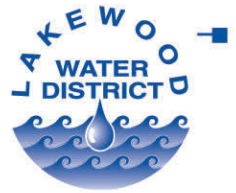


The Pipeline



Issue 43

Keeping Lakewood Water District Customers Informed

SPRING, 2006

"SERVING THIS COMMUNITY SINCE 1943"

An Update From Your Commissioners

Dear Lakewood Water District Customer,

Your Lakewood Water District is on a construction fast track...a very significant and productive one.

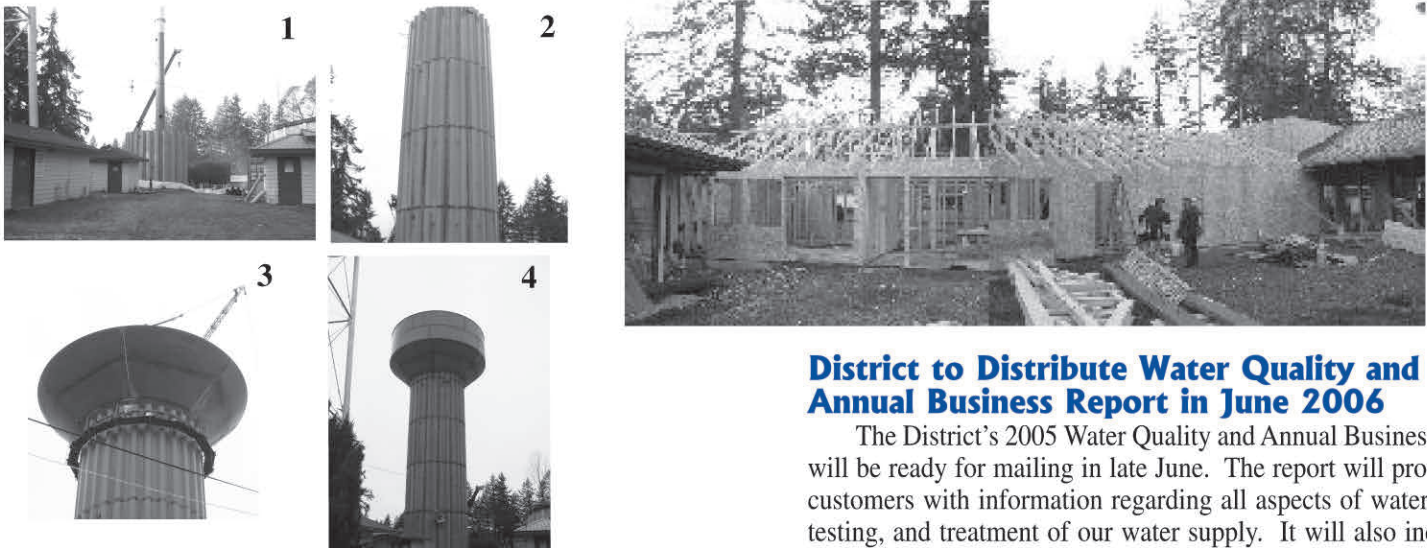
If you have seen cranes and heard noises in the vicinity of Hemlock and 104th Streets, you are experiencing the necessary, albeit temporary, activity surrounding the building of a new half-million gallon elevated storage tank which will serve the needs of a large area of the District. This is the highest elevation point in Lakewood. Since our water flows to you as a result of a combination of gravity and pressure, we must utilize this and other high elevations for our tanks to create the necessary water pressure for adequate fire flow and domestic needs. To our neighbors in that area, please have patience. We anticipate completion of this project by early July 2006.

Expansion and remodeling of our office, storage, and maintenance facilities at Gravelly Lake Drive and Washington Boulevard is the other major project in the works. This will provide much needed additional office space for our "indoor" staff together with updated and expanded facilities for the on-site storage of equipment and materials, greater efficiency in the loading and deployment of our trucks and other support vehicles, and greatly improved changing, shower, and dining areas for both our field and office staff. One very important component of this project will be a new Emergency Operations Center (EOC) developed in our main office building. This fortified facility will enable the District to continue operations during the eventuality of an emergency situation such as an earth-

quake or storm. Again, to our neighbors in this area, hang in there. We anticipate completion of this project by June 2006.

We are very mindful of the aggravation caused by these construction activities; however, there is no way to avoid some noise and traffic resulting from them. We are constantly working with our contractors to keep the noise and inconvenience to others at a minimum and to complete the projects as quickly as possible. We thank you for your patience and support and look forward to being able to serve you more effectively and efficiently once these two very significant projects are completed.

*Sincerely,
Larry Ghilarducci, Jr.
President of the Board of
Commissioners*



Above Right: The new District office/storage/shop space under construction. Above: Four stages in the construction of the new Hemlock tank.

District to Distribute Water Quality and Annual Business Report in June 2006

The District's 2005 Water Quality and Annual Business Report will be ready for mailing in late June. The report will provide our customers with information regarding all aspects of water quality, testing, and treatment of our water supply. It will also include an overview from the Board of Commissioners; information on current resources, supply, and facilities; financial statements; and an update on the District's current capital and renovation and replacement projects. For more information, call Christie Butler at the District office at 588-4423.

Seasonal Flushing Underway

As promised in last quarter's newsletter, Lakewood Water District staff began its annual flushing of our water mains the first week of March 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.

Natural mineral deposits of iron and manganese build up around the inside of the 4-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. 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. If you have any questions, please call 588-4423. If you need assistance after hours, please call 588-2296. *Thank you for your cooperation.*



Got Water Education?

Where does water come from? What can I do to save water around my home? What does the Lakewood Water District do? Don Stanley, the Community Outreach and Education Coordinator for the District, can easily answer these questions for your club, organization, or class.

He is available to speak with various groups about District operations and "Water-Wise Usage." Don has a variety of interactive PowerPoint slide presentations and informative handouts. His presentations, being both fun and educational, can be catered to fit any age group. Call the District office at 588-4423 to schedule an appointment.

Automatic Bill Payment

Looking for a convenient way to pay your water bill? Remember our Automatic Bill Payment Service is available. To sign up for this service, you can obtain an application at the District Office or on the District website, www.lakewood-water-dist.org.

COMING SOON...Credit Card Service to Pay Your Bill!

The District is working diligently to bring to you the availability of using your credit card or VISA/MasterCard-checkcard to pay your bill, either in person, over the phone, or on-line. We will keep you posted on our progress in bringing to you this new convenience and service in the near future.

Pacific Highway R&R Project Completed

Lakewood Water District recently completed the Pacific Highway water main replacement and rehabilitation project between 112th Street and Bridgeport Way. NOVA Contracting, Inc. installed 4271 feet of 16-inch and 627 feet of 8-inch water main, 11 fire hydrants, and 12 new water service connections.

Additional work is planned for later this year on Kline Street from Pacific Highway to Pacific Street. The District will be upgrading the water mains, hydrants, and service connections.

Think Water-Wise Usage When Planning New Landscaping



If you are planning to add or update landscaping this spring, think water-wise usage. Plant selection and placement are key elements for water-wise usage landscaping. Many medium or high water-use plants can be used if they are grouped together and watered by area.

Some things to keep in mind when you are planning landscaping are:

Full irrigation areas are usually expanses of grass. Grass needs more water than other plants and should be placed only in areas that get a lot of use or are highly visible.

Moderate irrigation areas are areas where you may take advantage of some natural runoff from downspouts, driveways, or patios. For example, an entryway using groundcovers and low or moderate water-use plants will require little watering.

Low irrigation areas can include border areas containing low or moderate water-demanding flowers, shrubs, and trees. By using bubble or drip irrigation, which applies water directly to individual plant roots via small tubing or emitter, very little water is lost to evaporation.



Published by 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

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

President: Lawrence R Ghilarducci, Jr.

Vice President: William W. Philip

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

