KANSAS CITY BPU

# CONNECTION

*Our mission: to focus on the needs of our customers, to improve the quality of life in our community while promoting safe, reliable and sustainable utilities.*

Serving the Water and Electric Needs of Kansas City, Kansas

SUMMER 2023



## Water Conservation

### *Reduce Usage and Costs*

The heat and humidity of summer is near, a time when water usage and consumption can go up. With a little effort, you can not only help conserve this precious natural resource but also reduce the energy usage needed to process and deliver water to homes and businesses in our community. Efficient water use can have environmental, public health, and economic benefits by helping improve water quality, maintains ecosystems, and protect drinking water resources.

Reducing one's water consumption can also lead to a reduction in overall utility costs. There are simple ways to reduce both water and energy usage during the hot summer months, take a few minutes to learn how. *See page 7 for savings tips.*

## DID YOU KNOW?

- **A steadily dripping faucet can waste 2,000 gallons of water a year.**
- **Household water use has jumped 500% in the past 50 years.**
- **Each year Kansans use enough water to fill 60 million swimming pools.**

**Kansas Water Office*

## Meeting the Needs of Our Community

BPU continues to work with customers that experience financial hardship and those that have difficulty in making utility payments, offering access to various financial assistance programs and resources, as well as flexible payment programs.

As a local, not-for-profit municipal utility, BPU understands the needs of the community and the unique circumstances that it faces – and is continually looking for new ways to meet the needs of all its customers.

*For more information, see page 7*

## 2023 WATER QUALITY REPORT

*See Pages 8-11*

# FEDERAL UPDATE

In order to accomplish its mission of ensuring safe, reliable, affordable, and sustainable utilities, BPU works closely with policymakers and other officials at the state and federal levels to identify programs, resources, and policies that benefit utility customers and improve the overall quality of life in the community. Issues range from infrastructure funding to regulatory matters, supply chain concerns, climate change, renewable energy, water safety, and numerous others.

## Old Water Main Replacement

Recently, Senator Jerry Moran (KS) announced a federal investment of $10 million to help BPU replace outdated water mains in older areas of Kansas City, KS. In a press conference at BPU headquarters, the senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee announced the funding in the form of an EPA STAG Grant, which will be utilized to replace 50+ year old galvanized water mains (1"-4"), helping improve water flow capacity and reducing the more than 500 leaks/breaks that occur annually in these older lines. Coupled with BPU's on-going capital improvement plan this one-time injection of federal funding will help expedite the utility's on-going main replacement efforts, reduce public safety risks from potential low/no water pressure, and act as a catalyst for new housing/economic growth and improved health outcomes.


## Emergency Electric Back-Up Generator

Rep. Sharice Davids (KS) also helped secure $3.7 million in federal funding for the purchase of a new emergency back-up generator at BPU's Nearman Water Treatment Plant (NWTP). The generator will ensure the continuity of water service operations in the utility's primary water treatment facility in the event of electric service disruption, be it natural disaster, accident, or intentional act. If NWTP were to go off-line, it could pose a significant health risk to the community and cause severe economic disruption. The funds were secured with Rep. Davids' assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and will help meet critical infrastructure, resiliency, and security requirements.

A special thanks to Sen. Moran and Rep. Davids, as well as all local, state, and federal officials who work every day to help better this not-for-profit public utility, as well as the community in which we live.

# BPU | *president's letter*

**ROSE MULVANY HENRY**
President
BPU Board of Directors

On behalf of the Board of Directors and BPU employees, I am pleased to share with you this BPU Connection newsletter with helpful information about the utility, its programs, and accomplishments at the mid-point of 2023. The newsletter continues the organization's on-going commitment to communications, engagement and outreach to our customers and the community.

BPU has been meeting the electric and water needs of Wyandotte County for more than a century, remaining committed to ensuring safe, reliable, and sustainable utilities – while working to improve the quality of life for the community and its residents as well.

I'm pleased to share that BPU has once again exceeded all state and federal water quality standards for safe drinking water as outlined in the *2023 Water Quality Report*. The utility continues to invest in its aging water infrastructure, which includes 1,000+ miles of water lines, three pump stations, and several reservoirs/tanks – ensuring safe, dependable water service to every part of BPU's 150 square mile service area. Conservation of this natural resource is also important, so always consider ways to reduce your water consumption which in turn may lower costs as we enter the summer months.

As a public utility, BPU strives to be a socially responsible partner in the community, recognized for its on-going philanthropic, environmental stewardship, volunteerism, and community engagement efforts. This includes: BPU's Summer Youth Program which has helped employ thousands of youth throughout our community; the Annual Charity Golf Tournament which has raised nearly $730,000 to date; and the BPU Hardship and Utility Assistance Programs to help those that might need a hand. Moreover, with 48% of all its energy now coming from renewable sources like wind, solar, and hydro power, BPU is one of the "greenest" public utilities in the nation – operating the first municipal Community Solar Farm in the state and reducing its overall coal consumption by 62% from 2007-2020.

As always, BPU and its employees who all live, work, and play here in our community appreciate the opportunity to serve you and remain committed to providing the best service possible. And remember, for the latest information about BPU, including account details, outage maps, or to watch Board Meetings which are now livestreamed, go to www.BPU.com or follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

# THE BENEFITS OF A PUBLIC

## RELIABILITY

BPU staff can respond quickly to community needs and emergencies because they all live right here in the community. It is a recipient of numerous recognitions and awards for Safety and Reliability, Social Responsibility and Environmental Stewardship, and Fiscal Transparency.

## COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP

Municipal utilities are customer-owned and operated and measured by how much money stays in the community, not profits for private stockholders.

## LOCAL CONTROL

Business decisions are made by local BPU management and staff, while policy matters are made by six locally elected Board members. All Board meetings and hearings are open to the public, either in person or online, and the public can also address the Board if they wish.

## COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

Municipal utilities like BPU contribute far more to the community monetarily than simply providing electric and water service. From its Charity Golf tournament to its Summer Youth Program, to the $10 million in value-added services it provides the UG by maintaining 19,000 streetlights, 2,500 traffic signals, 6,200 fire hydrants, the county's first-responder radio system and more – the public nature of BPU has paid dividends to our community again and again.

# BPU | *general manager's report*

**BILL JOHNSON**
General Manager

As a publicly-owned utility, BPU is constantly evaluating how to best meet the electric and water needs of the community – both today and in the future. We are continually working to improve customer service, identify new efficiencies, reduce costs, support community partners, offer new products and technologies, and expand community outreach and engagement efforts.

Today, BPU is regarded as one of the top municipal utilities in the nation – with customers enjoying the unique benefits that being a public vs. privately-owned utility offers. Moreover, BPU has been recognized nationally on numerous occasions for being best-in-class in the services it offers, most recently when its website BPU.com received the "Gold Stevie" at the American Business Awards for its functionality, ease-of-use, and helpful customer content.

In May, BPU celebrated *National Drinking Water Week* to promote and highlight the importance of safe, reliable, and potable water in our daily lives – and to highlight conservation of this natural resource. From hygiene and health needs, to keeping businesses and the economy running, to public safety fighting fires, we sometimes take for granted the fact that water is so readily available. But this critical public service wouldn't be available without the men and women of BPU who work 24/7/365 to ensure access to public water whenever and wherever it is needed.

With an aging water infrastructure, some of it 60-90 years old, BPU is undertaking significant capital improvements to replace older water lines and prepare for future customer demand and growth needs across its entire service area. Studies show that more than $135 million will be needed over the next five years to keep the water system running, and to meet regulatory requirements as well as future customer demand. At the same time, external studies show that BPU's aging electrical system will need more than $180 million in capital improvements to maintain its integrity, ensure reliable service, and meet future demand requirements.

In coming weeks, BPU will hold meetings and hearings to discuss revenue requirements, potential rate adjustments, billing processes, capital improvement projects, reserve requirements, and more. For more information and resources about this process, go to www.bpu.com or see pages 4-6 in the BPU Connection.

## BPU's Summer Youth Program

***25 years of making a difference!***

Every year, BPU helps hundreds of area youth receive summer employment, development, and training opportunities right here in Wyandotte County. First launched in 1998, this popular program has transitioned in form over the years, though its objective has always remained the same – assisting thousands of area young people by helping them find employment over the summer and preparing them for the future.

**"This program provides a tremendous service to the community, helping prepare our youth for future careers."**
**- The Armourdale Renewal Assoc.**

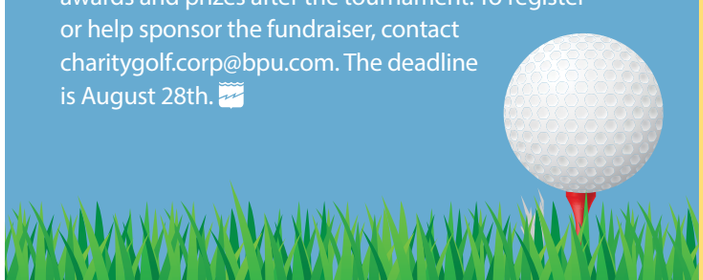
Today, BPU partners with local nonprofits to connect youth with the business community, helping these kids learn the skills they'll need for college or their first job. In coordination with the UG's designated Neighborhood Business Revitalization (NBR) groups, the emphasis is at-risk and lower income youth. In 2023, BPU is helping 9 area non-profits assist hundreds of local youth in the community.

## UTILITY

As a not-for-profit municipal utility, BPU functions differently than private or investor-owned utilities – which can make a difference in your life. It means that BPU operates as a "community enterprise", which holds down costs and allows all citizens to take part in making decisions about utility services. For more than 100 years, BPU has provided reliable, safe, and dependable electric and water service to the people of Wyandotte County, reflecting the public service nature of our mission. As a public utility, BPU answers to Main Street not Wall Street – and will continue to do what's best for its customers and the local community, just as it always has.

## 2023 BPU Charity Golf Tourney Registration Now Open!

The BPU Employee Charity Golf Corp. will host its Annual Charity Golf Tournament on Saturday, September 9, 2023, at Dub's Dread Golf Course in KCK. This popular event has raised $728,000 to date for local children's nonprofits in WyCo. This year's event kicks off with registration and a continental breakfast at 7:00 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 8:00 a.m. The team entry fee is $500.00, which includes greens fees, cart, continental breakfast, refreshments on the course, and awards and prizes after the tournament. To register or help sponsor the fundraiser, contact charitygolf.corp@bpu.com. The deadline is August 28th.



## What is the PILOT and why is it on my BPU Bill?

Under the Unified Government (UG) Charter ordinance, the UG can assess a payment-in-lieu of taxes (PILOT) of between 5-15% on BPU gross revenues due to its tax-exempt status, as BPU doesn't pay property taxes or franchise fees as an agency of the UG. The PILOT is added on to and collected via BPU's monthly utility bill as a rate rider, as are several other UG charges for things like wastewater, storm water, trash, etc., which are then transferred to the UG each month. The PILOT rate is determined by the UG as part of its annual budget, currently set at 11.9% which totals around $37 million annually.

KANSAS CITY BPU
THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

# 2023 Electric Rate Proposal

## Background:

- BPU is required to complete a *Cost of Service (COS) Rate Study* to determine if existing rates will support future operating and capital needs, as well as reserve requirements over the next 5 years.
- A public hearing process has been initiated to determine what, if any, electric rate adjustments should be implemented.
- Meetings and the hearing process will provide opportunities to discuss rate adjustments, billing processes, capital improvement projects, reserve requirements, and other matters required to meet the future energy needs of our community.

## What's Being Proposed:

- An external study recommends an overall 2.5% increase in electric base rates beginning July 1, 2023 and 2.5% on July 1, 2024.
- Creation of a Green Rider that allows Large Commercial and Industrial customers to purchase energy with environmental attributes to meet renewable energy goals.
- Modifying the ERC Rider to allow for additional recovery to build and maintain the new ERC reserve fund.

## Why This Is Necessary:

- BPU's electrical system needs more than $180 million in capital improvements to maintain the integrity of the utility's electrical system, ensuring dependable service and meeting future demand requirements.
- ***BPU hasn't adjusted electric rates since 2018.***
- Postponing a rate adjustment may cause service disruptions and cost even more.
- Inflationary pressure on costs of outside services, materials, and labor have increased.
- The COS study recommends BPU increasing operating reserve funds to 120 days of cash-on-hand.
- BPU won't be able to finance future capital projects and meet reserve and debt service requirements without additional revenue.
- Without a strong credit rating, BPU won't be able to borrow money for capital improvements at a reasonable interest rate.

## BPU: Fiscal Responsibility

- BPU continues working to reduce spending, increase efficiencies, and improve overall customer service – without impacts on reliability or future growth requirements.

## BPU: A Community Asset

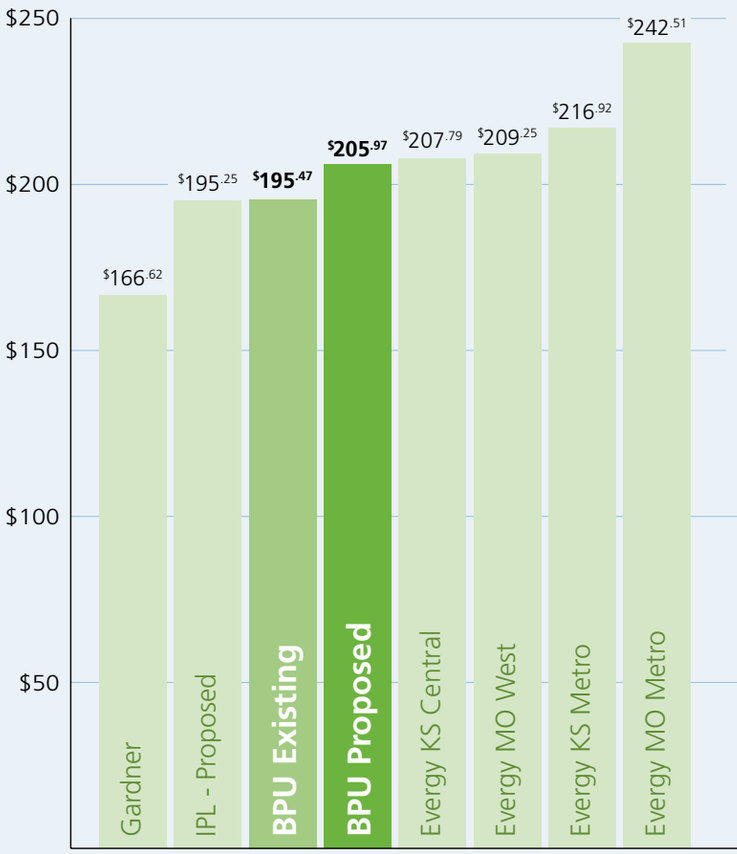
- One of the top-ranked publicly owned utilities in the country, BPU has provided affordable and reliable energy to the community for over 100 years.
- Nationally recognized for community service, social responsibility, and volunteerism – including the Summer Youth Program, providing millions in utility assistance, the Annual BPU Charity Golf Tournament, and more.
- Servicing 65,000 electric customers – with two power stations, 29 substations, 16,500 transformers, 3,000 miles of electrical lines, 19,000 streetlights, and 5,300 traffic signal heads.

## Critical Capital Improvement Projects:
*(2023-27) = $180 million*

- Electric Transmission – $15.8 million
- Electric Substations – $20.4 million
- Electric Overhead Distribution – $52.8 million
- Electric Underground Distribution – $14.5 million
- Electric General Construction - $8.8 million
- Electric Transformers - $14.5 million
- Nearman Power Plant Unit 1 – $29.3 million

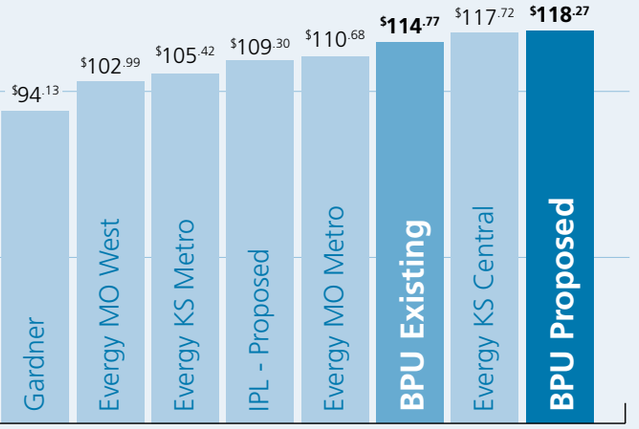
**Based on governance procedures, BPU has set advance notic**
**review potential adjustments to meet future needs of the u**

## Typical Residential Monthly Electric Bill-Summer

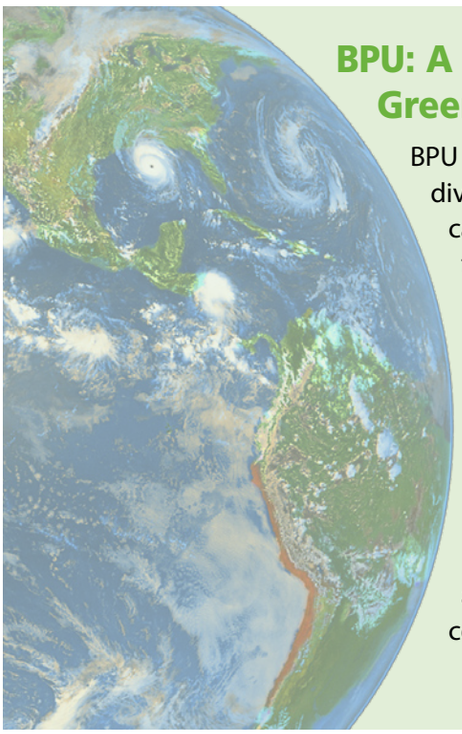



*Total Bill - 1500 kWh Excluding PILOT - *Summer*


## Typical Residential Monthly Electric Bill-Winter




*Total Bill - 820 kWh Excluding PILOT - *Winter*



## BPU: A Recognized Green Energy Leader

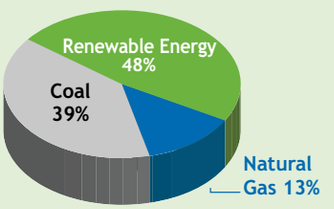
BPU has worked aggressively to diversify its energy generation capabilities in recent years, shifting toward renewable energy sources like wind, hydropower, landfill gas, and solar.

Today, 48% of BPU power generation now comes from "green energy", including wind, solar, hydro, and landfill gas – enough energy to power 135,000 homes in our community and reducing the utility's coal consumption 62% from 2007-2020.

## The *NEW* "Green Rider" Program

While Residential customers and Small General Service customers can currently access renewable energy through BPU's Community Solar Farm, a new "Green Rider" program now being offered will also allow the largest commercial and industrial customers to purchase energy with Environmental Attributes (EA) to meet their renewable energy goals. Eligible customers with demand of 2.5 MW or greater can now access up to 200 MW of renewable energy by signing up for this innovative and voluntary program.

### BPU Generation Output by Fuel Mix




**ce of public rate hearings on June 14-15, 2023 to discuss and utility and community. For more information, go to BPU.com**

KANSAS CITY BPU
THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

# 2023 Water Rate Proposal

## Background:

- An outside *Cost of Service (COS) Rate Study* has been conducted to determine if existing rates will support future water utility operating and capital needs over the next five years.
- A public hearing process has been initiated to determine what, if any, water rate adjustments should be implemented.
- Meetings and a public hearing process will provide opportunities to discuss rate adjustments and capital improvement projects required to meet the future water needs of our community.

## What's Being Proposed:

- An external study recommends a 6% increase in water base rates beginning July 1, 2023, 6% on July 1, 2024, and 6% on July 1, 2025.
- Adjustments will vary among customer groups based on cost of service and usage levels.

## Why This Is Necessary:

- BPU's water system needs $135 million in capital improvements to keep it running efficiently, and to meet regulatory requirements as well as future demand.
- Inflationary pressure on costs of outside services, materials, and labor have increased.
- Postponing improvements may cause service disruptions, impact public safety, and cost more.
- BPU will not be able to adequately finance capital projects and meet reserve and debt service requirements without additional revenue.
- Without a strong credit rating, BPU won't be able to borrow money for capital improvements at a reasonable rate.

## Impact on Customers:

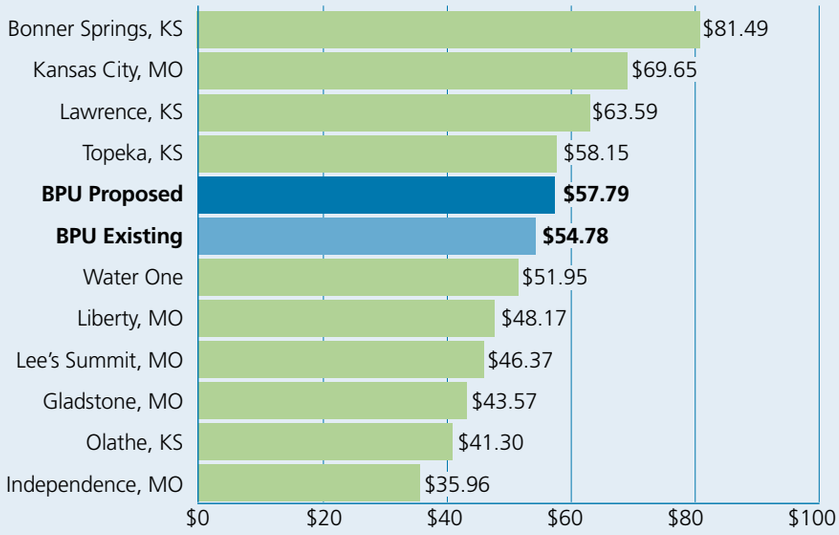
- The average residential customer's bill will increase approximately $2.00 a month in 2023 under this proposal. This equals approximately 7 cents a day.*

**will vary depending on consumption use*

## BPU: Competitive Rates

- ***BPU has not increased water rates since 2013,*** while other utilities have repeatedly proposed and implemented increases.
- Water rates are competitive with other surrounding utilities.

### Typical Monthly Water Bills




**7,000 Gallons Billable Water Usage*
***748 Gallons = CCF*

## BPU: Fiscal Responsibility

- BPU continues working to reduce spending, increase efficiencies, and improve overall customer service.

## BPU: A Community Asset

- One of the top-ranked water utilities in the country, BPU has provided affordable reliable water to the community for over 100 years.
- Servicing 53,000 water customers – with one Water Treatment Facility, three pump stations (72 MG a day), 1,000 miles of water lines, 6,200 fire hydrants - 20 MG of water in reservoirs/ tanks.

## Critical Capital Improvement Projects:

*(2023-27) = $135 million*

- Water Distribution = $46.9 million
- Water Storage and Transmission = $44.2 million
- Water Equipment = $4.3 million
- Water Services = $13.8 million
- Water Facility Improvements = $3.1 million
- Water Production Projects = $11.2 million
- Water Meters = $3.5 million
- Water Developmental Mains = $1.8 million

# How to Reduce ENERGY USAGE This Summer

As we enter the summer months, here are some tips to beat the heat, lower usage, and reduce your carbon footprint:

- ✓ **Give your air conditioner a checkup.** The efficiency of your cooling system is one of the biggest factors in reducing energy costs. Clearing or cleaning a clogged A/C unit filter can save 5 to 15% in energy use and will help keep the unit in proper working order.
- ✓ **Adjust your thermostat.** Keep your thermostat at a temperature just cool enough to keep you comfortable, and then bump it up one degree! One study found that each degree a thermostat is set above 75$^0$F could save 10-15% in energy used.
- ✓ **Use fans instead of/or to supplement A/C.** Fans use 1/60th the energy of an air conditioner. While they don't cool the air, they pull body heat away from your skin, and can be used in conjunction with air conditioning, letting you raise your thermostat a few degrees while remaining comfortable. Ceiling fans make rooms feel four degrees cooler.
- ✓ **Use electricity during off-peak hours.** The time of day you use electricity is also important. Shifting energy use to "off peak" hours – early morning or late at night – you can help reduce load on the grid and lower energy costs.
- ✓ **Unplug devices.** Unplugging devices or using smart power strips can help reduce energy costs by eliminating "phantom" or "standby" electricity that appliances, chargers, and standard power strips use, even when not in use.
- ✓ **Block the sun with shades and drapes.** When fully pulled down and closed over a window with a lot of sun exposure, blinds can reduce heat gain by up to 45%.
- ✓ **Close doors & vents.** Closing doors and A/C vents in rooms that are not in use can help make your cooling system more efficient, and cuts back on cooling rooms no one is in or closets.
- ✓ **Plants provide much needed shade.** Planting shrubs and trees on the south and west sides of your house, or at least over your outdoor A/C unit, can make your cooling system up to 10% more efficient.

# How to Reduce WATER CONSUMPTION This Summer

There are a few simple things you can do to conserve water and reduce water consumption this summer, including:

## INSIDE YOUR HOME:

### In the kitchen:

- ✓ When cooking peel and clean vegetables in a large bowl of water instead of under running water.
- ✓ Fill your sink or basin when washing and rinsing dishes.
- ✓ Only run the dishwasher when it's full.
- ✓ Only use the garbage disposal when necessary (composting is a great alternative).
- ✓ Install faucet aerators.

### In the bathroom:

- ✓ Take short showers instead of baths.
- ✓ Turn off the water to brush teeth, shave and soap up in the shower. Fill the sink to shave.
- ✓ Repair leaky toilets. Add 12 drops of food coloring into the tank, and if color appears in the bowl one hour later your toilet is leaking.
- ✓ Install a toilet dam, faucet aerators and low-flow showerheads.

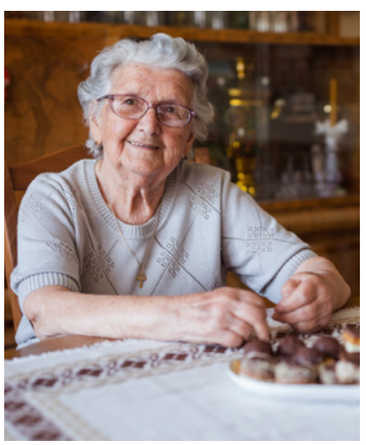
### Laundry:

- ✓ Run full loads of laundry.
- ✓ When buying a washing machine, get a water saver model that can adjust to the load size.

## OUTSIDE YOUR HOME:

- ✓ Set the mower blades to 2-3 inches high. Longer grass shades the soil improving moisture retention.
- ✓ Only water the lawn when necessary. Avoid doing so on windy and hot days and only water in the morning or late evening to reduce evaporation.
- ✓ When washing a car wet it quickly, then use a bucket of water to wash the car and only turn on the hose to final rinse.
- ✓ Always use a broom to clean walkways, driveways, and porches rather than hosing off these areas.

# Utility Assistance Programs *continued from page 1*



**Utility Payment Arrangement Options** – BPU will work with customers on payment options. The sooner a customer reaches out, the more BPU and others can do to assist. We understand that special circumstances arise and will work to assist whenever possible. Simply call **913-573-9145** to inquire.

**Customer Payment Hardship Program** – This program can assist in offsetting utility expenses related to unemployment/income status, health emergencies, etc. Administered by the United Way, call the Hardship Hotline at **913-371-6772** or **2-1-1** for more info and eligibility requirements.

**Utility Assistance Program** – BPU provides funding disbursed via the United Way to several human service partner agencies including Avenue of Life, El Centro, Cross-Lines, and others. More than 1,500 families have utilized these services, simply dial **2-1-1**.

**Community Assistance Programs** – Numerous organizations and programs are available to provide utility assistance as needed, including the Salvation Army, the LIHEAP fund, and others. Go to www.bpu.com for more info.

# Kansas City Board of Public Utilities


The mission of the Water Division of the Kansas City Board of Public Utilities (BPU) is to have available upon demand, to all of our customers, good quality water and to provide that water in the most efficient manner possible. For more than 100 years, BPU has provided this community with quality water. We are proud to continue this mission and hope that you find this water report useful and informative.

BPU is one of the top rated public water utilities in the country. In recent years, BPU was one of only a handful to once again receive the ***Partnership for Safe Water Directors Award.*** The Partnership for Safe Water is a voluntary program between BPU (as well as other participating water utilities) and the following water authorities: the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the American Water Works Association, the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies and the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators, all of whom help to sponsor the program.

The program was established to provide safe, high-quality drinking water to the public that exceeds certain EPA regulations. Less than one percent of all utilities nationwide receive this award, and BPU was the first and only utility in the metro area to receive this honor.

BPU has also received the Platinum Award for Utility Excellence from the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA), one of a select few utilities in the country to receive this recognition. The award recognized BPU's accomplishments in applying competitive business strategies to meet the expectations of drinking water consumers and municipal leaders. AMWA is the organization for the nation's largest public drinking water utilities.

## We want our valued customers to be informed!

The Kansas City Board of Public Utilities (BPU) serves over 51,000 water customers in a service area of approximately 152 square miles. This service area includes Kansas City, Kansas, Edwardsville, southern Leavenworth County, parts of Bonner Springs and a small section of northern Johnson County. BPU's state-of-the art water system has the capacity to pump 72 million gallons of water a day (MGD), including one water treatment facility; three major pump stations; 1,000 miles of water pipes and two of the nation's largest horizontal collector wells.

This report describes the quality of your drinking water and how BPU complies with water regulations that protect your health.

This document also complies with the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act, which requires water utilities to provide water quality information to customers every year.

To learn more, visit BPU's web site at www.bpu.com, or go to the Environmental Protection Agency Web site at www.epa.gov/safewater. Visitors are also welcome to attend BPU's regularly scheduled Board meetings, usually held on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m., at 540 Minnesota Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas. To confirm the exact date and time of the next BPU Board meeting, call (913) 573-9024.

For questions about BPU water quality, please call BPU's Water Processing Division at (913) 573-9272.

**Sources of drinking water** (both tap water and bottled water) generally include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves organic and inorganic minerals, and may pick up radioactive material and substances resulting from animal or human activity.

BPU's water comes from the Missouri River watershed, which represents nearly one-sixth of the area of the continental United States. The Missouri River carries runoff from predominantly rural, non-industrialized regions. BPU water is collected and filtered through two horizontal collector wells in an aquifer deep below the Missouri River.

Before this "raw" water turns into drinking water, it is cleaned, treated and tested at BPU's Nearman Water Treatment Plant. The plant opened in 2000, and offers the latest treatment and technology methods available. Once the water meets or surpasses all regulations, it is then distributed through underground pipes to our customers.

BPU also has water interconnections with Kansas City, Missouri and Johnson County (Kansas) Water District No. 1 (WaterOne). Both of these water systems also use the Missouri River as their water supply source.

## Is your water safe to drink? Yes it is!

BPU's water quality consistently exceeds all federal and state standards. Federal and state regulations include procedures and schedules to monitor water from the source to the tap. The Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE) assures that the state's public water systems comply with all regulations, follow monitoring schedules and report results. Certified by the State of Kansas, BPU's laboratory

monitors the physical, chemical and microbiological characteristics of the utility's water. In addition, the Operating Staff of the Nearman Water Treatment Plant is state-certified by KDHE.

During the 2022 calendar year, BPU is proud to have had no violation(s) of any federal or state drinking water regulations.

**BPU's Laboratory Services Division** monitors the quality of the drinking water as it leaves the treatment plant and also at customers' taps to assure that the water is safe to drink. Currently there are 1,200 regular sampling sites distributed widely around our community.

To produce the highest quality water for its customers, BPU subjects it to rigorous treatment to assure that sediment, harmful bacteria, protozoan parasites, and certain minerals are removed. BPU regularly tests its water using sophisticated equipment and scientifically advanced procedures.

## Are *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* in my tap water?

These organisms have never been found in BPU's treated water. BPU's water treatment process uses multiple barriers to prevent the risk of these protozoan parasites being found in customer's finished water.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as individuals with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone an organ transplant, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, and some elderly persons and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

In addition, the Safe Drinking Water Hotline offers guidelines from the EPA/Centers for Disease Control on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants. For information, call EPA's toll-free number at (800) 426-4791, or go to their Web site at www.epa.gov/safewater.

### Monitored at Customer's Tap

Monitored June - Sept. 2020[1]

| BPU Surpassed Standards | Substance | Units | MCL | MCLG | 90th Percentile | Range Detected | Sites Over AL | Likely Source |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ✓ | Copper[1] | ppm | AL=1.3 | 1.3 | 0.490 | 0.042-0.900 | 0 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives |
| ✓ | Lead[1] | ppm | AL=0.015 | 0 | 0.0044 | <0.0005-0.0078 | 0 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits |

* If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Your water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

### Monitored in the Distribution System

Monitored Jan. - Dec. 2022

| BPU Surpassed Standards | Substance | Units | MCL | MCLG | Average Detected | Highest RAA | Range Detected | Likely Source |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ✓ | Chloramines | ppm | 4.0 | 4.0 | 2.58[2] | 2.84 | 1.20-3.60 | Water additive used to control microbes |
| ✓ | Chlorite | ppm | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.43[2] | 0.50 | 0.32-0.50 | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| ✓ | HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) | ppb | 60 | N/A | 14[3] | 14 | 7-21 | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| ✓ | Total Coliform | % | Presence <5% of Samples | 0 | 1.35 | N/A | 0 - 4.9 | Naturally present in the environment |
| ✓ | TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) | ppb | 80 | N/A | 32[3] | 34 | 21-45 | By-product of drinking water chlorination |

### Monitored at the Treatment Plant Primary Drinking Water Contaminants

Monitored Jan. - Dec. 2022

| BPU Surpassed Standards | Substance | Units | MCL | MCLG | Average Detected | Range Detected | Likely Source |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ✓ | Atrazine | ppb | 3 | 3 | 0.108 | <0.05-0.430 | Runoff from herbicide used on row crops |
| ✓ | Barium | ppm | 2 | 2 | 0.094 | <0.002-0.140 | Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits |
| ✓ | Beta/photon emitters | pCi/L | 50[4] | 0 | 3.55 | 3.55 | Decay of natural and man-made deposits |
| ✓ | Chlorine dioxide | ppb | 800 | 800 | 100 | <100-280 | Water additive used to control microbes |
| ✓ | Chlorite | ppm | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.52[2] | 0.40-0.65 | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| ✓ | Cyanide | ppb | 200 | 200 | <5 | <5 | Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories |
| ✓ | Fluoride | ppm | 4 | 4 | 0.76 | 0.73-0.80 | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| ✓ | Gross Alpha emitters | pCi/L | 15 | 0 | <3.0 | <3.0 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| ✓ | Nitrate (as N) | ppm | 10 | 10 | 0.65 | 0.65 | Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| ✓ | Radium 226 | pCi/L | 5 | 0 | <1 | <1 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| ✓ | Radium 228 | pCi/L | 5 | 0 | <1 | <1 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| ✓ | Selenium | ppb | 50 | 50 | <5 | <5 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| ✓ | Total Organic Carbon | ratio[5] | TT Removal ratio >1 | N/A | 2.26[5] | 1.93-2.82 | Naturally present in the environment |
| ✓<br>✓ | Turbidity | NTU<br>% | TT=1.0 max TT<0.3 95% of the time | N/A | 0.07<br>100% | 0.03-0.12<br>100% | Soil runoff causes water cloudiness by suspended matter |
| | Uranium | ppb | 30 | 0 | 3.7 | 3.7 | Erosion of natural deposits |

1) BPU tap water has had very low levels of copper and lead. For this reason, KDHE placed BPU on a reduced-monitoring frequency of once every three years. The data presented in the report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the regulations.
2) Annual Average
3) Running Annual Average
4) EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.
5) The monthly Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal ratio is calculated as the ratio between the actual TOC removal and the TOC rule removal requirements. The ratio shown is the average of the ratios for the 12 months of this reporting period.

*Please Note: Because of sampling schedules, results may be older than 1 year*

## Regulations for Public Water Systems

BPU routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water. The following tables show monitoring results for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2022. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

**During the 2022 calendar year, BPU had no violation(s) of drinking water regulations.**

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426- 4791, or go to their Web site at www.epa.gov/safewater.

**Have questions about drinking water quality? Call or log-on to these resources:**

Kansas City Board of Public Utilities
Water Processing Division
Phone: (913) 573-9272 or (913) 573-9284
E-mail address: kdaggett@bpu.com
BPU Web site: www.bpu.com

## Laboratory Certification

The National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference (NELAC) is a cooperative association of state and federal agencies that establishes environmental laboratory performance standards. Its goal is to ensure environmental laboratories produce known high-quality data. This data can then form a solid foundation for public health and environmental management decisions.

BPU's laboratory has been nationally accredited under the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP). NELAP is the program that implements the NELAC standards. This is accomplished by state and federal agencies that act as Accrediting Authorities.

## Water Quality Data

The following tables list all of the drinking water contaminants which were detected during the 2022 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Unless noted, the data presented in this table is from the testing done January 1-December 31, 2022. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. **The bottom line is that the water that is provided to you is safe.**

## Additional Required Health Effects Language:

Total Organic Carbon (TOC) has no health effects. However, total organic carbon provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts. These byproducts include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Drinking water containing these byproducts in excess of the MCL may lead to adverse health effects, liver or kidney problems, or nervous system effects, and may lead to an increased risk of getting cancer.

Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit forms of radiation known as photons and beta radiation. Some people who drink water containing beta particle and photon radioactivity in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

### Monitored at the Treatment Plant
### Secondary Drinking Water Contaminants

Monitored Jan. - Dec. 2022

| BPU Surpassed Standards | Substance | Units | SMCL | Average Detected | Range Detected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ✓ | Alkalinity as $CaCO_3$ | ppm | NA | 212 | 180-270 |
| ✓ | Calcium | ppm | NA | 78 | 67-91 |
| ✓ | Chloride | ppm | 250 | 28 | 28 |
| ✓ | Specific Conductance | µmhos/cm | NA | 822 | 500-890 |
| ✓ | Total Hardness as $CaCO_3$ | ppm | NA | 280 | 280 |
| ✓ | Total Hardness as $CaCO_3$ | Grain/ Gallon | NA | 16.4 | 16.4 |
| ✓ | Magnesium | ppm | NA | 27 | 24-30 |
| ✓ | pH | S.U. | 6.5-8.5 | 7.5 | 7.1-7.6 |
| ✓ | O-Phosphate | ppm | NA | 0.61 | 0.46-0.71 |
| ✓ | Potassium | ppm | NA | 6.5 | 5.3-8.5 |
| ✓ | Silica | ppm | NA | 14 | 12-17 |
| ✓ | Sodium | ppm | NA | 63 | 53-74 |
| ✓ | Sulfate | ppm | 250 | 170 | 170 |
| ✓ | Total Dissolved Solids | ppm | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| ✓ | Metolachlor | ppb | NA | 0.08 | <0.05-0.24 |

Secondary contaminants are not regulated, but provide guidelines for producing good tasting and aesthetically pleasing water.

### *Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule
### Fourth Cycle (UCMR4)

Sampling Period July 2019-Sept. 2020

| Substance | Units | MRL | Average Detected | Range Detected |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Manganese | µg/L | 0.4 | 0.59 | 0.42-0.80 |
| Bromide | µg/L | 5 | 58 | 50-66 |
| Total Organic Carbon | mg/L | 0.3 | 2.8 | 2.6-3.1 |
| HAA5 | µg/L | - | 20 | 1.4-36 |
| HAA6Br | µg/L | - | 12 | 0.5-18 |
| HAA9 | µg/L | - | 30 | 1.9-50 |
| Chlorodibromoacetic Acid | µg/L | 0.3 | 1.32 | 0.30-1.80 |
| Bromodichloroacetic Acid | µg/L | 0.5 | 4.86 | 0.68-6 |
| Dibromoacetic Acid | µg/L | 0.3 | 1.11 | 0.61-1.70 |
| Monobromoacetic Acid | µg/L | 0.3 | 0.43 | 0.31-0.55 |
| Bromochloroacetic Acid | µg/L | 0.3 | 4.9 | 0.5-7.1 |
| Dichloroacetic Acid | µg/L | 0.2 | 10.31 | 1.4-20 |
| Tribromoacetic Acid | µg/L | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Trichloroacetic Acid | µg/L | 0.5 | 8.23 | 2.0-14 |

*Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the Agency should consider regulating those contaminants in the future.

## Definitions:

**Action Level (AL)** - the concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - the highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG—see below) as feasible, using the best available treatment technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** – the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** - the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** – the level of disinfectant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**MFL** – million fibers per liter.

**Micromhos per Centimeter (µmhos/cm)** – a measure of the ability of water to carry electric current.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** - a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTUs is just noticeable to the average person.

**Non-Detect (ND)** - laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not detected with present technology.

**Not applicable (N/A)** – the data does not apply for this contaminant and category.

**Parts per Million (ppm)** - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years, or one grain of salt in six ounces of tomato juice. It is the same as milligrams per liter, mg/L.

**Parts per Billion (ppb)** - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or one grain of salt in 55 gallons of tomato juice. It is the same as micrograms per liter, µg/L.

**Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L)** - a measure of the radioactivity in water.

**Running Annual Average (RAA)**- an average of sample results obtained over the most current 12 months and used to determine compliance with MCL's

**SMCL** – Secondary Maximum Contaminant level (or optimal range) set by KDHE.

**Standard Units (S.U.)** – a measuring unit for pH, based on hydrogen ion concentration.

**Treatment Technique (TT)** - a treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

## Useful phone numbers at BPU:

Water Processing Division ..... (913) 573-9272

General BPU number,
Monday – Friday (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) ..... (913) 573-9000

Customer Service (to turn service on or off, or for billing questions by telephone)

Monday - Friday (7 a.m. to 6 p.m.) ..... (913) 573-9190

Water Trouble ..... 913) 573-9622

Electric Trouble..... 913) 573-9522

## Environmental Protection Agency

Safe Drinking Water Hotline ..... (800) 426-4791

Web site: www.epa.gov/safewater

## Kansas Department of Health & Environment

Bureau of Water ..... (785) 296-5500

Web site: www.kdheks.gov/water/

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. Te Board of Public Utilities está de acuerdo con tadas las regulaciones gubermentales para su agua.

Kansas City Board of Public Utilities
540 Minnesota Avenue
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
(913) 573-9000
www.bpu.com

## What you should know about lead in drinking water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Kansas City Board of Public Utilities is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Some People who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

## The value of your tap water

Water is one of our most precious natural resources, and plays a critical role in our daily lives. There are a number of benefits to the safe reliable drinking water you enjoy, including:

**Public Health** – Safe water runs below our streets and to our homes, business, and workplaces 24 hours a day. BPU operates its own testing laboratory to monitor raw water quality as well as ensure water quality leaving the plant and in the distribution system, monitoring for contaminants and meeting the regulations for water safety and quality.

**Fire Protection** – In most communities, water flowing to fire hydrants is transported by the same system of mains, pumps, and storage tanks that deliver drinking water. One of the greatest values of BPU's water infrastructure is the fire protection it provides our community. BPU currently services and maintains 6,242 fire hydrants in our community.

**Economic Support** – It would be difficult, if not impossible, to grow a community or economy if safe water was not readily available. Current and future development depends on easy access to water, be it for residential use in homes, industrial uses in manufacturing facilities, or recreational uses like a large water park, a new resort casino, or a professional soccer stadium.

**Quality of Life** – Three percent of the tap water people use for drinking, with the other 97 percent used for other purposes including outdoor watering, bathroom uses, clothes washing, etc. Tap water is so much a part of our daily lives, most take it for granted. From making orange juice to washing fruit, from watering a garden to washing a car, within BPU's water service territory the water you need is always there when you need it – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

PARTNERSHIP FOR SAFE WATER
2009-2022

ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN WATER AGENCIES

KANSAS CITY BPU

540 Minnesota Avenue
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

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# WHAT'S NEW?

BPU was proud to host the *21st Public Power Lineworkers Rodeo* in Bonner Springs, KS in early April. The "Rodeo", which attracted 300 competitors from utilities across the nation, is the foremost showcase of lineworker skill and knowledge in the industry and a unique opportunity for lineworkers to attend training, and connect and learn from one another in a safe environment. Two of BPU's apprentices recorded the highest scores ever for our utility, and participants couldn't say enough about the training facilities and staff that volunteered throughout the weekend's educational event.

## BPU | BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Member-at-Large
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Member Second District
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**DAVID HALEY**
Member-at-Large
dhaley@bpu.com

## WHAT NUMBERS TO CALL:

| | |
|---|---|
| **Customer Service** | 573-9190 |
| Billing Inquiries by phone–7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday-Friday | 573-9190 |
| If your electricity is out | 573-9522 |
| If your water service is out | 573-9622 |
| If you need service turned on or off | 573-9190 |
| **Billing questions** | 573-9190 |
| If you need to make payment arrangements on your bill | 573-9145 |
| BPU Job Line | 573-6900 |
| BPU Ethics Commission Hotline | 271-6337 |
| To request public information | 573-9173 |
| If you have administrative questions | 573-9000 |
| Heat Pump Hotline | 573-9988 |
| If you need a "dig" check for electrical cables or water lines | 1-800-DIG-SAFE |
| Administrative Office Number | 573-9000 |
| Contact your BPU Board Member | 573-9025 |

# CONTACT US

### MAIN OFFICE

Kansas City Board of Public Utilities
540 Minnesota Avenue
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
Phone: (913) 573-9000
Visit our Website at: www.bpu.com

### OFFICE HOURS

**8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday**