

THE PIPELINE

Serving this community since 1943
Keeping Lakewood Water District Customers Informed
www.lakewoodwater.org

Board of Commissioners

Published by

Lakewood Water District

11900 Gravelly Lake Dr. SW
Lakewood, WA 98499



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John Korsmo Jr.



Vice President

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Gary Barton



General Manager

Randall M. Black

Board of Commissioners meets
the 3rd Thursday of each
month at the District Office at
3:30 PM

Public is welcome to attend



Dear Lakewood Water District Customer,

A pony walks into a bar and asks, "Say, can I have some water please?" The waiter says, "Sure! Sore throat?" "No," says the pony. "I'm just a little horse."

Well, actually, that was a joke. But annual backflow prevention assembly testing is not a joke! It is a critical part of having safe and clean water in Lakewood.

What is a backflow prevention assembly, you ask? "A backflow assembly is a term used to describe a device that, upon detecting the existence of a backflow due to either back pressure or back siphonage, prevents it from flowing in the opposite direction (backward) into other parts of your water system and the public water system.

Keeping contaminants out of our drinking water is clearly a very good thing. Moreover, it is the law. WAC 246-590-490 requires anyone with an actual or potential cross connection, including in-ground irrigation systems to have a backflow assembly installed and checked annually by a state certified backflow assembly tester. For many years, Lakewood Water expected all customers with a backflow assembly to contract with the backflow tester of their choice. This remains true today. But now we have made it easier for our customers. If you choose to join the Lakewood Water backflow testing program, your backflow assemblies will be tested automatically every year, and you will be billed on your water invoice. We put it out to bid and go with the low bidder who meets the standards we require. For you: no fuss, no muss, and you do your duty of keeping our water safe.

You can still have your long-time tester continue your annual test if you choose. Subscribing to the Lakewood Water testing program just makes it a whole lot easier for you (and us), and often less expensive as well. The current annual charge through the Lakewood Water District program is \$34.00 per assembly.

If you have an in-ground irrigation system or any other unprotected hazard, and no backflow assembly, or you haven't been getting it tested annually, please contact us ASAP. There are no penalties for previously failing to get it done, but it is your legal, civic, and moral responsibility to get it accomplished, no joke!

But this is a joke: R.I.P. boiled water. You will be mist. And don't forget: you can lead a horse to water, but a pencil must be lead.

Sincerely,

Your Board of Commissioners

DON'T BURY YOUR WATER METER

Access to the water meter servicing your residence is essential.

The water meter on your property is owned and maintained by Lakewood Water District, it is also where the District will turn your water off in case of an emergency, detect leaks, or perform maintenance. The water meter being covered or inaccessible by things such as landscaping, cars, trash, or even pets, would prevent our technicians from turning off your water quickly in the event of an emergency. If your water meter is not accessible, you will be notified to remove obstructions from the water meter. If you are unable to correct the situation, the District may need to take further action to ensure we can deliver services.

Homeowners are required to maintain at least one foot of clearance on all sides of the meter box and a clear path to access it, as well as enough vertical clearance so as not to have to crawl or stoop unnecessarily.

The meter also needs to be level with the landscaping at your property. If you plan to have landscape improvements performed, please ensure the water meter remains exposed and level with the landscaping. If you have any questions, please contact the District at (253) 588-4423.



**Photo is a water meter that had to be cleared from under sod/grass.*

FLUSHING SEASON

By the end of March, weather permitting, we will begin our Annual Water Main Flushing program. This program helps ensure the highest water quality for our valued customers by removing the natural iron and manganese buildup in the water mains.

Please be on the lookout for notice signs and the crews working in the field running water through our hydrants in and around the District. Please take care when approaching the crews and passing them on the street, as there could be water puddling up because of the flushing activities.

If you experience discoloration of your water, please run the tap for at least 10 minutes, and if this does not clear up the water, then contact the District.

DRINKING WATER WEEK 2023 5/7/23-5/13/23

Lakewood Water District is observing Drinking Water Week by inviting the public to learn about how truly vital clean, safe water is in daily life and its role in protecting public health and the environment now and in the future. This year, Drinking Water Week encourages participants to recognize and honor the critical work that water professionals accomplish around the clock to deliver quality tap water while bolstering resilience for water in the future. #DrinkingWaterWeek

Make sure you visit our website (5/1/23-5/13/23) for activities throughout the week and our online auction to raise money for the Customer Assistance Program!
www.lakewoodwater.org



DID YOU KNOW?



That water cushions the brain, spinal cord, and other sensitive tissues. Dehydration can affect brain structure and function. It is also involved in the production of hormones and neurotransmitters. Prolonged dehydration can lead to problems with thinking and reasoning. #DrinkWater



CONTACT US

Please update your mailing address, phone number, and email address if there have been any changes.

Please contact our office directly at 253-588-4423 or email csweb@lakewoodwater.org

Lakewood Water District

11900 Gravelly Lake Drive SW, Lakewood, WA - 98499

Mon.- Thur. 8:00 AM-5:30 PM & Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30PM