



THE PIPELINE

An Update from the Board of Commissioners To Our Valued Customers,

We sent each of you a letter in August regarding our recent actions as it relates to PFAS—per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances—detected in our water coming from firefighting foam used and disposed at Joint Base Lewis-McChord. If you didn't get to see our letter, it is available on our website at www.lakewoodwater.org under "District News, PFAS Updates August 6, 2020." In the meantime, we posted an additional update on our website in the same location. We wanted to reiterate a couple important points and give you some supplemental information. The highlights are below; for a complete update, please visit our website.

We want you to know that the water the District supplies continues to be absolutely safe to drink. The water delivered to your tap meets all state and federal drinking water regulations to protect your health, and we are taking proactive steps to solve the PFAS issue.

Protecting Your Health

The EPA has set health advisory levels for PFAS at 70 parts per trillion (70 ppt) that offer a margin of protection for the most vulnerable people. For years now, we have routinely tested our water to monitor any PFAS levels and have turned off or filtered affected wells when levels approached or exceeded the EPA's lifetime health advisory levels. We will continue to routinely sample our wells and monitor for PFAS and will turn off or filter affected wells when levels approach or exceed the EPA's lifetime health advisory.

Mitigating Future Costs

We are seeking every avenue of funding to help pay for water supply protections necessary for PFAS. We recently filed a lawsuit to recover our costs from the U.S. Government and the manufacturers of firefighting foam in the amount of \$377,358,750. This amount was calculated to fund the construction, maintenance, and replacement costs of Lakewood Water District's water filtration systems over the next 55 years. Our consultants have determined we must construct multiple facilities to dilute or remove PFAS from as many as six well sites: Ponders, Scotts, 88th and Pine, Interlaaken, Washington Boulevard, and Country Place.

Aside from cost recovery, we aim to accomplish the following via court order: prohibiting the United States from further using or storing PFAS at Joint Base Lewis-McChord; requiring the United States to investigate, prevent, and remedy PFAS impacts to the District's water supplies; and declaring the United States and PFAS manufacturers liable for any future costs associated with PFAS contamination.

Given that litigation can be a lengthy process, we are also looking to funding sources from the U.S. Government and the State of Washington outside of litigation. First, Congress is providing funds to the Department of Defense to conduct a cleanup operation at Joint Base Lewis-McChord that may contain and prevent the further spread of PFAS. Second, we are working to secure funds designated for addressing PFAS contamination from the state and federal legislatures. Last, the District may be eligible to apply for grants and loans from the Washington Department of Ecology, Department of Commerce, and Department of Health to help implement the District's water supply protection plans. By seeking funding through these various avenues, we place high priority on maintaining reasonable water supply rates and preventing our customers from facing any additional costs.

From all of us at Lakewood Water District, thank you for the opportunity to be your drinking water provider. Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns at 253/588-4423.

Sincerely,
Your Lakewood Water District Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Meeting Highlights*

April

Approval of 10-year Comprehensive Water System Plan

Revised COVID-19 Emergency Response Leave and Compensation Plan

COVID-19 Customer Assistance Program

Collection of Unpaid Connection Costs from Pierce County for 123rd Street R&R Project

Board Conditional Acceptance of Completion for Veterans Drive R&R Project

May

Board Conditional Acceptance of Completion for Arrowhead Phase 3 R&R Project

Board approval of Spanaway Water Company Wholesale Water Agreement Amendment

Board approval of Revised Vacation Rollover and Cash-out Policy—increased maximum annual rollover from 80 to 120 hours (Resolution No. B-1437)

June

Board approval of Spanaway Water Company Wholesale Construction Agreement

Board approval of Revised Vacation Rollover and Cash-out Policy—temporary reduction of minimum use requirement from 80 to 40 hours

Board authorization of General Manager as District Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP) Grant Submittal Official

July

Board approval of filing of lawsuit against the federal government re. PFAS

Board approval of PFAS Media Relations documents

Board approval of the Revised Employee Handbook

August

Board approval of PFAS Response Strategy Plan

Board approval of September 1 Property & Liability Insurance Renewal

Board approval of temporary reduction of Cross Connection Control Permit Fee

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Serving this community
since 1943

Keeping Lakewood Water
District customers
informed:

*www.lakewoodwater.org
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BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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The Board of Commissioners
meets the 3rd Thursday of each
month at the District office -
3:30 pm. Public Welcome



www.lakewoodwater.org



Employee Spotlight:

Tyler

Tyler Marsh began his career at the District with the 2020 New Year's Day holiday and his first day of work as a Water Utility Worker I on January 2. He wasted no time jumping in and becoming a valuable part of the LWD team. He's mostly been kept busy with installing new services and mains and maintaining hydrants and valves.

His favorite aspects of his job at the District are being outside and providing good customer support and service to our customers. He says he always stays on the "good side" with our customers by taking the best care of them he can.

Tyler has been working in the water industry since his senior year in high school. He was a Meter Reader for a long time and then graduated to a Utility Worker. Tyler came to us from Lakeside Water District in San Diego, California.

His favorite thing to do when he's not working is to be with his beautiful new baby girl, Stella Lynn. He also enjoys mountain biking and is an avid bowler, with a high score of 234! Tyler, wife Ally, and baby Stella have two different colored Tabbies...Raza and Sir.

Tyler grew up in East County San Diego and graduated from El Capitain High School. He and Ally moved to this area in December. They enjoy being here very much but certainly miss their families.

Because baby Stella came before Tyler was eligible for "maternity leave" for the arrival of his first child, a number of fellow coworkers donated time to him so he could take care of his wife and new baby girl. We've already received a note from the newest junior member of our team...a note from baby Stella that said, "Thanks for donating time to my dad so he could hang out with me"...accompanied with an array of tasty treats. We heartily welcome Tyler and his family to our community and our team!



Employee Spotlight:

Auburn

Auburn A. Avery (affectionately known to some of us as "Triple A") joined our team on December 16, 2019 as a Water Utility Worker I and hit the ground running. When asked what his current job responsibilities and work consisted of, he answered with a smile, "I do everything!" He works on the Service Crew, has assisted with the maintenance programs for mains, hydrants, and valves, was a pivotal part of the Flushing Crew this Spring, and fit in a number of open box checks along the way.

When asked what he enjoys most about working at the District, he said it is his interaction with the public and taking care of our customers. He says his personality is such that he likes the challenge of every new issue, figuring out what's going on and how to resolve it.

Auburn came to us from the Water Works Division of L.A. County Public Works in North Los Angeles County where he worked as a Lead II. Before that, he also worked for Michael's Pipeline where he lived up to his "do everything" mindset, working with underground natural gas as a laborer, crane operator, driver, and whatever else they needed.

Outside of work, Auburn likes to play guitar, fish, go camping with his wife, Heather, and go junk and antique garage-sale-ing together. Auburn and Heather have two sons, Gavin who is 20 and Evan who is 17. They also have three desert tortoises—Rosie, Bones, and Godzilla.

Auburn grew up in Sunland/Tujunga in the San Fernando Valley in L.A. County and also lived in Canoga Park for a time. He started high school at Verdugo Hills High School in the Central Valley north of Fresno. He finished high school and then graduated from Hanford High School located 30 minutes south of Fresno.

Auburn was asked what else, if anything, about him or his family he wanted to share or that he'd like our customers to know. He replied, he is very compassionate, likes what he does, and takes every one's opinion very seriously. He likes to show professionalism in all he does, including having a good appearance and being safe. He always gives people the time of day and will never cut them short but will be patient and do all he can to help. It's easy to see why we're so glad to have him be a part of our team!