

12/30/09

For Immediate Release

Additional Information: Chris Chandler, Public Information Officer, 541-272-7494

Christmas Tree Recycling to Benefit Needy Saturday

Volunteers with the Central Lincoln P.U.D. will be turning Christmas trees into mulch at Atonement Lutheran Church in Newport on Saturday. For a contribution of any amount, Christmas trees will be shredded using a high-speed tree chipper. Those that bring their trees to be chipped will receive free energy-saving compact fluorescent light bulbs. Proceeds from the event will be given to Community Services Consortium for its heating assistance program for those in need. Mulch created will be given to area gardeners.

Volunteers will be accepting trees and donations from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. this Saturday, and next Saturday, January 9, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Atonement Lutheran Church, 2315 N. Highway 101, across from the Safeway shopping center.

Central Lincoln's Fleet Specialist Bob Cusick is organizing the effort. "In this economy, times are tough, and I know folks are struggling to pay for heat," Cusick said. "This is a great way to get rid of Christmas trees after the holiday, help people who need it, and recycle trees into mulch, which is good for the environment. Add in the energy-saving lightbulbs, and this is a win-win for everyone involved. Plus, many of the kids who stop by to watch enjoy seeing their unwanted Christmas trees shredded up in a matter of seconds in that high-speed chipper!"

The Central Lincoln People's Utility District is Oregon's fourth-largest electric utility, serving some 700 square miles and approximately 83,500 people in portions of Douglas, Coos, Lane, and Lincoln counties. Central Lincoln is not-for-profit, and is publicly-owned, meaning it was created by voters to serve the public.

--end--