

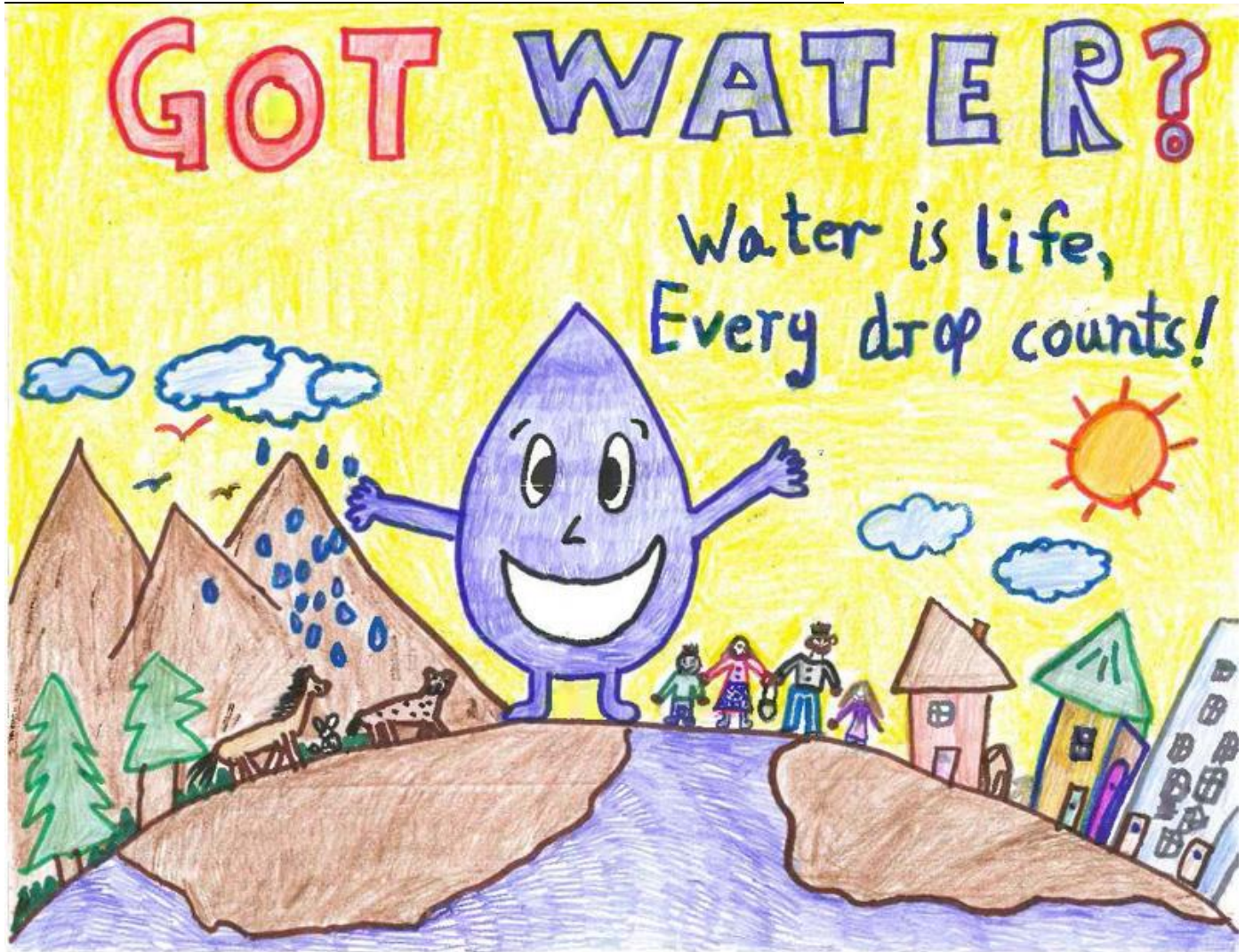


LAKEHAVEN UTILITY DISTRICT

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 2014

2015 WATER CONSERVATION CALENDAR FIRST PLACE WINNER



Emma A. of Spring Valley Montessori Teacher: Ms. Sauer

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

Don Miller



As we all know, running a first class operation of any kind does not happen by accident. It takes a lot of dedication, teamwork and hard work. Because of the efforts we make at Lakehaven to provide the most reliable and efficient water and sewer service to you, you are the beneficiaries of state of the art facilities and the lowest combined water and sewer rates around.

I came to Federal Way more than fifty years ago, when the area's population was in the range of ten to twelve thousand residents. I have watched the area grow and the community become more a part of the greater Puget Sound area than simply an isolated stop on the way between Seattle and Tacoma. With an interest in community service, I have been involved for most of my time here in activities with my church, Kiwanis, the Historical Society and, of course, the Lakehaven Utility District. In fact I just received a much appreciated 30-year award for service, as well as a lifetime membership, from the America Water Works Association (AWWA).

The growth and expansion have created some challenges for the two utilities we oversee. Service to new areas requires extension of facilities and coordinated planning to make sure that capacity is available for all to share.

A good example of the challenge of utility planning is the new sewer trunk that we are installing in the downtown Federal Way area. When the original lines were installed decades ago, it was presumed that they would be adequate to carry wastewater from the area around 320th and Pacific Highway for even the longest planning horizon that could be contemplated. New growth in the area, as well as future growth that is anticipated, is bringing more intensive demand for sewer capacity in the area than had been originally contemplated. The result is the need for a much larger sewer line that can handle the full measure of anticipated growth. While this is expensive, it pays to put the money into the system now so that additional expansion is not necessary in the future.

It takes more than an investment in facilities to run the utility. We spend a considerable amount of time and effort making sure our commissioners and employees are up to date on the latest technologies available to deliver efficient water and sewer service. To keep abreast of these technologies, as well as the regulatory requirements that drive many of the innovations in our industry, our staff and Board regularly attend conferences and classes aimed at updating our familiarity with the "best practices"

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available for meeting these challenges. Many of our staff members actually provide the training that others in the water and sewer business use to improve their own knowledge of facility operations and management practices.

As we wind into fall, I hope all enjoyed the wonderful summer we experienced. My wife and I very much enjoyed the opportunity to spend time tending to our flower and vegetable gardens this year.

If you have questions, suggestions or comments for us, please call or visit our web site. We will be happy to respond!

FAREWELL TO PETE HUPPERTEN



Pictured above is Pete Hupperten, with Commissioners Miller, Englund and Gibson, General Manager John Bowman, and General Counsel Steve Pritchett, receiving a resolution from the Board during the June 26th Board meeting commending him for his 31 years of service to the District and its customers. Pete began his career at the District in March 1983 as a Supervisor of Administrative Services. Pete served as the District's Purchasing Coordinator during the later years of his employment. The last several months have been focused on training his replacement. While thanking the Board for recognizing his efforts and for their role in making the District an enjoyable place to work, Pete noted the significant

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changes at the District over the period of his employment. Congratulations to Pete and best wishes for a long and rewarding retirement.

CHANGE IN MULTI-FAMILY SEWER BILLING

The Board of Commissioners approved a change in the way multi-family residential complexes with separate irrigation meters are allocated sewer rates. Previously, sewer rates for all multi-family accounts were subject to the same wet-month averaging system applicable to single-family residential customers. Under wet month averaging, the District determines the amount of water consumed by a customer during the wettest months of the year, when outdoor irrigation, which does not flow into the sewer system, is typically not occurring. The consumption data from the wet months is then used to establish the demand placed on the sewer system, and, correspondingly, the rates, during the entire year. New customers are assigned an average sewer rate until they have completed the wet month period.

Where a property has an irrigation meter, as many commercial and multi-family properties do, there is no need to use wet-month averaging because the irrigation consumption is already isolated to the irrigation meter. Water used from the domestic service lines, which serve the residential units, does find its way to the sewer system and can be correlated year round to sewer demand. The added benefit of this change is that new multi-family residential connections do not have to retain an average demand allocation until the wet month data can be accumulated.

By making sewer rates more directly correlated to water use, the new system should be better for multi-family customers with irrigation meters (particularly new customers). It should also make billing of these accounts easier for District staff. While there will likely be savings on initial sewer bills for new multi-family customers, overall sewer rates from these account are not expected to be impacted significantly.

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KID'S CORNER



SPOOKY SPIDERS

What's Halloween without creepy cookies? Spookify a pack of Oreos by turning them into a crunchy, critter treat. Make sure you use Double-Stuff Oreos, so there is enough cream to hold the pretzel sticks! And don't fret about finding perfectly round orange candies. Any small round candy will do. Enjoy!!

Your Board of Commissioners

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