



Water on Whidbey

Whidbey Island Water Systems Association

Newsletter, August 2024

Welcome to Water on Whidbey August 2024!

Whidbey Island Water Systems Association publishes this monthly newsletter to keep the community up to date with water news. The newsletter is sent to our email list and posted on our website to provide a single place to find this month's news and web content.

Please share this newsletter with your fellow water system board members, commissioners, operators, friends and neighbors, and anyone who drinks water! Encourage them to subscribe to receive it directly to their inbox along with invitations to member meetings and other events.

News from Whidbey Island Water Systems Association

2024 Symposium

A big thanks to everyone who attended the **2024 Symposium** which was held on **Saturday, June 29th** at the Oak Harbor High School. We heard from industry and agency representatives on various topics including Reservoir Inspections, Remote Read Meters, Remote Metering Pumps and the DW State Revolving Fund. Another big thanks to all of our participants who presented and/or created and managed the displays as well as our panel members.

The closing panel session was quite lively with lots of questions and discussion regarding how to keep our water systems functioning, including how to obtain service for preventive maintenance and failures (especially electricians which seem to be in short supply), how to go about determining the amount of reserve funds needed for future equipment and piping replacements, how long equipment and piping typically lasts and more. The issue of aging infrastructure was a big concern among the attendees.

We'd love to hear from you (no matter if you attended the symposium or not) about suggestions for next year including but not limited to **topics that you'd like to see addressed** and **scheduling preferences** (best time of year, location). Email us at mail@whidbeywatersystems.org!

SAVE THE DATE: September Quarterly Member Meeting

Our next Member Meeting will be Thursday September 19, 2024 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm on ZOOM. All subscribers to the newsletter will receive the Zoom invitation to the meeting at least a week prior to the meeting. If someone forwarded this newsletter to you, consider subscribing [here](#).

The featured topics will include a presentation on **Water System Planning** by representatives of the **Office of Drinking Water and Island County**. Next month's newsletter will include the complete meeting agenda.

Member Meetings Videos Now Available

Recordings of the **2024 member meetings are available for viewing**. The recording for March and June are posted on the website home page but eventually there will be a menu option to provide easy

access to the videos. View the March meeting [here](#) and the June meeting [here](#). Future meetings will be recorded and posted within a week of the meeting.

Welcome New Members!

- Young Larson Road Water (Group B)

Reminder: Lead Service Line Inventory due October 16, 2024

- This was a topic at **June's Quarterly Meeting**. If you didn't attend or just want to refresh your memory, you can view the meeting recording [June Q2 Meeting Video](#). The Lead and Copper presentation starts at 43 minutes, 25 seconds (43:25). There's additional information and support available for Group A systems working on compliance with the new Lead Service rules.
- The July **ODW newsletter** includes some additional options for technical assistance with the inventory and related communications.
- You can find more details on the [DOH website](#) which includes links to the technical and compliance requirements along with information about grants and other funding options.

Billing—Annual WIWSA Dues Payments are Due

You should have received the annual membership dues invoice by email and hopefully have already responded. **If you didn't receive the email or have questions about it**, please contact us by email at treasurer@whidbeywatersystems.org. Thanks for your support!

PFAS News

- John Lovie's recent post conveniently summarizes the PFAS news of recent months. Check it out [here](#).

News from our Partners

Island County

- In July the county issued a Request For Proposal (RFP) soliciting proposals from firms to **update the Coordinated Water System Plan (CWSP)**. If you aren't familiar with the CWSP, it acts as a regional supplement to each individual water system plan, and includes guidance for those water systems, including minimum design standards. For more information, the county has provided this [summary](#) in which you'll note that "*All water purveyors within the CWSSA shall be notified and asked to participate in the development and update of the CWSP*". You can view the RFP [webpage](#) or just click [here](#) to download a copy of the RFP.

Department of Ecology

- Earlier this month, the Department of Ecology issued a [Washington Water Supply Update](#) which continued the drought declaration already in effect and provided a summary and links to the recent [Water Supply Availability Committee \(WSAC\)](#) meetings. The release noted that there is some hope for a wetter fall but "*Averaged statewide, the water year so far (October through June) was the 15th warmest and 50th driest on record.*"

Department of Health/Office of Drinking Water

- The latest **ODW Newsletter** includes information on the Lead Service Line inventory, CyberSecurity, SWAP Map updates and more.

- The next **Quarterly Drinking Water Advisory Group (DWAG) meeting** is scheduled for **September 9, 2024 from 9:00 am to 11:40 am** virtually on Microsoft Teams. Visit the [DWAG meeting](#) webpage for the meeting agenda and links to attend the meeting.

[Evergreen Rural Water of Washington—2024 Fall Conference](#)

There's still time to register for the **Evergreen Rural Water of WA 2024 Fall Conference held in Yakima, WA on August 27-29, 2024**. The annual conference is intended for Operators, Utility Board Members, Mayors, Council Members, Public Works Directors, and other leaders to stay up to date on their water and wastewater utility systems. You can earn up to 1.6 CEU for the conference. Register [here](#) and find the class schedule [here](#).

[AWWA Webinars & PNW Training](#)

<https://www.awwa.org/Events-Education/Webinars>

<https://www.pnws-awwa.org/training/training-opportunities/>

[NRWA Webinars](#)

<https://www.gotostage.com/channel/nrwawebinars>

[RCAC Workshops](#)

<https://www.events.rcac.org/rcac/Calendar.asp>

[Do you have news you want to share?](#)

If you have water news you'd like to share with the water drinkers of Whidbey Island, please send a message to mail@whidbeywatersystems.org

[Subscribe!](#)

Please [subscribe](#) to receive our emails including this monthly newsletter and quarterly meeting invitations.

[Join!](#)

We encourage water systems, private well owners, and companies serving water systems to become members of WIWSA. Please [Apply Online](#) or print out and mail in the [Membership Application/Renewal/Update form](#) to become a member.