CONNECTIONS

Greenville Utilities' Customer Newsletter | September 2019

Hurricane Season Is Here

Hurricane season began June 1st and runs through November 30th. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) forecasters are calling for a "near-normal" year, with 9 to 15 named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher). Of those, four to eight could become hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher), with two to four of those becoming major hurricanes (category 3, 4 or 5; with winds of 111 mph or higher).

Preparing for all emergencies and weather events is a year-round activity for GUC. Our employees are consistently doing what they can to ensure our systems are in the best condition possible and that we have an adequate supply of materials to handle whatever Mother Nature sends our way.

When storms come, we hope there aren't any outages. If you find yourself in the dark, letting us know is as simple as a phone call or a few clicks on your phone, tablet, or computer!

Call us at 1-855-SOS-2GUC (767-2482) to report outages or other utility emergencies. It's a good idea to go ahead and add this number to your contact list on your phone so it will be there if you need it.

You can also view our outage map at **https://outagemap.gucapps.com/** to see where we have outages and when we anticipate power will be restored. You can even report outages on this page.

Whatever happens this season, we are here for you, and our goal is always to restore service as safely and quickly as possible.



New Commissioners Join GUC Board



Lindsey Griffin

The Greenville City Council has appointed Lindsey Griffin to a threeyear term on the Greenville Utilities Board of Commissioners, beginning in July. He replaces Don Mills who has completed two terms of office. "I am very excited about serving on the

GUC Board," said Griffin. "I enjoy being

involved and really want to help good things happen in Eastern North Carolina."

Commissioner Griffin worked in the construction industry for his entire professional career. He ran his own commercial landscaping business for 30 years, providing services to businesses across the state. He recently retired but continues to work as a consultant in addition to his volunteer service on several boards.

He has served 11 years on the Board of the Vidant Health Foundation (including two as Chairman), and 14 years on the Pitt Community College Foundation Board. He is also a founding member of the North Carolina Irrigation Contractors' Licensing Board.



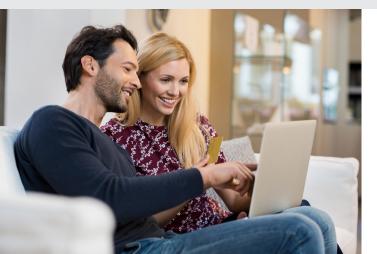
Peter Geiger

The Greenville City Council has appointed Peter Geiger to a three-year term on the Greenville Utilities Board of Commissioners, beginning in July. He replaces Rebecca Blount who has completed two terms of office.

"I look forward to working with the dynamic members of GUC's board and

management team as they build upon their strong track record," said Geiger. "I am eager to learn more about the exciting projects that GUC is undertaking in support of the growth of the Greenville region."

Commissioner Geiger is the Chief Financial Officer for RFPi, a medical device company utilizing technology developed at East Carolina University. He is also Manager and Chief Financial Officer of Kaio Therapy, a development stage cancer therapy company. Prior to those positions, he has served in major financial roles for Geiger Investments, Patheon, DSM Pharmaceuticals, and Cinergy Corporation (now Duke Energy).



Cut the Clutter with eBill

Are you looking for ways to declutter? Try eBill! With eBill, you have the option of receiving your bill via email instead of a paper bill in the mail. You'll get an email with a link to the customer self-service section of our website. This offers you a convenient, flexible way to receive and pay your bill that is also environmentally-friendly. Visit **guc.com/ebill** to find out more.

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Main Office Renovation Update

If you've visited our Main Office in Uptown Greenville lately, you know that we are in the midst of a major building renovation. We want you to know we are still open for business with an entrance on the Washington Street side of the building. Parking is still available in the front parking lot and on the street.

The changes will allow us to serve you better. Here's a sneak peek of the progress on our new customer service center which should be open in a few months. We will keep you updated as work continues.





GUC In The Community

Our staff visits community groups year-round. This summer, Energy Services Officer Jonathan Sergeant traveled across Pitt County, sharing summer energy savings tips with seniors. He visited the Senior Wellness Centers in Bethel, Ayden, Fountain, Farmville and Greenville.

Water Plant Receives Prestigious Award

For the fourth year in a row, our Water Treatment Plant has received the prestigious North Carolina Area Wide Optimization (AWOP) Award. The NC Division of Water Resources has included Greenville Utilities among the 57 out of 149 water treatment plants in the state honored for surpassing federal and state drinking water standards in 2018. The award recognition is a state effort to enhance the performance of existing surface water treatment facilities.

It is difficult for water treatment plants in the eastern part of the state to achieve the AWOP goals, due to the number of swamps which lead into the rivers. Most of the winning plants are from the western part of the state, while GUC is the only



water treatment plant honoree out of the Washington region. With 28 counties in the coastal plain area, GUC joined Cape Fear Public Utility Authority as the two water systems in this area to be recognized.

"Every year our Water Treatment Plant staff outdo the previous year's numbers for these AWOP goals, and every year I'm amazed and really proud of them," said Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Julius Patrick. "We have our challenges in this region that the staff overcame again, except this time they had the additional challenge of Hurricane Florence."

Detecting a Natural Gas Leak

Natural gas is one of the safest, most reliable, and environmentally friendly fuels in use today, but leaks can occur. There are three key ways to recognize a natural gas leak.

LOOK. Blowing dirt, bubbling creeks or ponds, dry spots in moist areas or dead plants surrounded by green, live plants also may indicate a natural gas leak.

LISTEN. An unusual hissing sound near gas lines or appliances may indicate a natural gas leak.

SMELL. In its raw state, natural gas is colorless and odorless. Natural gas utility companies add a substance to create the familiar, rotten-egg-like odor you associate with natural gas. You should take action even if you detect only the faint odor of natural gas in the air.

If you think you have a gas leak, please call our Emergency Hotline immediately at 855-SOS-2GUC (855-767-2482).

For more information on natural gas safety, visit guc.com or call us at 252-551-1587.



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