

Auto Accidents and Power Lines

When involved in an auto accident, our first reaction is to get out of the vehicle.



However, when accidents involve

power lines, **Do Not** leave the vehicle. Even if you do not touch lines or equipment, you can be seriously injured or killed.

Call 911 to have the utility notified. Warn people to keep away from the vehicle.

Wait until a utility professional has told you it is safe.

The only reason to leave the vehicle is if it's on fire. If the car is on fire, tuck your arms and jump clear of the vehicle so no part of your body touches the vehicle and ground at the same time.

Then hop or shuffle away, keeping feet together and in contact with the ground. Electricity spreads through the ground in ripples, like a stone dropped in water. The voltage is highest closest to the vehicle and decreases with distance.

If you witness an accident involving utility poles and power lines, don't approach the

accident scene, call 911 for help. Although our first reaction is often to help those in need, a wrong move when power lines are involved can cause you to be injured as well.



Recycle Your Holidays at Princeton Public Utilities

Princeton Public Utilities is a site that offers free holiday lights recycling. Residents can drop off their unwanted light strands and electric cords at Princeton PUC office during the holiday season.

The program is offered by the Recycling Association of Minnesota (RAM) to help Minnesotans recycle their old holiday lights instead of throwing them away.

The program employs over 200 individuals with developmental disabilities at vocational centers throughout the state of Minnesota. Every bulb of the light strand is dismantled by vocational center clients and then properly recycled. in Minnesota.

RECYCLE
Your Holidays™
ORG



The Connector

Princeton Public Utilities

Princeton Public Utilities Residential / Commercial Lighting Contest

If you love Christmas, decorating and all the lights then why not participate in our 2016

Residential or Commercial Lighting Contest? **Here's how it works:** You must live or have a business in Princeton Public Utilities (PPU) electric service territory to be eligible for the contest. Application form must be completed and returned to the PPU office by Thursday, December 15, 2016.

Commercial categories co-sponsored by the Princeton Chamber of Commerce.

The judging will be done December 19th through 21st and the winners will be announced by December 23rd. Please be sure to have your display lit all of the nights of judging.

LED lighting is not mandatory, but strongly encouraged as well as a timer to limit energy consumption.





Save with Energy Star®

Appliances

When you are purchasing a new appliance, it is important to keep in mind there are actually two price tags. The first is the cost of the appliance; the second is the cost to use the appliance. Some ENERGY STAR-rated appliances cost more to purchase, but the cost to operate them is less because these models use less energy.

Products that have earned the ENERGY STAR have the highest energy-efficiency rating a product can earn so they are cheaper to use and don't sacrifice performance. Using less energy also helps protect the environment.

To help you purchase energy efficient appliances, Princeton Public Utilities (PPU) offers rebates on the following ENERGY STAR-rated products:

Clothes Washers – ENERGY STAR-qualified clothes washers use up to 40% less energy and 50% less water than conventional clothes washers saving you about \$550 in operating costs over their lifetime. Astonishingly, an ENERGY STAR clothes washer can save up to 7,000 gallons of water per year, which is more water than most people will drink in their lifetime. PPU offers a

\$50 - \$100 rebate on the purchase of an ENERGY STAR-rated clothes washer.

Refrigerators & Freezers – ENERGY STAR-qualified refrigerators use half as much energy as a typical 10-year old model. ENERGY STAR-qualified freezers use at least 10% less energy than conventional models. PPU offers a \$25 rebate on the purchase of ENERGY STAR-rated refrigerators and freezers plus an additional rebate of up to \$50 to cover the recycling cost of your energy-guzzling, working unit.

Dishwashers – ENERGY STAR-qualified dishwashers use at least 41% less energy than the federal minimum standard for energy consumption. These models also use less water and can reduce water heating costs by up to 20%. PPU offers a \$25 - \$40 rebate on the purchase of an ENERGY STAR-rated dishwasher.

Dehumidifiers – PPU offers a \$65 rebate for the purchase of an ENERGY STAR dehumidifier when you properly recycle your old, working unit.

Central Air Conditioners and Air Source Heat Pumps – ENERGY STAR-qualified central air conditioners and air source heat pumps are about 14% more efficient than standard models. PPU offers a minimum rebate of \$200 for ENERGY STAR-rated units, plus a bonus rebate for models with efficiencies above 14 SEER.

If you have purchased an Energy Star appliance this year or plan to don't forget to take advantage of PPU rebates.

Be Aware of Phone and Email Scams



Utility companies are reporting an increase in scams aimed at customers. **We are aware of it happening in Princeton.**

Scammers use various tactics to con customers into providing payment. Posing as a utility employee scammers have been known to: Require victims to pay using a pre-paid debit card, Manipulate caller ID, and email customer's phony utility bills with a link to make the payment.

Be suspicious if a caller insists on the use of a pre-paid debit card or an immediate payment of any kind. HANG UP and contact Princeton Public Utilities at 763-389-2252 to verify your account status. We welcome the call to verify your account status or with any other questions you have. Report the attempted scam to local law enforcement.

An advertisement for online bill payment. It features a laptop displaying a website interface. Above the laptop are logos for Discover and Visa. To the right of the laptop, the text reads "Pay your bill online Go Paperless! Going paperless is fast, easy, and secure." Below this text is a large, dark arrow pointing to the right with the words "PAY HERE" written in white capital letters.

Pay Online

We offer online payments .
Go to Princeton Public Utilities website:
www.princetonutilities.com
and click on **Pay Here**. *Easy and Secure.*