

Connections

Our monthly newsletter for residential customers



October 2022

Powering forward. Together.

Your safety. Our priority.



Over the last few years, California has experienced some of the most destructive wildfires on record. Keeping you safe is our top priority.

While our risk of wildfires is low in SMUD's service area, due to our urban conditions, flat terrain and low fuel load, our hydroelectric project called the Upper American River Project (UARP), is located in a heavily forested and high fire risk area of El Dorado County. The UARP helps us deliver reliable, economical and carbon free power to SMUD customers through a system of dams, reservoirs and powerhouses.

We continue to work hard to keep our customers, community and employees safe through wildfire season. Our robust vegetation management program helps to mitigate any threat in our service area and around SMUD assets in surrounding areas. Our crews work year-round to enhance prevention efforts by inspecting, maintaining and clearing vegetation with high fuel loads and elevated fire risk.

Learn more about our wildfire mitigation efforts at smud.org/WildfireSafety. •

Stay on track with Bill Pay Your Way

We're always looking for ways to make things easier for our customers and give options wherever we can. That's why we offer Bill Pay Your Way, which combines our Budget Billing and Custom Due Date programs to give you more control over how you pay your bill.

Budget Billing takes the surprise out of your bill by setting it at the same monthly payment for a full year. A predictable bill can be very useful in budgeting your household expenses.

Custom Due Date gives you the flexibility of choosing a payment due date range that better matches your paydays or scheduled deposits.

Find out more and sign up online at smud.org/BillPayYourWay. •

Trees need water, too



Even under water use restrictions, the State of California recognizes the importance of keeping your trees watered and provides an exemption for watering trees. Help your trees stay healthy by giving them regular, deep and slow watering. During the hot months, many of our trees are suffering from drought stress – typical signs to look for are wilting leaves or leaves falling off from the top and branch ends. If your trees are showing any of these symptoms, it's time for a nice slow and deep watering.

More tree watering tips can be found by visiting sactree.org/Water. •

Free and fun workshops for you

Our Community Education & Technology Center offers free online classes taught by energy experts to give you all the information you need to be energy efficient, save money and make informed decisions.

Decarbonized, all-electric, zero energy, zero carbon homes, oh my! | Thursday, Nov. 3 | Noon – 1 p.m.

In communities all over California and beyond, the buzz around all-electric homes has steadily increased. This class is designed for anyone planning to build a new single-family home, as well as homeowners who are considering improvements to an existing home.

Your road map to a high performance, all-electric home Thursday, Nov. 10 | Noon – 1 p.m.

For homeowners planning to make improvements, this class will help you develop a plan for identifying the decisions you'll need to make. You'll also learn the trade-offs between various equipment types.

Managing a complex home building or remodeling process Thursday, Nov. 17 | Noon – 1 p.m.

This class will help homeowners who have high-performance project goals – whether for a brand-new home or a remodel – avoid common pitfalls encountered in getting the work done right.

All classes are **free** and will remain virtual, but registration is required. Learn more at smud.org/Learn. •

SMUD Board of Directors

Your elected Board of Directors holds regular meetings once a month on the third Thursday at 5:30 p.m. Meetings are streamed live and archived on smud.org. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Board meetings are currently held online. Visit smud.org/Board for the latest information.

Ward 1 Brandon Rose • President
Ward 2 Nancy Bui-Thompson
Ward 3 Gregg Fishman
Ward 4 Rosanna Herber
Ward 5 Rob Kerth
Ward 6 Dave Tamayo
Ward 7 Heidi Sanborn • Vice President

Customer Service: 1-888-742-SMUD (7683) or smud.org. Hours: Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
SMUD is located at 6301 S St., Sacramento, CA 95817. To manage your account online, pay your bill or view your energy usage, go to smud.org/MyAccount.