



Water on Whidbey

Whidbey Island Water Systems Association
Newsletter, December 2023

Editor [John Lovie](#)

Welcome to Water on Whidbey December 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](#).

Editor's note

This will be my last edition of the newsletter as editor, as I'll be stepping down from the WIWSA board at the end of 2023. In the three years since we moved the newsletter online, subscriptions have grown to almost 400. I'd like to thank each of you for allowing us into your inbox each month. We don't take that privilege for granted.

While I'm here, I'd also like to thank you for your support during my ten years on the board, in each of the officer roles, as webmaster, and as drinking water advocate, and for all the email questions and other signs of interest in this work.

I'll continue to be involved in and writing about drinking water issues. If you'd like to stay in touch, you can email me at [john.lovie \(at\) whidbey.com](mailto:john.lovie@whidbey.com) or subscribe to my newsletter at [Mostly Water | John Lovie | Substack](#), where I write mostly, but not entirely, about water.

Thanks,

John Lovie

News from Whidbey Island Water Systems Association

Annual Meeting

Save the date for the 2023 Annual Meeting, December 14th, 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 King Water
- An update on Island County well viewer data

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.

Full details of who and which vacancies are up for election will be in the meeting announcement to follow shortly.

New Members

No new members since the last newsletter.

PFAS News

[US chemical industry likely spent \\$110m trying to thwart PFAS legislation, study finds | US news | The Guardian](#)

[US industry disposed of at least 60m pounds of PFAS waste in last five years | PFAS | The Guardian](#)

[Backlash forces EPA to pause toxic PFAS waste imports to US from Netherlands | PFAS | The Guardian](#)

[UN human rights experts express alarm over PFAS pollution in North Carolina | PFAS | The Guardian](#)

[After historic drinking water settlements, PFAS personal injury lawsuits loom - The New Lede](#)

[Chemical found widely in the environment causes cancer, global experts determine - The New Lede](#)

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

[Biden-Harris Administration Proposes to Strengthen the Lead and Copper Rule to Protect All Communities in America from Lead in Drinking Water | US EPA](#)

[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

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](#)