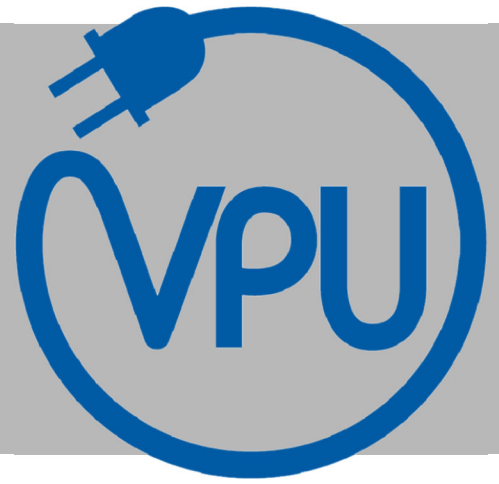


The VPU Quarterly

July 2023



Another Retirement at the Utility—Part II

Some of you may recall that our prior newsletter opened with an article about the retirement of the Utility's #7 boiler, and some of you may have also noticed that we did not put out our regularly scheduled April newsletter. Since that time, Mr. Hafdahl, whose articles many of you have likely been reading since you purchased a home in Virginia, has stepped down as the Utility's Director of Finance and Administration, so he can sail into the sunset of retirement. VPU is so very thankful for the time and dedication he gave to his staff and the entity as a whole.

If there is anything I have learned in my own time at the Utility, it's that the knowledge and expertise of long-term employees is invaluable. VPU has been in a constant state of change for the better part of a decade now between ceasing electrical generation, the downsizing of the steam district, the retirement of superheated boilers and coal from the plant, and a flux of employee retirements, all of which we have earnestly tried to keep our customers apprised of via the newsletter.

So, now what? Well, my name is Cassandra, and I have been with VPU since 2007. While my style of writing and content will likely be distinctly different from my predecessor's, I am hoping to continue to bring our customers information that is valuable, relevant, and even (hopefully) entertaining.

Quick Notes:

The office will be closed on the following dates:

September 4, 2023

Know the smell of natural gas!

If there is a faint smell, call the VPU at (218) 748-7540.

If in doubt, exit the building & call 911!

Call Gopher State One before you dig!

Dial 811 or 800-252-1166 or visit www.gopherstateonecall.org.

It's the law!

Malone Hall Demolition

Back in April, staff at the VPU began prep work to get the Malone Hall building set for demolition. After the removal of materials, equipment, and vehicles was completed, an outside contractor came in to safely remove any asbestos that was on the premises.

At the time of this writing, the demolition has not yet begun but is expected to commence shortly. Please be aware that a portion of both 6th Avenue and 2nd Street South will be closed to traffic throughout the removal process as a safety measure.



Be sure to check our Facebook page for updates and additional details regarding the road closures related to this project.



Lead Service Line Inventory

Earlier this year, VPU sent letters to every water customer requesting photos to create a lead service line inventory. This request was made to comply with an amendment to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), which Congress originally passed back in 1974.

In order to get the best photos possible, you will want to follow these steps: 1) Locate the water service line where it enters the building. You will need to see where the pipe comes through the floor or wall, which is usually the lowest level of the building; 2) Determine the material of the water pipe, and scratch it with a coin or key; 3) Take one photo of the pipe coming through the floor or wall, one close-up photo of the pipe where it was scratched, and one wide-view photo of the pipe that includes the shut off valve; 4) Email the three photos, along with the service address, to water@vpuc.com.

If you would like additional information and more detailed instructions, please visit our website at www.vpuc.com. Under the “News and Events” tab, there is a link to the Water Service Pipe Material Identification Guide to help determine the material the pipe is made of, as well as an Instruction Guide that includes example photos.