



# Water on Whidbey

Whidbey Island Water Systems Association  
Newsletter, November 2023

Editor [John Lovie](#)

## Welcome to Water on Whidbey November 2023!

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

### Annual Meeting

**Save the date for the 2023 Annual Meeting, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm, Zoom only.**

This is our most important member meeting of the year. We have decisions to make such as election of officers and approval of the budget that require a quorum of the membership. Some of you may recall that we had to repeat last December's annual meeting in January because of an insufficient number of members in attendance. The Seahawks game might have been a factor too, but we can't always schedule around that! Hybrid meetings seem to be less than satisfactory for both in person and online attendees, so for this meeting at least we're going online only.

To tempt you, topics will include:

- An update on service quality issues from an SMA
- An update on Island County well viewer data
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If this newsletter showed up in your inbox, you're already a subscriber and you'll receive the Zoom invite. If a friend forwarded it to you, then you'll need to [subscribe](#) to receive the Zoom invite.

Remember that to vote at the meeting you must be a member, and that it's one vote per member or member water system. If you're not a member, [fill out the form](#) to join, vote, and get the rest of 2023 free!

See you there!

### Board of Directors

We have had no further changes to the Association Board of Directors since the last newsletter! HOWEVER, we still have two vacancies, one expiring at the end of this year and up for reelection (or election) at the December meeting, and one with a year to run and then up for reelection at the end of

2024. In addition, my term is expiring. After ten years on the board (and a lifetime achievement award!), I've decided not to run again. That will create a third vacancy. If you're interested in running, please let the board know at mail (at) whidbeywatersystems.org. All members are eligible to run. We would like to have more Group B representation as well as someone from a Water District.

## New Members

We welcome Sarkasian Springs Water Association as a new member. There is a [list of current members](#) on the web site.

## PFAS News

### [Public Water System Settlements](#)

Note: This is not legal advice! If you have legal questions, please consult a lawyer. All public water systems required to test for PFAS in drinking water, in other words all group A water systems, are advised to follow the link below and read the information and take note of the important dates and deadlines. Water systems have until December 4th to submit requests for exclusion from the settlement of the AFFF Multi-District Litigation No. 2873 ("MDL") with Dupont, and until December 11th with 3M.

[Aqueous Film-Forming Foam \(AFFF\) Product Liability Litigation \(MDL 2873\) – District Court for the District of South Carolina, Master Docket No. 2:18-mn-2873-RMG \(pfaswatersettlement.com\)](#)

[What a Seattle Times investigation reveals about the poisoned groundwater west of Spokane](#)

[PFAS chemicals linked to thyroid cancer, human data suggests – The New Lede](#)

[PFAS is in the groundwater west of Spokane. What's known about the contamination is only growing. | The Seattle Times](#)

NAS Whidbey: Department of Defense (DoD) personnel visited Naval Air Station (NAS) Whidbey Island, Washington on 17-18 October 2023. This is one of several installation visits, which are an element of the DoD Environmental Cleanup Communication and Outreach Initiative (ECCOI). If you'd like to take a survey on your views of the Navy's communication around their cleanup process, you can do so here: [Environmental Cleanup Communication and Outreach Initiative \(ECCOI\) Community Member Voluntary Questionnaire Survey \(surveymonkey.com\)](#)

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

## Web site updates

### Billing

If your water system's contact information needs to be updated, please use the [Membership Application/Renewal/Update](#) form. Invoices will be going out in the new year.

## 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 starting a second year, and a second applicant has joined. 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 December 14th, 2023, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm.** This is our annual meeting where we have important business to conduct for which we need a quorum. Please be there! A full agenda and zoom link will follow. Remember that to receive the invitation email with the meeting zoom link you need to [subscribe](#) to this email service.

## News from our Partners

[City to study water resiliency with \\$100k grant | South Whidbey Record](#)

Langley was awarded a \$100,000 grant to add a climate element to its comprehensive plan.

[EPA Restarts Assessment of Health Risks from Nitrate in Water - Circle of Blue](#)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, reversing a Trump-era decision, is restarting a human health [assessment of nitrate and nitrite](#), a move that has potentially far-reaching regulatory implications for one of the country's most pervasive drinking water contaminants.

[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](#)

## [AWWA](#)

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

## [NRWA Webinars](#)

## Do you have news you want to share?

If you have water news that you'd like to share with the water drinkers of Whidbey Island, please send a message to mail (at) [whidbeywatersystems.org](mailto: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.

## Editor

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