



Winter 2020
Issue 95

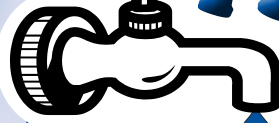
Serving this community
since 1943

Keeping Lakewood Water
District customers
informed:

www.lakewoodwater.org

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About us
Board of
Commissioners

THE PIPELINE



Dear Lakewood Water District Customer,

Welcome to our winter issue of *The Pipeline*. We have a great year to reflect on and a future year to plan and look forward to. 2019 will be a year to remember in the history of the District! We had a record year in capital projects. As we have reported to you, we have completed over \$20 million in capital projects this year. This included the replacement of the old and worn out air stripping system at Ponders Well Site that was originally installed in 1983 and funded by the State of Washington. A new Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) System was also installed at Ponders for the treatment of perfluorinated compounds. A new well was drilled at the Scotts Well Site yielding 1100 gallons per minute. 4500 lineal feet of 12-inch water main was installed at Ft. Steilacoom Park, and the design and foundation work for the 2.0-million-gallon replacement tank at Nyanza Hill was completed. Continuation of the District's 50-year Rehabilitation and Replacement (R&R) projects replaced water mains and service lines in Arrowhead near the Town of Steilacoom and Pacific Highway near the Grocery Outlet store. Lastly, a milestone project was undertaken...the Wholesale Transmission Main Extension (WTME) project (more on the results of that below).

Commissioner Meeting Highlights

October

Board Award of the
WTME Booster Pump
Station Project—New BPS and
Upgrades to Existing BPS

November

2020 Budget Workshop
Presentation of the 2020 Draft Budget with no
scheduled rate increase for 2020

December

Board Conditional Acceptance of Completion of
the Ponders Wellsite Facilities
Replacement and GAC System Installation
Presentation of the final 2020 Budget with no rate
increase for 2020!

On top of all that activity, another milestone event took place in 2019... the retirement of Board President Larry Ghilarducci, Jr. after 38 years of service. Through all this activity and transition, your water District continued to operate daily as if it were a standard, average year. This demonstrates the health, professionalism, and organization of your District. I want to take this opportunity to thank our staff for their loyalty and dedicated service throughout this past year and the past several years.



As we write this issue, we are involved in the budgeting for 2020 and the forecasting for the next five years of District operations. Our 2020 Budget theme is, "Securing the Future as a Local and Regional Provider through Capital Investments and Revenue Expansion." This theme is very fitting and timely, as we have great news to share with you! This next year, on the heels of the completion of the WTME project, the District will deliver more wholesale water to our wholesale partners than ever before. This will include water going to a new wholesale customer as well as a previously contracted partner now being able to receive water through the WTME. In so doing, the District will receive additional revenues to our annual budget. This additional revenue stream is the result and accumulation of the last 20 years of investment and will now provide security and financial health to the District. The bottom line to you, our customers, is there will be no rate increase for 2020. And, in the years ahead, this security and financial health will continue to help buy down rate increases. We are very proud of the work and the vision of our District over the past 20 years to finally become a regional water provider, continuing to invest in ourselves to help keep our water safe and healthy and to maintain the lowest rates in the Puget Sound area. This is great news, and we are so happy to share this with you.

We wish you all Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year,

Your Board of Commissioners

Published by
Lakewood Water District
11900 Gravelly Lake Drive SW
Lakewood, WA 98499

Mon.-Fri. 8:30am-5:00pm
Phone: (253) 588-4423

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

President:
John S. Korsmo, Jr.
Vice President:
Gregory J. Rediske
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Gary J. Barton
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Randall M. Black

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



www.lakewoodwater.org

Cross Connection Control

It is of the utmost importance to Lakewood Water District to provide you and your families with safe, clean, potable water. To help us in this endeavor, there are state laws as well as a District resolution (No. B-1287) that we must follow. Whenever there is the potential for safe, potable water to be mixed with a non-potable substance, cross connection/backflow protection must be provided. In accordance with the Washington Administrative code (WAC 246-290-490) and our District resolution, the Lakewood Water District has an active Cross Connection Control Program.

Under certain hydraulic conditions, water can flow in the opposite direction from two types of backflow—backsiphonage and backpressure. Backsiphonage is caused by negative pressure in the supply pipe. Backpressure may occur when the potable water supply is connected to another hydraulic system operating at a higher pressure.

All that to say, whenever a customer has a landscape irrigation system or uses our water in manufacturing, food services, or fire suppression systems, a potential exists that some non-potable water could re-enter the water system through what is called “backflow.” We prevent this by requiring the customer to place a backflow prevention assembly in strategic areas of their water system.

These backflow assemblies are required to be tested annually to ensure they continue to operate properly to protect the potable water system from possible contamination. Failure to maintain proper testing may result in water disconnection per District resolution, as we cannot afford to compromise your water supply.



A recent survey of the District has identified a number of properties with irrigation systems that may or may not have a backflow device installed. Starting in 2020, letters will be mailed to these property owners to alert them of the situation and offer assistance in becoming compliant with State law.

Those of you with backflow devices can now have your devices tested automatically for a fee of only \$27/year per device. For more information on this program, please visit the District’s website at www.lakewoodwater.org and click on “Cross Connection Control” under the “About Us” tab. You are also welcome to call our Cross Connection Control Department at 253.588.4423

Our ongoing monitoring is in place to ensure Lakewood Water District customers have the cleanest, freshest, purest water possible. By educating you, our customers, about our precious water resource, we can maintain our safe, clean water supply for the present as well as our future.



STAY TUNED

New Utility Billing Software coming in 2020. New and improved payment processes and much more to offer our customers coming your way.



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Wishing you and yours a safe, healthy, and prosperous new year!

Lakewood Water District

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