



# 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](http://www.lakehaven.org)

**May - June 2011**

## **Commissioner's Corner**

Don Miller



### GARDENS AND GRADUATIONS

Because of the efforts devoted to planning for water and sewer needs in the future, the outlook for the coming years for the District is bright.

Spring is a time for optimism. My wife Patti and I enjoy working in our yard and the fruits, berries, and beautiful flowers that spring from the garden are a wonderful reward for our efforts. We also get a chance to see our grandchildren graduating from school at this time of year as they transition into useful, smart, and caring adults. Recently, Commissioner Gibson and I reviewed the annual water festival program at Green River Community College, which was attended by fourth and fifth grade students from our area. There is great hope for the future as these bright students continue with their education.

The American Water Works Association (AWWA), [www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org), and the Water Environment Federation (WEF), [www.wef.org](http://www.wef.org), are sponsoring programs, information, and scholarships to encourage young professionals to seek work in the water and wastewater industry. With all the emphasis on "green" jobs, I hope many young people will take a look at careers in this industry.

Lakehaven Utility District is in full swing this spring taking care of our water and wastewater needs. When it comes to running a large water and sewer utility, there is no free lunch. We have invested many dollars and countless hours of labor and planning to achieve beneficial results in areas such as emergency planning, finance, computer technology, administration, and political coordination as we endeavor to stay on top of our responsibilities. As a result of these efforts, we have been able to maintain among the lowest rates in the region. Another important aspect of our planning is that we continue to pursue loan and grant money to enable us to fund our infrastructure projects as efficiently as possible.

We have high hopes for the future and are preparing to continue serving you, our customers, in the best

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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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possible way.

For further information about the District, contact us at 253-946-5446 or visit our website at [www.lakehaven.org](http://www.lakehaven.org).

## ***CAPITAL FACILITIES CHARGE CAPACITY RENTAL PROGRAM***

The Board continues to review the Capital Facilities Charge Capacity Rental Program (“CFC Rental Program”) and various options for implementing capacity rent to customers using more capacity in the water and sewer systems than was purchased. It is currently anticipated that the CFC Rental Program will resume with the regular monthly billings that are distributed to customers beginning in January, 2012.

At present, the Board is proposing to broaden the scope of the CFC Rental Program to include all customers that use excess capacity. Previously, only commercial customers, a group which includes multi-family properties, were subject to capacity rent. Under the current CFC Rental Program, rent was based on a customer’s twelve (12) month rolling average of consumption, which tends to reduce rent overall by balancing an individual customer’s high consumption periods with low-use periods. As an additional mitigation measure and in order to focus the CFC Rental Program on the more significant uses of excess capacity, the Board has discussed allowing a “buffering” of the rent threshold by increasing allocated capacity by 20%. On top of this, the Board has also considered allowing a “grace” credit of one (1) Equivalent Residential Unit to be included in the threshold. These changes, along with continuing the “rolling average” component, will substantially reduce, or eliminate entirely, the rent obligation of customers using smaller amounts of extra capacity. By way of example, a single family residential customer would not pay capacity rent until the twelve month rolling average consumption of water exceeded forty five hundred cubic feet of water per billing cycle (one hundred cubic feet of water equals approximately 750 gallons). Currently, the average single family residential customer uses approximately sixteen hundred cubic feet of water in a two month period.

The District anticipates that beginning with the billing statements sent out in the July/August cycle, customers will be able to see how much rent, if any, they would have paid in each billing cycle during the second half of 2011 were the CFC Rental Program in place. We also hope to update you in the upcoming Newsletter as the revised CFC Rental Program takes further shape.

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## ***GREEN RIVER FILTRATION PROJECT***



The “Second Supply Project Partners”, made up of Lakehaven, Tacoma, Kent, and Covington Water District, are progressing rapidly into the design phase for a new Green River Water Filtration Plant. The project, needed to meet new federal drinking water requirements, will be located in the Green River watershed near Palmer, Washington (about 23 miles due east of Federal Way). Montgomery Watson has been selected to perform design services and will team with Hoffman Construction, selected as the General Contractor/Construction Manager, in plant construction. The plant is planned for completion by 2016, and in total, is estimated to cost \$217 million. Lakehaven’s 11% cost share is about \$24 million.

## ***MIOX ONSITE GENERATION PROJECT AT LAKOTA WWTP***

The District recently replaced the chlorine gas treatment system that is used at the Lakota Wastewater Treatment Plant with an onsite generation system. The new “Miox” system combines salt and electricity to produce a very effective, but low strength, bleach used to meet disinfection needs at the plant. The bleach produced is at a concentration of .5%, compared to household cleaning bleaches that are 4-6% in concentration. The low cost of the new equipment allows the Miox system to be a more economical alternative than continuing to operate the existing system. It is also a safe and environmentally responsible way to meet the operational needs of the treatment plant.

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## *MEMORIAL PAVERS IN GARDEN*

A new section of the District's Water Conservation Garden was created to dedicate memorial pavers. If you would like to include your name or that of a loved one, please call 253-946-5446. The cost of each paver is approximately \$50 and a portion of that money will be donated to the Customer Assistance Fund.



## *KIDS' CORNER- Water Festival at Green River Community College*



Lakehaven Utility District sponsored the attendance of 339 students from the Federal Way Public School District at the 2011 Water Festival held at Green River Community College in March. The picture above shows 4th & 5th grade students from Sherwood Forest Elementary school learning about the importance of clean water for salmon by playing a game called "Salmon Survivor". Commissioners Miller and Gibson are also pictured.

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## *Your Board of Commissioners*

Ron Nowicki - President  
Len Englund - Vice President  
Chuck Gibson - Secretary  
Tim McClain - Commissioner  
Don Miller - Commissioner

Regular Board of Commissioners meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month.  
These meetings are held at the Lakehaven Center at:

Lakehaven Center  
31531 First Ave. S.  
Federal Way at 6 p.m.

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