



Commissioner's Corner

By Chris Stearns, District 3



2016 Water System Improvements and other Significant Activities

I New Systems, Water Conservation Rebates and Sanitary Surveys

1. **Acquisition of New Water Systems.** In 2016, the PUD acquired four (4) new Thurston County water systems totaling 63 active connections consisting of three (3) Group B water systems, Frog Hollow Divisions 1, 2 and 3, and one (1) Group A water system, Red Tail Hawk Estates. Adding more systems helps spread the fixed costs of operating the PUD over more connections providing a better economy of scale, and helps keep costs lower for all of our customers.
2. **Water Conservation:** Five (5) \$50 Toilet Rebates were provided to customers in 2016.
3. **Sanitary Survey:** Sanitary Surveys were completed for the Crowder, Loma Vista, Prairie Villa, Sward, and Olympic View water systems.

II Projects/Extraordinary Maintenance (No Capital Surcharge Monies were Used in 2016)

1. **Hawk Acres Generator Replacement:** The generator was replaced after the old generator was damaged from a power surge.
2. **Tanglewilde Generator:** The City of Olympia intertie with the Tanglewilde-Thompson Place water system was closed and a back-up generator for the wells was installed.
3. **Crescent Park Upgrades:** A pump house upgrade replaced the pipes and wellhead interface.
4. **Well Pump Replacements:** Well pumps were replaced at the Sales, Garden Acres 3, Tracy 2, Skookumchuck (well #1), Roseburg, Tracy 3, Christensen Muck 1, and Heslep water systems.
5. **Booster Pump Replacements:** The Booster Pump was replaced at the Sward water system.
6. **Treatment Upgrades and Treatment Maintenance:** Treatment was replaced at the Granite 1 and 2, Red Cloud 2, Sales, and Eastridge 2 water systems. Treatment maintenance to improve system operation was completed at the Eastridge 3 and Pickering View water systems.
7. **Electrical System Work:** Electrical system work was completed at the Webster Hill, Smith Prairie, Christensen Muck #1, Lazy Acres, Sargent, Crescent Park, and Tanglewilde-Thompson Place systems.
8. **Chlorine and Soda Ash Injection Pump Replacement:** Pumps were replaced at Crowder, Red Cloud 2, Nisqually Highlands, Prairie Villa, Evergreen Vista, and the Loma Vista water systems.
9. **Pressure Tanks Replaced:** Tanks were replaced at the Pickering View and Pleasant Valley systems.
10. **Pump House Repairs:**
 - a) A new metal roof was installed on the Aust system.
 - b) The Lew's 81st pump house was wrapped with metal.
 - c) New doors were installed on the Lazy Acres, Sward, Easterday, and Brookhaven 1 water systems.
11. **Miscellaneous Maintenance:** We installed Nisqually Highlands blow-offs, a Garden Acres pitless adaptor replacement, a Indian Crest 1 new service line, sight glass on the Crescent Park pressure tanks, sand traps at 336 1 and 2, and easement access was secured at the Ridgewood water system.

Water Leaks

As we try to be proactive on water leaks, one of Thurston PUD's procedures is to review high consumption meter reads on a monthly basis to determine if a customer has a leak. It can be challenging to determine if there is a leak from reviewing meter read information during the summer months. You may receive a phone call or letter from our office to notify you of increased consumption. A high meter read may indicate that a hose or spigot may have been left running, that you've been doing extra watering, using more water than usual, or that there's a water leak.

If you think you might have a leak, the way to check is outlined below:

1. Shut off all the water inside/outside your home.
2. Find your water meter (usually on 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.

If you determine that there's a leak at your property, you can try to find and fix the leak yourself, or you can call a plumber. If the leak is fixed and our office is notified by a phone call within 10 days of the date we notify you about the possible leak/high consumption, you may be eligible for a leak adjustment. **Per Thurston PUD policy, service line leaks (leaks that occur between your meter and your home) are the only leaks that qualify for a leak adjustment.**



PHONE PAYMENTS

If you'd like to make a payment over the phone, please contact our office at (866) 357-8783 during business hours, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm (Monday through Friday). If you have registered for an account through our payment processing website (<https://thurston.merchantransact.com/default.aspx>), the system will automatically send you a confirmation e-mail. **Our customer service representatives can no longer e-mail confirmation details for phone payments.** We apologize for any inconvenience.

Employee Spotlight: Anthony Dahmen



Anthony Dahmen starting working at the PUD on March 1, 2016. He said, "In this time I have learned many tasks ranging from completing a service request to pulling a well. I started as a meter reader and was recently promoted to a Field Technician I. I enjoy working for the PUD very much and strive to excel within our public utility. In my free time I enjoy spending time with my daughter, fishing, hiking, shooting, and photography." We appreciate Anthony's dedication!

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