

# The Pipeline



Issue 40

Keeping Lakewood Water District Customers Informed

SPRING, 2005

"SERVING THIS COMMUNITY SINCE 1943"

## From Your Commissioners

*Dear Lakewood Water District Customer,*

*On February 17, 2005, after almost 12 years of service to the Lakewood Water District, Commissioner Mark Hullinger resigned his office to move to Florida to fulfill family obligations.*

*During his terms in office, Mark took an extraordinary interest in the operations of the District and participated voluntarily in both regional and statewide utility association activities, devoting much time and effort representing our District in those associations, including rising to positions of leadership in them. He brought to the Commissioners deliberations on various issues involving the operations of the District, with a clear understanding of those issues and insight into dealing with them. For his contributions of time and talent, we thank him and wish him future success.*

*The vacancy left by Commissioner Hullinger's departure placed upon the remaining Commissioners the duty of finding a suitable successor and appointing him or her to serve the remainder of Commissioner Hullinger's term set to expire December 31, 2005. We are very pleased to announce that John S. Korsmo, Jr. has agreed to accept the appointment as that successor, with the understanding he will stand for re-election this fall to a full six-year term.*

*John is the owner and operator of John Korsmo Construction, a highly regarded contracting firm with offices located here in Lakewood on Gravelly Lake Drive SW. His roots are in Lakewood, having lived here his entire life. He, his wife Lisa, and their two children reside in the heart of this city.*

*Currently, John serves on the Boards of Lakewood Gardens, Friends of the Pierce County Library, and the Redevelopment Board of the City of Lakewood. He is a member of the Lakewood Rotary Club and is active in its community improvement projects.*

*We welcome John to our Lakewood Water District family and look forward to all he will bring to the District, its staff, and customers.*



*Sincerely,  
Your Board of Commissioners*

*Mark Hullinger, 2nd from right, bids good-bye to, from left, District General Manager Randy Black, and Commissioners Bill Philip and Larry Ghilarducci.*

*Welcome to  
John S. Korsmo, Jr.*



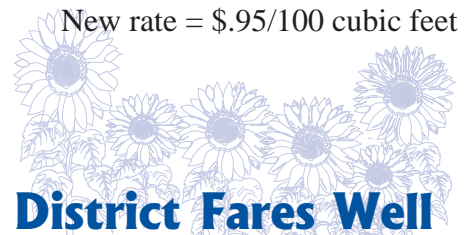
## New Rates in Effect February 1

In January the Board of Commissioners wrote a letter to District customers sharing with them the need for a 9.5 percent rate increase to be enacted in 2005, going into effect February 1. The first bills to reflect the new rates will come out in April. For your convenience, the new rates are listed below:

Minimum rate of 800 cubic feet:  
Old rate = \$12.65  
New rate = \$13.85

Over 800 cubic feet to 2000 cubic feet:  
Old rate = \$.65/100 cubic feet  
New rate = \$.70/100 cubic feet

Over 2000 cubic feet:  
Old rate = \$.87/100 cubic feet  
New rate = \$.95/100 cubic feet



## District Fares Well During Dry Times

Thanks to a plentiful water supply from deep aquifers beneath the ground, Lakewood Water District is experiencing no water shortages during these dry times. All our wells are operating at normal levels, and at this time, the District does not anticipate any conservation measures will be necessary. Although the District always encourages wise water use, there is no need to depart from your normal water use this spring.

## Seasonal Flushing Underway:

It is once again the time of year for the District to begin flushing its water mains. Flushing is a maintenance task completed by the District each year beginning the first week of March and continuing through the first week of July. This particular time of year is chosen for flushing when the warmer temperatures prevent the water flushed onto the streets from freezing, and it allows for the flushing to be completed before our peak demand pumping season arrives.

Natural mineral deposits of iron and manganese get built up around the inside of the four-inch and larger water mains. There are no health risks associated with these deposits. Annually we flush the system by pulling water from a storage tank or reservoir and proceed from hydrant to hydrant with high-velocity flows of water. This is called high-velocity flushing. The hydrants are turned 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. Be sure to watch for our blue and white street notification signs giving you a 48-hour advanced notice of the Lakewood Water District's flushing crew coming to your neighborhood.

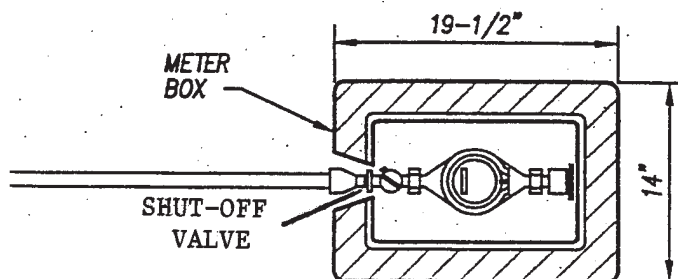
If you have any questions, please call 588-4423. If you need assistance after hours, please call 588-2296.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

## Water Meter Shut-off Valve

The shut-off valve at the meter box is used by Lakewood Water District for maintenance and repairs of the meter. The valve is part of the water system and should not be used by home owners as the main shut-off valve to your home. Most homes and businesses have a shut-off valve located between the meter and the home or in the home.

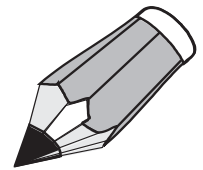
It is important that the valve at your water meter is in proper working order. The valves can be damaged if not properly shut off. If you need your water turned off for any reason, just contact the District office at 588-4423; after hours call 588-2296. This service is available 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. There is a \$2 service fee for this service that will be added to your next water bill.



## District to Distribute Water Quality and Annual Business Report in June 2005

The District's 2004 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 information, call Christie Butler at the District office at 588-4423.

## Automatic Bill Payment:



If you are looking for a convenient way to pay your water bill, remember our Automatic Bill Payment Service. If you would like 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](http://www.lakewood-water-dist.org).



### Published by Lakewood Water District

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Night/Emergency Phone: (253)588-2296  
[www.lakewood-water-dist.org](http://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

