



Russ Olsen  
District # 2

### Commissioner's Corner

As District 2 Commissioner, I am honored to serve you. Please feel free to communicate any of your comments and concerns about any of the issues that the PUD addresses. My e-mail address is [rolsen@thurstonpud.org](mailto:rolsen@thurstonpud.org). Your perspectives, combined with the information gathered by the PUD, enable your commissioners to make better informed decisions. For example, the perspectives expressed by customers of the Tanglewilde-Thompson Place Water System in a recent public meeting provided me wider perspectives of community concerns related to this PUD water system.

In the near future, the PUD will be completing an asset management plan for projecting the timeline and costs for the maintenance and replacement of crucial elements in the water systems managed by the PUD. In addition, the PUD is developing a cost of service rate study of all the available revenue sources to meet the needs of PUD customers. I encourage your comments, concerns, and information as the PUD Commission determines a comprehensive and strategic plan for your PUD. I am available to meet with community groups to listen to your concerns, ideas, and perspectives on these issues.

Commissioner  
District 2,  
Russ Olsen

### **Notice of Proposed Budget and Rate Public Hearings**

Dear Thurston PUD Customer:

Thurston PUD Commissioners will hold Public Hearings on September 10th, September 24th, and on October 7th on the budget and utility rates proposed for 2014. Following the October 7th Public Hearing, the PUD Commissioners will review the budget options and proposed rates. Members of the public are welcome to attend these meetings. Information regarding the Proposed Budget and rate increases will be posted on our web site, [www.thurstonpud.org](http://www.thurstonpud.org), on Friday, August 30, or can be obtained by contacting our office at (360) 357-8783; toll free at (866) 357-8783.

#### ***How can I ask questions or provide my comments?***

You are invited to attend the public hearings or submit written comments:

#### **Public Hearing Dates**

Tuesday, September 10, 2013 at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 24, 2013 at 5:00 p.m., and October 7th, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County

921 Lakeridge Way SW, 3rd Floor, Olympia, Washington 98502

**You also may submit comments in writing to the address below:**

PUD Commissioners

921 Lakeridge Way SW, Suite 301, Olympia, WA 98502

Or email@ [PUDCustomerService@thurstonpud.org](mailto:PUDCustomerService@thurstonpud.org).

Written comments received by close of business October 4 will become part of the public record. The Board will hear, read and discuss your comments. The Board is required to adopt or modify the budget at the conclusion of the Public Hearing on October 7, 2013.

## IS YOUR DOG'S BARK BIGGER THAN HIS BITE?

Many of our customers have furry friends that live with them. Our service technicians welcome the company of the four-legged "customers" when they are out and about working on your water system or meter reading. They may actually get a treat from the service technicians. However, in some instances, our four-legged customers are not so happy to see our service technicians approaching and are protecting your property as they should. For the safety of our employees, please keep your animals away from parts of the water system where our service technicians are working, including meter boxes and blow offs, while they are in your area. Our service technicians and our insurance premiums will thank you!



## Water Leaks

Trying to be pro-active on water leaks, one of Thurston PUD's procedures is to look at high consumption of the monthly meter reads and try to determine if the customer has a leak. Some times it is very hard to determine from just the numbers during the summer months. You may receive a phone call from us saying that your usage is high and you may want to check for a leak. Some of this high usage might be from extra watering you have done or you may have accidentally left a hose running over night. If you think you might have a leak here is the way to check:

1. Shut off all the water in and outside of the house.
2. Find your water meter (usually on the front part of one of your property lines).
3. Look at the face of the meter, there will be a triangle or circle that turns if water is running through the meter. If the dial is turning, you have a leak. If you don't see anything moving, take a meter read and wait 10 or 15 minutes and take another meter read.

Thurston PUD has Toilet Leak Detection Kits available. You can pick them up in our office or ask one of our service technician's, they will be carrying them in their vehicles. A leaky toilet can add \$25.00 or more to your monthly water bill.



Once you have determined you have a leak, you can call a plumber or try to find and fix the leak yourself.

## Meet Thurston PUD's New Accountant



Ken Pitman has over 30 years experience in many facets of accounting including; governmental, manufacturing, construction, non-profit entities, and school district experience. Ken's previous employment expertise includes budgets, accounts payables, accounts receivable, payroll, construction, and grants, to name a few areas.

After growing up in Olympia and graduating from North Thurston High School, Ken and his wife have split their time between Eastern and Western Washington. He went on to earn his bachelor's degree from Washington State University (go Cougs!).

To be closer to aging parents, they decided to move back to Olympia three years ago where Ken continues to be an avid cyclist, logging an average of 125 miles a week. His other interests are hockey, cheering for the unpredictable Vancouver Canucks. Ken is also involved with a concert chorale group (Breath of Aire) that consists of 40-60 voices, and he sings around the greater Northwest area.

Ken and his wife Karen have been married for over 37 years and have two grown children (Jenna & Colin). Their son has added a beautiful daughter-in-law (Fiona) to the family, but, as of date, no grandchildren.



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