WATER NATURAL GAS ELECTRIC WASTEWATER FPUANET

FPUA Customer Connections

August 2021

Staying Ahead of the Storms

Mid-August through late October marks the peak of hurricane season. Being prepared helps you stay ahead of the storm. You have your hurricane kit stocked, plans for evacuation, household documents in order, and taken the necessary steps to protect your home and business. Now what? We all have experienced power outages when severe weather hits. The following simple tips can help you know what to do before, during, and after a power outage.

Prepare Before an Outage

- Take inventory of the items you need that rely on electricity, especially refrigerated medicines and medical devices.
- Plan for batteries and other alternatives to meet your needs.
- Use a thermometer in your refrigerator and freezer so you know the temperature when the power is restored.
- Keep mobile phones and other electronic equipment charged and gas tanks full.
- Monitor local TV and radio broadcasts for up-to-date emergency information.

Survive During an Outage

- Continue to monitor local broadcast media for updates. Typically updates from FPUA can be heard along with county updates.
- Do not go outside or drive around. Stay in your safe room with few or no windows in the center of the house.
- For your safety, use battery-powered flashlights and lanterns, rather than candles, gas lanterns, or torches.
- Keep freezers and refrigerators closed to help maintain coldness. Use thermometers to monitor temperature. Use food supplies that do not require any refrigeration.
- Generators, camp stoves, or grills should be used at least 20 feet away from windows and doors.
- Turn off or disconnect appliances, electronics, or equipment. Power may return with momentary surges or spikes that can cause damage.

Be Safe After an Outage

- Obey curfews and don't go outside until authorities have declared the area safe.
- Notify FPUA about downed power lines as soon as possible. Never go near or touch downed power lines. They could be energized, along with the water and ground around them. Never trim trees or try to remove branches from power lines, notify FPUA of any trees or limbs near power lines.
- You may see FPUA trucks in your neighborhood as soon as it is safe outside. First, they will assess the damage, develop a plan to repair the system, and then begin repairs.
- Monitor power restoration efforts at www.fpua.com, or on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/teamFPUA.
- Discard any foods or medicines that have an unusual odor, color, or texture, or have been exposed to higher temperatures.

Our Florida Partner

FPUA is a registered partner with of OUR Florida, a federally-funded relief program focused on supporting residents and businesses as they continue to recover and rebuild. This emergency relief program is designed to provide renters who qualify with relief on unpaid rent and utility bills. OUR Florida supports landlords and utilities with relief for lost revenue to support their continued recovery. Eligible tenants and landlords can apply online at www.OURFlorida.com.

OUR FLORIDA

NEW Update From SeacoastBank

Seacoast Bank updated their remittance address to expedite delivery of FPUA bill payments. If you pay using your bank website, please update to the new express remittance address:

Fort Pierce Utilities Authority
c/o Seacoast Bank
PO Box 628221
Mail Code
2037
Orlando, FL 32862-8221

Don't take a chance on your payment being delayed, update to this express remittance address today!

Manatee Center brings Seagrass Restoration to Moore's Creek

Did you know that the Florida manatee population is in peril? A record-breaking 850 manatees were found deceased between January and July of this year, many sick or starving from lack of natural food sources in the Indian River Lagoon (IRL).

It's a fact that seagrass beds in the IRL have been declining for many years and are continuing to decline at an alarming rate. This decline is caused in part by algal blooms that block sunlight from reaching the depths of our waterways. Seagrasses are a vital part of the marine ecosystem and depend on sunlight to survive.

What can we do? In Spring 2022, the Treasure Coast Manatee Foundation and Manatee Observation & Education Center are bringing environmental restoration experts from Sea & Shoreline to install seagrass plantings in the mouth of Moore's Creek. Continuous monitoring is needed as it can take seagrass plantings up to three years to establish a healthy population.

To learn more about this important environmental restoration project, seagrasses, and manatees, visit https://mtyc.co/4cdyxf or www.ManateeEducationCenter.org.

We appreciate your support!

MANATEE OBSERVATION AND EDUCATION CENTER
Explore. Educate. Inspire.

TREASURE COAST MANATEE FOUNDATION

a community thrives
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

SEA & SHORELINE
aquatic restoration

FPUA has proudly supported the Manatee Observation & Education Center since 1996. Environmental outreach and education is a fundamental part of fulfilling FPUA's mission to 'improve the quality of life in our community'. Visit www.FPUA.com to learn more.

FREE Water Heater!

Did you know that the average consumer can save approximately half of their monthly water heating cost by switching from an electric water heater to a natural gas water heater?

FPUA is offering a free 40-gallon tanked water heater to any residential customer that installs natural gas service or is making the switch from electric/propane to natural gas water heating. This valuable offer will help lower the initial costs of installing natural gas.

Rebates on other natural gas appliances are available up to a maximum incentive of $800 per home.

If you are interested in exploring the benefits of natural gas, please contact Billy Dupre, Gas Operations Business Development Representative at 772-466-1600, ext. 4705. Contact us online at www.fpuagas.com and click on *Request a Quote.* Start on your path to savings, today!

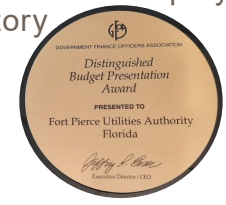
FPUA Wins National Award

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) announced that Fort Pierce Utilities Authority has received GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the FY2021 Annual Budget. This is the 25th consecutive year that FPUA has received this award. The FPUA Department of Finance was also presented a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation for being primarily responsible for having achieved the award.

This award represents significant achievements by FPUA staff, reflecting commitment to meet the highest principles of governmental budgeting. To receive the award, FPUA had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines designed to assess how well the budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications document, as well as display proficiency in the fourteen mandatory criteria within those categories.

Find out more at www.GFOA.org.

Congratulations, FPUA, on this significant achievement!



FPUA
COMMUNITY PROUD

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US.

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Like us on Facebook - www.facebook.com/teamFPUA

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