



# 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)

September - October 2011

## 2012 WATER CONSERVATION CALENDAR 1ST PLACE WINNER



Diana N. from Wildwood Elementary Teacher: Mr. Cho

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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## Commissioner's Corner

Len Englund



It is both exciting and gratifying to boast to our ratepayers about how Lakehaven is working to improve our environment while, at the same time, becoming more efficient in the process.

The District is deploying new technologies to treat biosolids (also known as sludge)! In this edition of the Newsletter, we highlight a brand new dewatering system at the Redondo Wastewater Treatment Plant. Dewatering is a process that does exactly what the name implies. It removes much of the water from the biosolids as part of the treatment process. After the dewatering process occurs, the biosolids are transported to Eastern Washington to be applied as beneficial organic matter on agriculture lands.

So, why is dewatering biosolids so exciting? Lakehaven spends significant amounts of money transporting biosolids for land application. The heavier the biosolids, the more expensive it is to transport. By using a rotary press and its automated dewatering technologies, we are significantly reducing the amount of water retained in the biosolids. The drier biosolids are lighter, making it much cheaper to transport and dispose of.

Another great way District employees and ratepayers support our community is by participating in our Customer Assistance Program (CAP). Nearly \$7,000 was donated to CAP last year. If you participated, thank you so very much! The fund relies solely on donations. The need is great and the fund needs to be replenished! Please consider helping out with a few dollars in order to make it a little easier for those in need.

After becoming a Lakehaven Commissioner, I committed to donating a portion of my Commissioner per diem to the CAP fund monthly. I am not alone in this. Many others, including commissioners and employees, donate to the CAP. It makes a big difference to those in need in our community. There is nothing more basic than fresh clean water and reliable sewer service. Unless you are experiencing financial difficulties, it is very easy to take for granted that it will always be there.

Lastly I'd like to remind everyone that winter is coming. It is not too early to be thinking about winterizing your outdoor pipes and hose bibs. Also remember to drain the water from your yard and lawn sprinkler systems as well. As is often said, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!

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Enjoy the autumn and be ready for whatever winter brings to us.

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

The January 1, 2012 implementation date for the revised Capital Facilities Charge Capacity Rental Program ("Program") is fast approaching.

The revised Program applies to residential, multi-family, commercial and public authority customers. Water and sewer system Capital Facility Charges are collected at the time a property is connected to the water and/or sewer systems. These charges are expressed in equivalent residential units (ERUs) and represent an estimation of the proportionate share of the general infrastructure improvements (e.g. treatment plant, water reservoir) that a connecting property will use. In cases where a property is using more capacity in the water and/or sewer systems than originally purchased, a capacity rental charge will be added to the bill.

The Program is being revised in 2011 to reduce the impact of additional use on property owners. In addition to the annual averaging of consumption, which reduces the impact of peak demand and allows property owners the benefit of lower consumption periods, the Board is adding a "buffer" and "grace credit" to the rent computation. The buffer increases paid capacity by 20% for purposes of calculating rent. The grace credit allocates an additional ERU to each customer before rent begins to accrue. The impact will serve to reduce, or, in many cases, eliminate rent from the bill of customers.

The Board has determined to credit all rent paid under the prior version of the Program. Customers who paid capacity rent in 2010 will receive a credit against any future capacity rent due in the amount of the capacity rent paid. If no new capacity rent is due, the amount will be refunded by payment directly to the property owner.

During the remainder of 2011, monthly water and sewer bills will continue to indicate where payment can be expected based on current consumption records. Customers are free to purchase additional units of capacity in the water and/or sewer system to minimize capacity rent.

Remember also that conserving water will save you money on rates and capacity rent on both your water and sewer bills!

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## DEWATERING AT THE REDONDO WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT



On July 9th the District made a major leap forward in the application of innovative wastewater technologies by bringing a new bio-solids press online at the Redondo Treatment Plant. Pictured above is the Fournier Rotary Press, which incorporates many of the technological advances in solids processing developed in the wastewater industry over the last fifteen years.

The Fournier press “squeezes” the bio-solids to remove water retained in the product at the completion of the treatment process. When compared with the prior dewatering equipment used at the Redondo Plant, the Fournier system doubles the amount of water that is removed from the solids during the dewatering process. Since these bio-solids are transported in trucks from the plant for land application in Eastern Washington, the reduction in volume and weight from more efficient dewatering significantly reduces the hauling and disposal costs. In addition to the cost savings in transportation and disposal costs, the Fournier equipment, which was installed at a lower cost through cooperation between staff and contractor resources, uses a fraction of the energy and water that traditional dewatering equipment uses. Coupled with the fact that it is sufficiently automated to be able to run without operator oversight, the District can expect to continue to reap large savings over the full life of the operation of the Fournier press.

This is only one of the innovative technologies that the District is investing in to better protect the environment and benefit the customers of the District well into the future.

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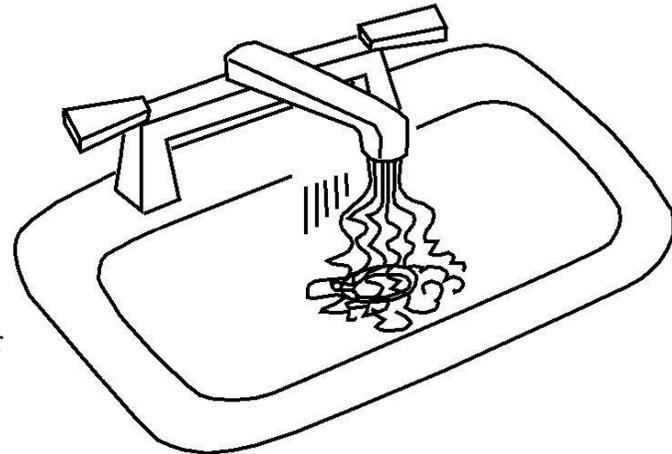
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## ***KIDS' CORNER - SAVE WATER! TEST YOUR WATER SENSE***

What wastes the MOST water per day in your home?

1. Running the tap while washing the dishes.
2. Using a garbage disposal.
3. Ignoring a leaky faucet.
4. Taking long showers.



Answer: C. Leaky faucets can be big money wasters. If you see or hear a leaky faucet, tell your parents about it so they can get it fixed.

### **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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