



July 2024 | Oregon

Connections

Want to help your home use less energy but unsure where to begin?

We work with Energy Trust of Oregon to offer an online energy assessment that can guide you. It suggests ways to make your home more efficient, like repairing windows that let in drafts or upgrading appliances. It's easy to complete and you can do it more than once.

Make sure you have your home's age, square footage, foundation type, age of heating system and insulation before you start.

Get your personalized recommendations now. Go to energytrust.org/tips/homeassessment.

Questions? Call 866-311-1822.



Lives are changing every day behind an unassuming storefront in downtown Medford

That's where you find Golden Rule ReEntry, a local nonprofit that is working to make it easier for those who were recently released from incarceration to join life on the outside of the prison walls.

Golden Rule, which recently got a grant from the Avista Foundation for a short film project on ReEntry, was founded in 2020 by Abigail Lewis. She spent a year doing research and learning about what was already available in the community before she started Golden Rule ReEntry.

"I got to be part of the Federal Reentry Court. So I worked with federal parole officers and their parolees," said Lewis. "I got a phone number, and I went to pick up a guy and got him a coffee, and then we drove out to somewhere beautiful." Lewis said driving around is a great way to get the recently released to talk openly about how they need help.

Last year, a large grant made it possible for Golden Rule ReEntry to establish two transitional houses. "Now we are working on a workforce development program as part of the housing," Lewis said. Re-entrants get help with personal finance skills, computer skills, and health advice. "It's a wrap around program. We don't send our people out to fail, we send them out to find a job," Lewis said, adding that she really wants to get to people before they start in a job. "There is so much pressure on them to start working. They really need a little time to recalibrate and readjust to the outside."

"One of the things I always say is: just because you have a past, doesn't mean you can't have a future," Lewis said.

To learn more about this program, visit goldenrulereentry.org.



Know what's below

Before you break ground with a shovel, auger, or other equipment, click or call 811 at least two full business days before you dig—it's the law. A utility representative

will mark the location of your buried utility lines in the requested dig area or indicate the area is clear of buried Avista utilities. The service is free. Privately owned lines can be located by a 3rd party for a fee.



SAFETY IS IN YOUR HANDS.
EVERY DIG. EVERY TIME.

CLICK OR CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG CHECKLIST

Never disturb the ground until you complete these steps:

- Use white paint to mark the zone where you plan to dig
- Click or call 811 and wait for the utility representative to mark the facilities owned by Avista
- Maintain and respect these locate marks
- If your located ticket expires and you intend to continue digging, you must re-notify 811
- Carefully hand dig within the 24-inch tolerance zone to expose the marked utility

If you damage, hit, or nick a natural gas line, immediately notify Avista customer service at (800) 227-9187. If you damage a pipeline and natural gas is escaping, **DO NOT FOLD OVER THE PIPE** to seal the leak. Static charge can ignite the gas.

Walk upwind a safe distance away, then call 911 and Avista. Visit myavista.com/811 for more information.



ELECTRIC: RED
GAS-OIL: YELLOW
COMMUNICATIONS: ORANGE
WATER: BLUE
SEWER: GREEN
TEMPORARY SURVEY: PINK
IRRIGATION: PURPLE
PROPOSED EXCAVATION: WHITE

GROUND MARK IDENTIFICATION

Ground markings are in different colors to indicate the locations and types of utility facilities buried below. Locate marks are valid for 45 days in Oregon. If anyone digs after the listed times, they are digging with an invalid ticket.



Need help with your energy bill?

Helping our customers manage energy use and costs is important to us. From financial assistance to home energy upgrades,

we're partnering with local community agencies across our service territory to provide options that address customer needs.

Tens of thousands of Avista customers are eligible for My Energy Discount, a program that lowers natural gas bills every month. Enrolling is quick and easy, with no paperwork or appointments required. Compared to previous bill assistance programs, My Energy Discount's eligibility guidelines are more inclusive, so more people qualify.

Find an agency near you and learn more about your options at myavista.com/assistance.

Connect with us

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Toll-Free: (800) 227-9187 | Web Site: myavista.com | Email: ask@myavista.com