



September 2009 - WA

Community Matters

to Cascade Natural Gas Corporation



In the Community to Serve®

Properly Sealed Ducts Save Energy & Money

Why is duct sealing so important?

Connections in duct work are often sealed with duct tape, but when the adhesive dries out, the connections become unsealed, resulting in leaks and disconnections. These leaks can account for 10 to 30 percent of a homeowner's total heating and cooling costs. A PTCS-certified contractor will use mastic - a thick paste that provides a permanent seal - to seal the connections in your duct system. Without proper sealing, dust and other pollutants may be drawn directly from your attic, basement or crawlspace into the living space of your home. Sealing these connections will prevent the pollutants from entering your home, making it healthier and safer.

How do I know if my duct system has leaks?

If your home feels drafty or uncomfortable, you may want to check your duct system for leaks. A simple visual inspection may reveal loose duct tape, holes in duct insulation, or complete disconnects in the duct system - all common causes of energy loss. By identifying these leaks, you may have significant potential for energy savings by sealing your ducts. Contact a local PTCS-certified contractor for a complete inspection. A PTCS-certified contractor will use diagnostic equipment to pressurize your duct system, identifying the location and amount of air leakage.

Is PTCS Duct Sealing eligible for cash-back incentives from Cascade Natural Gas?

Cascade Natural Gas can help offset the cost of PTCS duct sealing with a \$150 cash-back incentive. If you're also upgrading to a high-efficiency gas furnace, you may be eligible to receive a total of \$300 cash back. For a list of PTCS-certified contractors in your area, contact the Conservation Incentive Program at 1-866-626-4479 or visit www.cngc.com/conservation.

Get connected with Cascade Natural Gas' Conservation Incentive Program by visiting us on the web. This online resource provides information on our cash-back incentives; offers energy saving tips; and has a list of pre-qualified Trade Ally contractors to help you with your next energy-efficiency project! Learn more about saving money and energy at www.cngc.com/conservation.

Cascade in the Community: Mount Vernon, WA



CNGC Team Members: Justin Moe, Tiffany Urland, Amy Cheadle, Kathy Williams, and Reed Harlow.

In June, Cascade Natural Gas employees Reed Harlow, a Distribution Clerk, and Tiffany Urland, a District Office Manager, were captains of teams for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life in Mount Vernon, WA. Together, their two teams, including former Cascade employees Amy Cheadle and Kathy Williams, raised \$6,111.75 for cancer awareness. The two teams also walked in the Cancer Walk on June 13th and 14th in support of their friends and family battling this disease. CNG Backhoe Operator, Justin Moe, also participated in the Cancer Walk.

Several other Mount Vernon employees donated to the fundraising effort, either directly or by attending a spaghetti feed the teams held. Tiffany says, "It was a great way to work together to give back to the community we serve and we are so proud of our accomplishment in tirelessly raising awareness and funds for this important cause".



Commercial & Industrial Conservation Program Project Spotlight: Mount Vernon Parks & Recreation



High operating costs and old equipment prompted Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation to look into the Cascade Natural Gas Conservation Program. According to Operations Manager James Wepler, "The maintenance cost to keep repairing outdated equipment was getting too expensive." Two high-efficiency gas convection ovens were installed in the Parks and Recreation Department's kitchen, which is used by community groups for regular organization meetings and community events. The new efficient equipment will produce a projected \$1,410 in annual gas savings and Wepler has already "seen a decrease in operating costs". This project also earned a \$1,200 cash rebate from Cascade Natural Gas. Wepler says, "The rebate was the reason we purchased the efficient equipment". While management at the Parks and Recreation Department appreciate the savings garnered by this project they also see the value in the environmental benefits. "Sustainability is very important to our organization. We want to do our part to help the environment and the fact that it also creates savings is icing on the cake," said Wepler.

The Cascade Natural Gas Commercial & Industrial Conservation Incentive Program offers cash rebates for installing qualified energy efficient gas-fired equipment, such as warm air furnaces, insulation, water heaters, commercial cooking equipment and more. Visit us on the web at www.cngc.com/conservation for a complete list of qualified equipment. The Conservation Incentive Program is intended to promote sustainability and increase energy efficiency in commercial and industrial facilities. Rebate amounts are based on the performance specifications of the efficient equipment and/or insulation.

Please note Cascade's new address for mailing payments:
P.O. Box 990065
Boise, ID 83799

Cascade in the Community: Yakima, WA

In August, Teresa Esparza, Cascade's Kennewick District Office Manager, and several friends participated in the "Hogs Hit the Highway" fundraiser organized by Yakima Law Enforcement. The event raised over \$3,200 in support of the Special Olympics of Washington and drew over 80 motorcycle riders. The ride began in Yakima, with Special Olympic Athletes there to see the riders off and over \$3000

in door prizes donated by local businesses. It was a great day to ride in support of these very special athletes. "Hogs Hit the Highway" is an annual event and everyone is welcome to participate. Teresa hopes to see you there next year!



Teresa and another rider with some of the Special Olympic Athletes.

~ Contacting Cascade ~

**In Washington and Oregon,
call 1-888-522-1130.**

**Emergency services are always
available, 24 hours a day.**

For billing information or other non-emergency calls, please contact Cascade Natural Gas by phone during normal business hours:
Monday - Friday, 8 am - 5 pm.

You may also contact us via e-mail at service@cngc.com or visit us on the web at www.cngc.com.