



# The Pipeline

FALL, 2006

Issue 45

**Keeping Lakewood  
Water District  
Customers Informed  
"SERVING THIS  
COMMUNITY SINCE  
1943"**

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Lakewood Water District**  
11900 Gravelly Lake Drive SW  
P.O. Box 99729  
Lakewood, WA 98499-0729  
Mon.-Fri. 8:30am-5:00pm  
Phone:(253)588-4423  
Night/Emergency Phone:  
(253)588-2296

[www.lakewood-water-dist.org](http://www.lakewood-water-dist.org)

## **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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Lawrence R Ghilarducci, Jr.  
Vice President:  
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Secretary:  
John S. Korsmo, Jr.  
General Manager:  
Randy Black

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



## **An Update From Your Commissioners**

*Dear Lakewood Water District Customer,*

*We trust you had a safe and enjoyable summer. An abundance of warm, sunny days resulted in pumping record amounts of water to our customers to keep you cool, clean, and hydrated! Thanks to our deep, underground aquifers, we have a plentiful supply of water to steward and enjoy.*

*In our last newsletter, we shared with you some of the recent "happenings" here at the District and left off with telling you about our Shop Remodel and Office Addition. This 4200-square-foot project was completed, on time...and under budget! This project provides new field staff accommodations to replace our 40-year-old shop facilities and much-needed new office space, plus a new public Map Room and Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Now, when a local developer needs to see a map of the District, or you want to know where the water main is in relation to your own renovation or landscaping project, instead of having to walk all the way through the office and back into the Superintendent's office, we can*



*The District's new Shop and Office Remodel & Addition*

*invite you into our new public Map Room right off the lobby. Our EOC provides us with a secure, fortified location, built to withstand the toughest of catastrophes, that we might have a safe and protected environment from which to operate the District in the event of a disaster.*

*Our contractor on this project, Christensen, Inc. out of Tumwater, Washington, did an outstanding job in constructing this very functional and practical yet beautiful facility. They managed to complete major construction around the operations of the office with as little obstruction and interruption to our staff as possible. Our staff, on the other hand, kept their sleeves rolled up and their heads down to continue to work productively in the midst of the noise, dust, and all that comes with construction and remodeling. This new facility is soundly constructed, well designed, and very adequate to meet the District's needs well into the future. Our staff thanks you, our rate-payers, for providing this new, more efficient workplace with which to serve you better. We trust you were able to join us for our Open House on October 3. If you were not able to join us and would like to schedule a personal tour, please give us a call.*

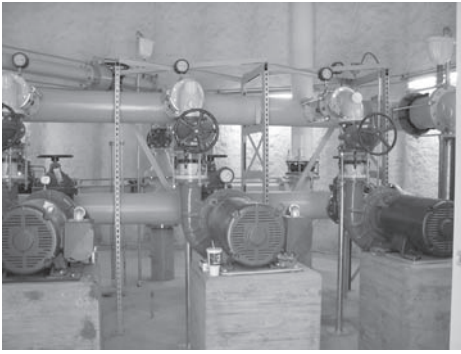
*Our other big capital project this year has been the construction of our new Hemlock Tank up on Hemlock Hill. As you know, this is the point of highest elevation in our District and is therefore a very strategic location for this new tank. The 500,000-gallon hydro-pillar tank is on-line, and the project is near completion. Punch list items and landscaping are all that remain in completing the contract. The installation includes a new booster station in the base of the tank, so the entity provides both pumping and storage capacities. This combination facility will meet the District's domestic and fire flow requirements in the area for years to come, and, it is painted a nice*



*The new Hemlock tank*

*(continued on back)*

Continued from page 1.



Booster pumps inside base of new Hemlock Tank

blue to also aesthetically blend with the surroundings. Feel free to drive by and see your new tank!

Our meter readers have been busy, not only reading your meters but installing radio-read meters in certain key areas and locations. We have installed 650 remote radio-read meters to date. A transmitter is installed in the meter box at the customer location and transmits the read of the meter by way of a radio signal to the meter reader's hand-held unit when activated by the meter reader. This system provides very accurate reads in just a moment of time, thus being very effective and efficient. These remote "meter readers" are installed primarily on busy streets where there is a safety concern for our meter-reading staff. The District plans to continue installing remote radio readers in areas of concern. We do not plan to replace every meter with a radio-read meter, as we always want to be able to identify the location and condition of our meters. Our touch-read meters provide a very accurate and efficient means by which to read your meter, while affording our meter readers the opportunity to keep an eye on things and make sure your meter is secure and in good working order.

We—from your Commissioners to the newest staff member—continue to work smart, hard, and heartily to serve you to the best of our abilities. If there is anything we can do to serve you better, please drop by or give us a call.

Sincerely,  
Your Board of Commissioners

## Goodbye Summer, Hello Fall



Now is the time to begin preparing your home for winter weather. As you wrap things up and put things away from summer fun, here are some easy tips that will help you save water, avoid frozen pipes, and keep you and your family warm and cozy this year.

- Disconnect and drain your outdoor garden hose.
- Wrap all outside faucet covers or protect them with faucet covers which are available at your local hardware store. Here is a little tip... use empty plastic butter, sour cream, or chip dip containers as covers. Cut an "X" in the lid, slide it over the faucet head, and attach the bottom part of the container to the lid.
- Know where your master water shut-off valve is for easy access in case of an emergency.
- If you will be gone for an extended period of time, have someone check your home on a regular basis.



## Convenient Ways to Pay Your Bill

**Credit Card Payments**—the District now accepts VISA or MasterCard credit or check cards, making it easy for our customers to pay their bills in person or over the phone. Internet online payment options will be available soon, so stay tuned!

**Automatic Bill Payment**—the District also continues to offer the convenience of our Automatic Bill Payment Service, where your payment is automatically deducted from your checking or savings account. If you would like to sign up for Automatic Bill Payment, either contact the District Office at 588-4423 or download the application from the District Web site at: [www.lakewood-water-dist.org](http://www.lakewood-water-dist.org).



## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:

**Kevin Lundberg** is a Water Utility Worker I and joined the District this past May. Kevin's duties include installation of water main, water service connections, and hydrant/valve maintenance. He enjoys all aspects of



his job. Kevin grew up in the Skagit Valley area and graduated from LaConner High School. When he is not at work, he enjoys spending time with wife Bonnie, and sons Kale, Ashton, and Braeden. Kevin is also an avid sports fan and enjoys playing basketball, baseball, and football.

**Ron Funderburk** is also a Water Utility Worker I and joined the District this past June. Ron's duties include installation of water main, water service connections, and hydrant/valve maintenance. Ron enjoys working with the service crew and all the hands-on training he is receiving. Ron was born and raised in Montgomery, Alabama, and has served in the U.S. Army and Desert Storm. When Ron is not working, he enjoys spending time with his wife Lisa and sons Spencer and Preston. Ron also enjoys watching baseball and football.



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**Visit our "Wealthy" Website:**  
[www.lakewood-water-dist.org](http://www.lakewood-water-dist.org)

Please visit our Website for a "wealth" of information on your Lakewood Water District, from our Mission Statement, project information and updates, forms for various services, rate information, payment options, recent publications, and the answers to frequently asked questions (FAQ) about the District.

Surf's up...see you on the Web!