anticipate that employees will experience fewer long-term physical problems with the new system. Formerly, injuries occurred due to repetitive heavy lifting. Also, as employees will not be touching garbage bags, they can be expected to avoid injury caused by sharp objects or chemicals sometimes found in garbage bags.

Each home will be assigned a 95-gallon specially designed wheeled container for garbage. On collection day, as is now the case, residents place their containers at the

curb where it is easily accessible to the Solid Waste worker. The container is easy to move.

The BPU plans to distribute the containers to residential customers during June. It is expected to take about two weeks to distribute and assign approximately 14,000 cans in our territory.

More information will be provided as we get closer to our distribution time. In the meantime, questions may be addressed to the Garbage Hotline at 661-1651 or Communications at 661-1680.

The photo of the garbage container above is not a picture of the actual container to be distributed, but is similar in appearance.



Yard Waste Stickers for 2021—2022 are available now in our Customer Service Office, 92 Steele Street, down the “D Driveway.”