



LAKEHAVEN UTILITY DISTRICT

31627 1st Ave. S. | PO Box 4249 | Federal Way, WA 98063-4249
Federal Way: 253-941-1516, Tacoma: 253-927-2922 | www.lakehaven.org

September - October 2002

Commissioner's Corner

Ed Stewart



With this being my first chance since the elections last November to communicate with District customers through the Newsletter, I wanted to take this opportunity to reiterate my goals as a member of the Lakehaven Utility District's Board of Commissioners and to provide you with some information about your water and sewer utility.

My primary goal remains to provide efficient and reliable water and sewer service to you, the rate payer, at the most economical rates. The provision of these services must meet, and be consistent with, the regulatory mandates for drinking water quality and wastewater treatment imposed by the various governmental agencies that regulate water and sewer utilities.

The Lakehaven Utility District provides water and sewer service over a broad and geographically diverse area. The District encompasses approximately forty (40) square miles of service area. This area includes the City of Federal Way and portions of the cities of Des Moines, Kent, Auburn, Pacific, Milton, Edgewood and unincorporated areas of King County (and to a small extent, Pierce County). The area of service is generally bounded by South 272nd Street on the north and the King County-Pierce County line on the south. The Puget Sound serves as the western boundary and the westerly crest of the Auburn Valley generally comprises the eastern border. Approximately 26,000 water connections and 19,000 sewer connections exist over the many miles of water and sewer mains running throughout the area.

The District has 22 groundwater wells to furnish water to the water supply system. The District also maintains interties with the City of Tacoma and other water systems from which to draw additional water when necessary. Water obtained from both sources is stored in the twelve above-ground storage tanks located throughout the District. While located and designed to be as visually unobtrusive as possible, many of these tanks are visible as you drive around the area.

The sewer utility operates two secondary wastewater treatment plants. The largest is the Lakota Wastewater Treatment Plant, which is located just up from the Lakota Beach area. The other plant is known as the Redondo Wastewater Treatment Plant and is located towards the south end of the Redondo Beach area.

The District also owns a number of emergency electric power generators, some stationary and some trailer-mounted, that can supply power to the water wells during periods when normal power is interrupted due to storms or other conditions causing power outages. These trailer-mounted generators, as well as other stationary ones, are also available to supply power to sewer system lift stations during emergency conditions.

The District also owns and has qualified operators to operate several items of specialized equipment, such as a truck-mounted camera and video system which permits interior inspection of sewer main pipelines for defects such as broken joints, root intrusion, etc. The related chemical grouting equipment also allows the District to plug the defective pipe joints that are found to seal leaks and prevent infiltration of ground water into the system.

Leonard D. Englund
Commissioner

Charles I. Gibson
Commissioner

Timothy A. McClain
Commissioner

Donald L.P. Miller
Commissioner

Ronald E. Nowicki
Commissioner



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I believe with the infrastructure and employee capabilities that the District possesses, that we will be able to maintain reasonable rates and avoid the major rate increases that are being considered by many of our neighboring municipal utilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve!

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Fall is the time of the year during which legislative plans and strategies for the upcoming session are generally finalized. As we have learned over the years, once the session starts in January, the pace is hectic and the opportunity for meaningful contemplation and planning has long passed. By the time of the next Newsletter, we should be able to publish our 2003 Legislative Agenda.

We would like to extend our thanks and best wishes to MaryAnn Mitchell on her retirement from the Legislature. She has served our community well and will be missed in Olympia.

DISTRICT SAYS FAREWELL TO LONG TIME EMPLOYEE

Don Heritage, Lakehaven's Cross-Connection Specialist, passed away on June 16th, following a long battle with cancer. Don began his career with the District in January 1976 and retired in December 2001. He helped to create the District's cross connection program in the early 1980's and was a founding member of the Puget Sound regional cross connection group. He performed many other duties over his long tenure, including working on Lakehaven's installation and maintenance programs. Don was very active in the public relations arena for Lakehaven. He was instrumental in bringing the main cleaning display to the public's attention at such venues as the SeaTac Mall Safety Show, the Red White & Blue Festival, Family Fest and in classrooms throughout Federal Way. He especially enjoyed working with children and was involved with several youth programs in the Federal Way area. He was a representative, through his church, of an organization called "Children to Love", and made several trips to a Romanian orphanage to take them much needed food, clothing, and medical supplies. His many friends at Lakehaven will miss Don and we were honored to have such a talented, caring individual employed by the District.

SAFETY AWARDS

In an effort to encourage safety in the work place, the District conducts a Safety Incentive Awards Program each year. Awards are given to employees who practice safe work habits and who generally encourage other employees to do the same. Employees are also recognized for offering safety suggestions throughout the year. District management is pleased to announce that the following employees were selected for these awards this year:

WASTEWATER OPERATIONS & FIELD OPS:

- Jack Housley
- Craig Hurley

WATER OPERATIONS/ENGINEERING:

- Angela Peters

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SAFETY SUGGESTIONS:

- Dan Kuipers
- Lee Schumacher
- John Vindivich

SAFETY REMINDER

On occasion we hear in the news that persons claiming to be utility workers have gained entry to homes for illegal purposes. Please be aware that our field crews are required to wear uniforms to make them easily identifiable and they carry picture identification cards. If someone in uniform knocks on your door, you have seen their I.D. card and you still are not sure they are with the District, please call our office for confirmation before giving them access to your home.

Kids Corner

This is an easy-to-make **Pine Cone Bird Feeder** that even young children can help make.

For each Pine Cone Bird Feeder you will need:

- A large, open pine cone
- Vegetable shortening, lard or suet
- Oats or corn meal
- Bird seed
- A few feet of string

Tie a few feet of string to a pine cone. Cover the pine cone with the mixture below. Roll the pinecone in birdseed and then suspend it from a tree branch outside.

Food mixture: Mix ½ cup vegetable shortening, lard or suet with 2 ½ cups cornmeal or uncooked oats until well blended. Optional: add dried fruit (chopped up), chopped nuts, seeds (especially sunflower and millet), and/or suet, which are high-energy bird foods.

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Your Board of Commissioners

Tom Jovanovich - President

Dick Mayer - Vice President

Ed Stewart - Secretary

Beverly J. Tweddle - Commissioner

Donald L. P. Miller - Commissioner

Regular Board of Commissioners meetings are held at:
Lakehaven Center
31531 First Ave. S.
Federal Way at 6 p.m.

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Commissioner

Charles I. Gibson
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