



Water on Whidbey

Welcome to the WIWSA March 2021 Newsletter!

During these challenging times when we cannot meet in person, Whidbey Island Water Systems Association is 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

Billing

- 2021 invoices have been sent. We have been hard at work adding a new option to pay by credit card through PayPal. You don't need a PayPal account to use this feature. If your water system's contact information needs to be updated, please use the [Membership Application/Renewal/Update](#) form.

Scholarship/Apprenticeship Program

- WIWSA is partnering with ERWoW/RCAC and SMAs and water systems on Whidbey Island to offer a scholarship and apprenticeship for persons interested in pursuing a career in drinking water. Look for a following email with details.

Dates and plans for 2021 member meetings:

- The March and most likely the June meetings will be via zoom. We hope to return to in person meetings later in the year.
- 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. The meeting will feature a panel of water system operators, state, and county staff to answer all you coliform questions.
 - ADUs – an update from Island County on how code changes around Accessory Dwelling Units
- June 17th: Water System Organization. A discussion of the merits of HOAs, municipal, investor owned, water districts, PUDs, and co-operatives as ways to organize water systems.
- 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**
 - The March newsletter is out. We suggest you subscribe to the AWWA-PNWS newsletter [here](#).
 - **AWWA-PNWS** is offering [quarterly virtual trainings](#) in lieu of a section conference this year.
 - **The Northwest Washington Subsection of PNWS-AWWA** is offering:
Emergency Preparedness – April 14th
Western Washington Short School – June 8th and 9th
- **AWWA**
 - is partnering with USDA and Partnership for Safe Water is offering several [FREE USDA Small Systems Trainings](#).
 - The March edition of [Opflow](#), the March edition of the [AWWA Journal](#) and the January/February edition of [AWWA Water Science](#) are out.
- [RCAC's Individual Well Program](#) is offering free well assessments to private well owners. [Register here](#).
- **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.



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 newsletter and meeting invitations.

Join!

We encourage water systems, private well owners, and companies serving water systems to become members of WIWSA. Please use the [Membership Application/Renewal/Update](#) form to apply.

- [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](#)

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.