Welcome to the Group B Meet-up! March 14, 2024





Agenda

- Intro to Whidbey Island Water Systems Association (WIWSA)
 Mitch Allen, WIWSA Board
- Island County & Group B Systems

 Aneta Hupfauer, Environmental Health Specialist, Island County Public Health
- Group Discussion: What's your Experience? Issues? Concerns?



- What's the name of your water system?
- What is your primary role?
- What brought you to the meeting tonight?

Whidbey Island Water Systems Association

- WIWSA is a non-profit formed in 2004
- Mission is to provide member water systems on Whidbey Island with information, training and a community forum
- Managed by a 9-member volunteer board, no direct employees
- Completely funded through member dues, no fundraising
- WIWSA's website, monthly newsletter and quarterly member meetings are open to all



What is WIWSA's Purpose?

- Act as Focal Point for members for information on operations and maintenance
- Keep Membership informed about government requirements
 & pending legislation
- Training for member Water Operators, Owners and Boards
- Provide a Forum for political action & public information on water issues





Taken from Island County Public Health Websit Public Health Home (islandcountywa.gov)

Profile of Water Systems (WS) in Island Co.

Total Group A WS	296
Number of Connections >1001 501-1000 101-500 <100	4 5 47 240
Governance Cities Water Districts Investor Owned Association Other	3 21 42 209 21
Group B WS	584
Private Wells (2016 data)	6216

Why focus on Group B?

- Regulatory requirements between Group A and Private wells
 - Leading to many Group B systems in Island County but each serving small populations
 - Most Group B systems managed by owners or members.
- Group B systems are also under-served
 - Not able to contract with SMA's
 - Not eligible for state and federal water system grants or loans
 - Excluded from PFAS testing and remediation programs

What is WIWSA doing for Group B Systems?

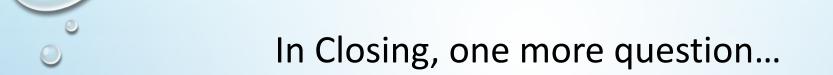
- Appointed two new Board members from Group B systems
- Membership drive through March 31st
- WIWSA Membership includes 31 Group B systems
- Plus 108 Newsletter subscribers belong to a Group B system
- Evaluating Group B specific programs for 2024
- Looking to this meeting to help set priorities





Island County & Group B Water Systems

Aneta Hupfauer, Environmental Health Specialist, IC Public Health



What kinds of programs would you be interested in?



