



Water on Whidbey

Welcome to the WIWSA February 2021 Newsletter!

During these challenging times when we cannot meet in person, we are sending a monthly newsletter to keep our community up to speed with water news. We send this newsletter to our email list and post it on our website. We aim to provide an easy place to find all the month's news and upcoming events.

Please share this newsletter with your fellow water system board members, commissioners, operators, members, friends, neighbors, and anyone who drinks water on Whidbey and beyond, and encourage them to [subscribe](#).

News from Whidbey Island Water Systems Association

Tentative dates and plans for 2021 member meetings:

- March 18th: Coliform – Both Vistaire and Langley water systems tested positive for E. Coli in 2020. Learn how to prevent and handle positive coliform tests.
- June 17th: Water System Organization. A discussion of the merits of HOAs, municipal, investor owned, water districts, and PUDs as was to organize a water system.
- September 16th: DOH rule changes around PFAS and Water Use Efficiency.
- December 16th: Annual Meeting
- We will look at including a discussion of water system security in one of our meetings
- Our next Member Meeting will be March 18th, 2021, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm via Zoom. Please save the date. We will post an agenda and send an invitation email closer to the meeting. Remember that to receive the invitation email with the meeting link you need to [subscribe](#) to this email service.
- Check out our [Virtual Booth at Sound Waters University 2021](#).

News from our Partners

- **AWWA Pacific Northwest Section** is offering [quarterly virtual trainings](#) in lieu of a section conference this year. The first of these is on [Resilience Strategies](#) on February 25. WIWSA members can [register by February 19](#) at the reduced AWWA member rate of \$120 for a full day or \$60 for a half day.
- **AWWA** partnering with USDA and Partnership for Safe Water is offering several [FREE USDA Small Systems Trainings](#).
- **AWWA** [commented](#) on the [cyberattack on a Florida water system](#) and has [resources](#) to help you prevent this kind of attack.
- The **Office of Drinking Water** is changing reporting requirements for the annual Water Use Efficiency (WUE) report and have **rescheduled** a webinar to Thursday, February 18, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 (noon) to discuss the changes. **Registration link:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1372321765323877136> 0.3 CEU credits for this webinar will be available and there is no cost for this event. Additionally, a fact sheet has been created describing the changes to the reporting form. You can find it in our Publications Database at: <https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/odwpubs/Publications/>. Search for "Water Use Efficiency Changes" or Publication #331-669.

Further details of these events are on our [website](#)

- **BC Water News** is a great resource. We suggest you sign up for a [free subscription](#).
- **NRWA's** Rural Water Wire is another great resource. Click the subscribe link at the top of the email.
- **Wateroperator.org** is also well worth a subscribe. Click the subscribe link at the top of the email.
- The **Island County Planning Commission** held a public hearing on code changes around Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). We will continue to monitor these developments and their potential impact on water systems.
- **Circle of Blue** wrote about [Michigan's Groundwater Emergency](#)



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 (at) whidbeywatersystems.org

Subscribe!

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

Podcasts

Podcasts are a great way to catch up with news while giving your eyes a rest. Here are some of the best water podcasts. You can also find the links on the resources page of our web site.

- **Circle of Blue** [What's Up with Water](#) "What's Up With Water" condenses the need-to-know news on the world's water into a weekly snapshot.
- **Water Environment Federation** [Words on Water](#) A podcast featuring conversations with influential and interesting people from the water sector and news from the Water Environment Federation.
- **The H2duO** [Water in Real Life](#) Award-winning communication professionals, Arianne Shipley and Stephanie Corso, aka The H2duO, chat with thought-leaders from both inside and outside of the water industry to serve as a resource for both personal and professional growth. Water in Real Life was created for water professionals who believe that if you desire to build the right relationships with your community, and thereby overcome many of the challenges you face, then your ability to connect with them through storytelling is essential.
- **(Don't) Waste Water** [weekly water podcast](#) covers case studies, market trends, and technology breakthroughs.