



Water on Whidbey

Whidbey Island Water Systems Association

Newsletter

June 2023

Welcome to the WIWSA June 2023 Newsletter!

Whidbey Island Water Systems Association sends 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

Board of Directors

We have further changes to the Association Board of Directors.

Following the [purchase of King Water by NW Natural Water](#), which is also the parent company of Cascadia Water, of which Culley Lehman is General Manager, Culley decided to step down as President to avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest. Culley will remain on the board as a director at large.

Randi Perry is stepping up to take over as President, while John Lovie will fill Randi's previous position as secretary.

A [full list of directors and officers](#) can be found on the web site, but we'll reproduce them here as well, as we've had so many changes:

Randi Perry, President

Public Works Director, City of Langley
publicworks (at) langleywa.org

Joe Grogan, Vice President

Utilities Supervisor, Town of Coupeville
publicworks (at) townofcoupeville.org

John Lovie, Secretary

Sun Vista/Sunlight Beach Water Association, Clinton, WA 98236
john.lovie (at) whidbey.com or mail(at)whidbeywatersystems.org

Brenda Bosman, Treasurer

Bookkeeper
bbosman2023 (at) outlook.com

Jeff Tasoff, Director
Davido Consulting Group
jeff (at) dcengr.com

Mitch Allen, Director
Maple Hill Community Association
sayward (at) gmail.com

Culley Lehman, Director
General Manager, Cascadia Water
culley (at) cascadiawater.com

Vacancy 3

Vacancy 4

As shown by the two listed vacancies, we're still looking for a couple more board members!

[New Members](#)

We'd like to welcome the following new members:

Brenda Bosman, Associate Member

Hide-away Water Company

There is a [list of current members](#) on the web site.

[PFAS Public Participation Grant](#)

WIWSA has applied for a further two year [Public Participation Grant](#) for public education and participation in cleanup of PFAS in groundwater. We should know by the end of June whether we have received the grant.

[PFAS News](#)

The past month has been a busy time for PFAS. The Attorney General, Bob Ferguson, filed a lawsuit against 20 manufacturers of "forever chemicals", while Chemours, DuPont, and Corteva reached a settlement in the South Carolina AFFF multi-district litigation. We analyzed these lawsuits and settlements here: [Lawsuit week for PFAS - by John Lovie - Mostly Water \(substack.com\)](#)

The State Office of Drinking Water managed to have included in the Governor's Budget an Alternative Water Supply Decision Package, which should make funding available for testing and more for systems and private well owners with PFAS detections. Many details are yet to be worked out. We will share information as soon as it is available.

In case you missed it, Washington State Department of Health has published three great [educational videos on PFAS](#).

DOH has also published a [PFAS Testing Results Dashboard](#), which is a great resource.

The State Department of Ecology has begun to investigate groundwater contamination around **Harrington Lagoon** on Whidbey and **Mabana Shores** on Camano. Ecology has added the Island County sites to the [site map](#).

We're working with the State Department of Health, the Climate Change Action Committee, and the State Department of Ecology on several public meetings and workshops on Whidbey and Camano Islands.

Check the [PFAS page](#) on the web site for updates as they happen.

Web site updates

We have changed the look and feel of the [website](#) so you can see recent posts and other features more easily. It also works better on mobile devices. Check it out and let us know what you think!

We have added an [events calendar](#) to the web site. You'll find it on the main menu. The calendar contains WIWSA events and those from partners. There's a submenu that lets you choose just [WIWSA events](#).

We've also added a special [PFAS](#) section to the web site.

Billing

If your water system's contact information needs to be updated, please use the [Membership Application/Renewal/Update](#) form. Invoices this year have been sent out by email. Thank you to those who have already send in their payments.

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. Please contact us for details. Our first applicant is already enrolled in the program and is doing well! If you know of someone who needs this program, please have them reach out.

Dates and plans for 2023 member meetings:

Save the date! Our next Member Meeting will be **Thursday June 15, 2023, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm**. The tentative topic is **Revised Lead and Copper Rule**. A full agenda and zoom link to follow. Remember that to receive the invitation email with the meeting link you need to [subscribe](#) to this email service.

News from our Partners

[Office of Drinking Water | Washington State Department of Health](#)

[ODW Newsletter | Washington State Department of Health](#)

Take a look at the latest [ODW Newsletter | Washington State Department of Health](#)

[Drinking Water Advisory Group](#)

The DWAG is looking to move to a monthly schedule due to the volume of work to be done. These meetings are a great opportunity to learn what the Office of Drinking Water is up to and to offer comments. Check the [DWAG website](#) for details of upcoming meetings.

[AWWA](#)

AWWA looks forward to ACE23 June 11-14, 2023 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

[PNWS-AWWA | Drinking Water Management Resources for Northwest Professionals](#)

Latest newsletters: [PNWS-AWWA Newsletters - PNWS-AWWA - Drinking Water Management & Resources for Northwest Professionals](#). We suggest you subscribe to the AWWA-PNWS newsletter [here](#).

[Circle of Blue | Water Reporting, Data & Convening](#)

[EPA Warns of Health Problems When PFAS Levels in Drinking Water Are Inconceivably Tiny - Circle of Blue](#)

[Opposition to CAFOs Mounts Across the Nation - Circle of Blue](#)

[Evergreen Rural Water of Washington > Home \(erwow.org\)](#)

[Calendar \(erwow.org\)](#)

[BC Water News](#) is a great resource.

We suggest you sign up for a [free subscription](#).

[NRWA's](#)

[WaterPro Conference 2023 held in Aurora, CO | NRWA](#)

September 25-27, 2023 | Gaylord Rockies Resort & Convention Center | Aurora, CO

[Wateroperator.org](#) is also well worth a subscribe.

Click the subscribe link at the top of the email.

All their Newsletters and Innovations for Small Water Systems can be found in the [WaterOperator > Newsletter](#)

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.

[talkingunderwater | Water & Wastes Digest \(wwdmag.com\)](#) Talking Under Water is the premier podcast for the water industry, including municipal and industrial water and wastewater, residential

water treatment, storm water management and erosion control. It is produced in coordination between [Water & Wastes Digest \(WWD\)](#), [Water Quality Products \(WQP\)](#) and [Storm Water Solutions \(SWS\)](#).

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.

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.

Author

Water on Whidbey is written and published by John Lovie. You can read more by John at [Mostly Water | John Lovie | Substack](#)