



Spring 2012 Issue 67

Keeping Lakewood Water District
Customers Informed

"SERVING THIS COMMUNITY
SINCE 1943"

Published by
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BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

President:

Lawrence R Ghilarducci, Jr.

Vice President:

William W. Phillip

Secretary:

John S. Korsmo, Jr.

General Manager:

Randall M. Black

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



The Pipeline

Dear Lakewood Water District Customers,

Ice storms, shocking crimes of all sorts, negative budget messages from all levels of government and painful tax and rate increases, never-ending political debates over issues neither side can alone resolve, unemployment statistics, the lousy housing market and, finally, no real hope that the Mariners will have a winning season...being constantly bombarded with these and other unhappy messages can throw one into a real slump.

Therefore, we decided that, rather than subject you to another report on some function of your Lakewood Water District that might not be particularly enlightening or interesting this quarter, we would share with you a couple of quick water stories which, hopefully, will bring a much needed smile to your face. Please do not try this at home! 😊

WATER IN THE CARBURETOR

Wife: "There's trouble with the car. It has water in the carburetor."

Husband: "Water in the carburetor? That's ridiculous!"

Wife: "I tell you, the car has water in the carburetor."

Husband: "You don't even know what a carburetor is; how do you know there's water in the carburetor?? Where's the car, I'll check it out!?"

Wife: "In the pool."

MINISTER AND STATE TROOPER

A minister is stopped by a state trooper for speeding. The trooper smells alcohol on his breath and sees an empty wine bottle on the floor. The trooper asks, "Sir, have you been drinking?" And the minister replies, "Just water." The trooper says, "Then why do I smell wine?" And the minister looks down at the bottle and exclaims, "Good Lord, He's done it again!"

Keep smiling. Spring is here, and summer is coming!!

*With warm regards from,
Your Board of Commissioners*

New Rates on Bills March 1

Bills issued after March 1, 2012 will reflect an increase as outlined below and explained in the letter sent by the Board of Commissioners to all customers in early January. For your convenience, the new rates (and how they compare to last year's rates) are listed below:

Two-month Billings—

Minimum rate of 800 cubic feet:	801 to 2000 cubic feet:	Over 2000 cubic feet:
2011 rate = \$18.55	2011 rate = \$.95/100 cubic feet	2011 rate = \$1.30/100 cubic feet
2012 rate = \$20.03	2012 rate = \$1.03/100 cubic feet	2012 rate = \$1.40/100 cubic feet

If you have any questions about these rates or the calculation of your bill, please give us a call at 588-4423, and we'll be happy to help you.

Did you get the call??

From time to time, our staff or Interactive Voice Response system may need to get important information to you in a hurry. To do that, we need to have a good, working phone number for you on file. **Please help us by making sure we have your phone number!** You can do this in a number of ways...

- call us at 588-4423;
- email us at csweb@lakewood-water-dist.org;
- send us a message via our Website at www.lakewood-water-dist.org under "Contact Us";
- write your number on your next bill stub w/your payment or, best of all,
- come in and see us!

Thank you so much for helping us get better at helping you!



Seasonal Flushing Underway

Lakewood Water District staff will begin the annual flushing of our water mains beginning the first week of April and will proceed through the first week of July. Flushing at this time of year provides warmer temperatures to prevent frozen roadways when water is flushed out onto the streets, and it allows for the flushing to be completed before the summer months of peak pumping demands arrive.

Natural mineral deposits of iron and manganese build up around the inside of the four-inch and larger water mains. There are no health risks associated with these deposits. We perform high-velocity flushing of our system, pulling water from a storage tank or reservoir, then proceeding from hydrant to hydrant, turning them on full speed out of the front pumper port. This action causes a scouring of the inside of the water mains.

If you experience **dark or cloudy water**, we suggest that you do not drink the water until it is clear again. You may want to store extra drinking water before this time period, and we recommend you refrain from doing laundry during this time. You may want to use the water only for toilet flushing, lawn watering, etc. If the water remains dark and cloudy, **running your outside faucet** for 5 to 10 minutes should clear up this problem.

Flushing occurs between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Due to the success of our annual flushing program over the last few years and in conjunction with the effectiveness of our water treatment plants, not every water main in the District's system will need to be flushed this year. If the water mains in your area are going to be flushed this year, blue-and-white street notification signs will be placed in your neighborhood 48 hours in advance to let you know when the District's flushing crew will be coming to your area. Also, once flushing season begins, you'll be able to check the flushing schedule on our website at www.lakewood-water-dist.org or follow us on Facebook or Twitter. If you have any questions, day or night, please call 588-4423.

Thank you for your cooperation.



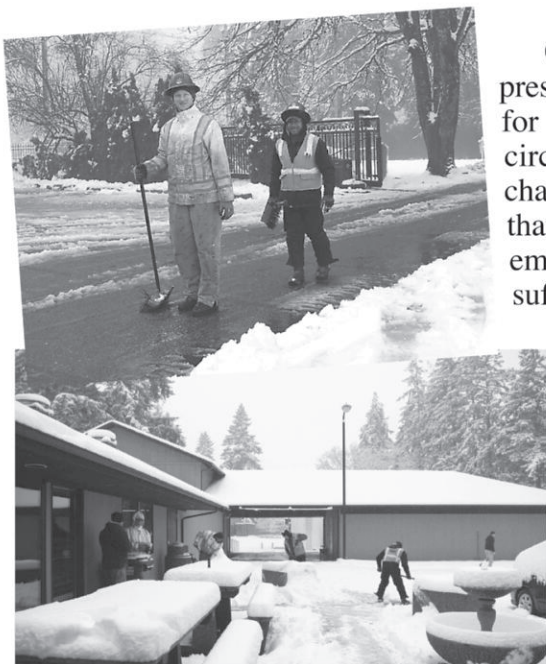
LWD Participates in Emergency Response Exercise

Lakewood Water District is planning to be a full participant in this spring's multijurisdictional emergency response exercise, code named Operation Pinecone. The exercise is based on a scenario dealing with the aftermath of a 7.5 magnitude earthquake on the Tacoma fault line.

Not only will this give the District an opportunity to practice its Emergency Response Plan in conjunction with other agencies, but also serve as a reminder to all District customers to update their own emergency response plans. How well are you prepared to survive a disaster on the scale of last year's devastating event in Japan? Do you have enough food, water, and other supplies stored to last you a minimum of 72 hours without outside aid? If the destruction in Japan taught us anything, it taught us initial survival in an earthquake zone is a direct function of individual planning, preparedness, and initiative. Be like the Boy Scouts... Prepared. For Life.

For more information on how to be prepared, go to:
www.co.pierce.wa.us/dem

No One Thirsty During Snow Storm



Once again, the recent snow and ice storm presented the District with a unique set of challenges for operating its water system under extraordinary circumstances. Actually, we like to think of the challenges as "learning experiences." We "learned" that for the most part, the District's extreme weather emergency protocols work well. The District has sufficient backup emergency power generation to

maintain water in the system for several days. With only one small area of reduced pressure, not one District customer was without water service as a result of the storm. The biggest challenge/learning experience was simply transporting District personnel and material around town. As always, District personnel will carefully analyze preparation and response procedures, action and after action situational reports, and personnel and material allocations to enhance the District's future emergency responses. The District cannot prevent our customers from being cold or in the dark, but we can work to make sure they are not **thirsty** while cold or in the dark.

