



The Water Line

Volume 4
Issue 1
February 2023

Newsletter Summary

- Mike Langley building dedication
- 2023 budget summary
- Lower reservoir generator install
- WWII generator auction
- Highway Lift Station replacement
- Backflow testing time
- Commissioner election
- What not to flush



SWD office on Woodcock Road

Check Out Our Website

www.sunlandwater.com

SWD's website has a lot of information include new service and cross connection permit application forms, minutes from monthly Board of Commissioners' meetings, District Manager reports, staff bios, District policies and regulations, current rates and due dates, pay your bill online, wastewater facility information, the Consumer Confidence Report, employment updates and more.

New Email Address or Phone Number?

If you have changed or added an email address or phone number in the past year, please share this new contact information with our office. Our emergency contact system should have the best contact information for you so we are able to reach you with any alerts that arise. This also includes renters' contact information.

Email or call Judy Gamble with your updated contact information:
judy@sunlandwater.com / 360-683-3905 x1

Contact Information

5762 Woodcock Road
Sequim, WA 98382
www.sunlandwater.com
Office: 360-683-3905
Email: judy@sunlandwater.com

Office Hours

Monday—Friday 9 am—1 pm

SWD Board of Commissioners

Jim Larison—President
Gary Fortmann—Secretary
Al Frank—Commissioner

SWD Staff

Management & Office Staff

Brian Scott—District Manager

Judy Gamble—Office Administrator
and Accounts Receivable

Karen Shay—Bookkeeper & Accounts
Payable

Water Team

Scott Garner— Lead Water Operator

Rocky Burbank—Water Operator I

Joe Beeson—Utility Operator and
Building & Grounds Maintenance

Water Reclamation Team

Willy Burbank—Wastewater Treatment
Plant Supervisor

Rich Sleeper— Lead Wastewater Treat-
ment Plant Operator

Pat Osborne—Wastewater Treatment
Plant Operator

J. MICHAEL LANGLEY BUILDING DEDICATION

SunLand Water District's previous District Manager, Mike Langley, passed away in July 2022 after a brief fight with cancer, less than one year after his retirement in 2021.

In our July 2021 newsletter, we shared all the accomplishments SWD achieved under Mike's 13-year tenure. One of those achievements was overseeing the construction of our SWD office building, so the Board of Commissioners dedicated the office as the J. Michael Langley SunLand Water District Office.

"Bye for Now"

If you ever spoke to Mike on the phone, his usual sign-off was "bye for now", which we all loved, so it had to be included in his dedication plaque.



Above: Building dedication plaque

Below: Mike Langley's family watches the building dedication.



Left: Mike holds up one of his retirement gifts—overalls to help him with all the farm work he had ahead of him on his farm.

Right: Mike cuts his retirement cake.



SWD Budget—The More You Know

2023 Budget

SWD's Board of Commissioners and District Manager budget in a 5-year view. We budget the upcoming year in detail; and the outyears using an inflation multiplier, in addition to any major changes we are aware of. Capital expenditures are budgeted on a 20-year basis to reduce surprise costs. Our 2023-2027 budget is shown below.

This consolidated budget view shows we're planning positive net revenue over the next 5 years, even after \$720,000 in budgeted capital purchases. This positive net revenue increases our reserve for unforeseen capital needs and long-term planning, such as the inevitable replacement of our 50+ year-old asbestos-concrete water main pipes. Personnel Costs include payroll, overtime, retirement, health insurance and payroll taxes. Budgeted Operating Costs include our annual \$94K public works loan payment*.

Our 2023 capital budget of \$128K pays for:

- * Ford Maverick to replace 20-year-old Ford Ranger
- * Epoxy the upper reservoir
- * Purchase spare parts for our new WRF SCADA system we highlighted in previous newsletters
- * Other small items such as pumps, panels, small tools and a new laptop and backup server

*The public works loan paid for our Waste Water Treatment Plant lagoon upgrade and disinfection in 2013.

SWD 2023-2027 Budget						
		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
TOTAL REVENUES		1,394,316	1,449,496	1,507,455	1,580,130	1,625,582
EXPENSES						
Personnel Costs		746,122	763,462	781,221	799,411	818,041
Admin Costs		368,792	361,721	387,449	380,689	405,658
Operating Costs		107,600	111,657	114,587	118,104	121,212
TOTAL EXPENSES		1,222,514	1,236,840	1,283,257	1,298,204	1,344,911
Less: Planned Capital Expenditures		127,887	152,966	223,195	150,390	65,993
NET REVENUE / CHANGE IN RESERVE		43,915	59,690	1,003	131,535	214,678

LOWER RESERVOIR GENERATOR REPLACEMENT

New Lower Reservoir Generator Installed

Our new Cummins generator for the lower reservoir, located at 5762 Woodcock Road, arrived in early December, 2022. It replaces the WWII generator that will be up for auction in March. The generator will kick on when power goes out so SWD can continue to pump water to SunLand.

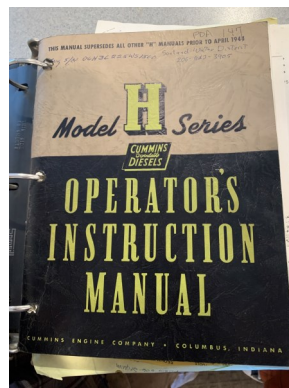
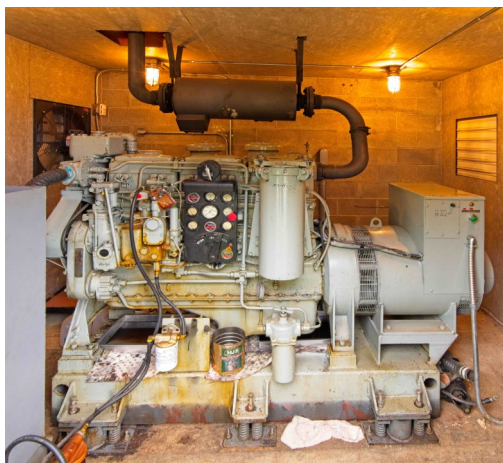
Photos:

New lower reservoir generator delivered and installed.



WWII Generator Up for Bid in April, 2023

Do you or someone you know want to be the new owner of an actively-running 1944 Cummins WWII Destroyer generator? In April, SWD will collect bids to purchase this generator. The new owner must remove and transport the generator themselves. Keep an eye on our website in April for bid information! www.sunlandwater.com



HIGHWAY LIFT STATION REPLACEMENT

The Highway Lift Station services 17 homes' sewage and must move this up and over a hill, down to the Main Lift Station, then moves it on- to our treatment plant.

Our old lift station had made it 15+ years past its useful life. We replaced it when it was no longer safe to run.

Cutting out old lift station hardware



Photos:

*New Highway Lift Station being installed.
Next task—landscaping!*



Backflow Prevention Assembly Testing

Now is a great time to test your irrigation's backflow assembly

Call your local backflow assembly tester

Call your local backflow assembly tester now before irrigation season is upon us. They will test your backflow to ensure it's working and send SunLand Water District your home's report, so we have it on file. While SWD cannot recommend backflow testers, there are only a few that service the SunLand area. The testers who have provided their certifications to the SWD are listed on our website under "News & Issues".

What is a backflow prevention assembly (BPA)?

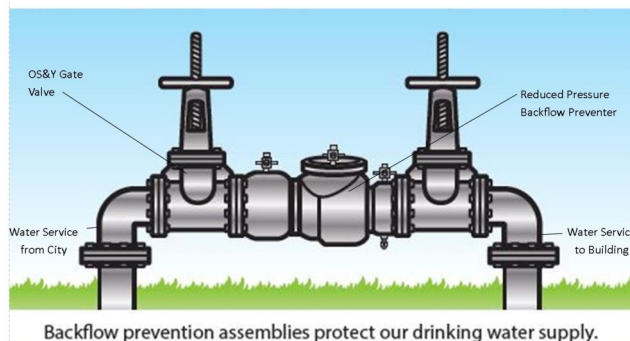
Backflow preventers are devices that are installed on your home's water pipes that only allow water to flow in one direction and not the opposite. Their purpose is **to prevent drinking water from being contaminated with other sources because of backflow.**

How does backflow occur?

Backflow occurs when the normal flow of water in your home's pipes or plumbing system suddenly reverses directions. If this occurs, the clean

water that you drink or shower with can come into contact with used water that may contain chemicals, bacteria and other harmful contaminants.

Without getting too technical, backflow occurs when different levels of pressure exist within two different points in a plumbing system, such as water of high pressure flowing to water of low pressure. Backflow typically results from one of two processes: back-siphonage and backpressure.



Do I need a BPA?

If your home has an underground irrigation system, it requires a BPA installation and annual testing. Washington State law requires that your backflow assembly be tested annually to ensure that it is working properly and to protect public health. **(WAC 51-56-0600 Section 603.4.2)**

Where is the BPA located?

The BPA sits within 10 feet of the water meter and is attached to your irrigation line.

Read SWD's Backflow Prevention Policy for detailed information.

<https://sunlandwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Resolution-125-CC-and-Backflow-Policy-.pdf>

Real life backflow examples:

<https://www.backflowcases.com/>

2023 Commissioner Election

Every two years, one of our three commissioner seats is up for re-election, they serve staggered 6-year terms. If you'd like to be considered for a seat on our Board, you can file with Clallam County between May 15 –19.

In November of 2023, registered voters in the SunLand Water District will elect one commissioner to Position #2, currently held by Gary Fortmann, for a six year term through 2029. If you are interested in serving your community, here is some information that will be of interest to you.

Eligibility:

A candidate must reside in SunLand and be registered to vote in a SunLand precinct. There are no district boundaries. The law makes no distinction between property owners and renters. Conversely, a SunLand property owner not registered to vote in a SunLand precinct is not eligible.

Compensation:

Current state statute allows compensation at a maximum of \$128 per meeting.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Commissioners swear to uphold the laws of the state and nation. Specific duties pertaining to SWD functions, policies and procedures are decided and assigned by the Board President and the entire board. The Board has oversight on all District programs and policies and full fiduciary responsibility.

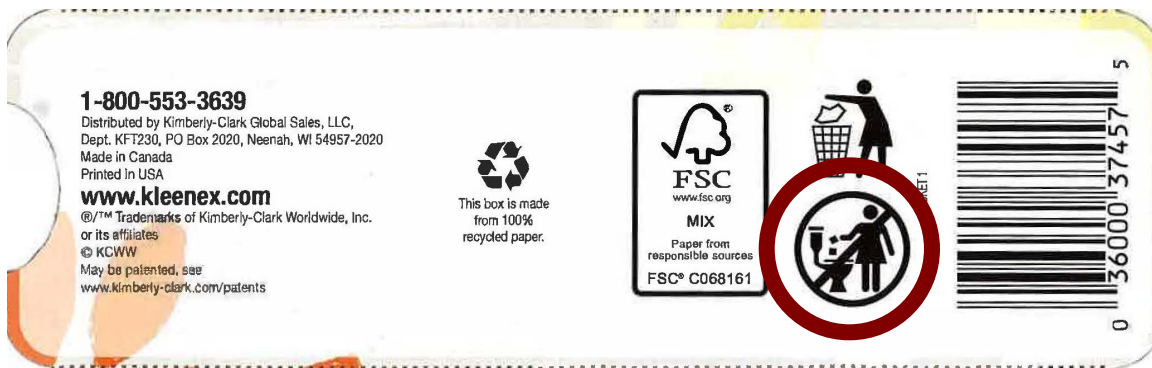
A SWD commissioner would be expected to attend monthly meetings usually held the morning of the third Tuesday of the month. There are also special meetings called to discuss or decide issues that won't wait for the next regular meeting. In addition, a commissioner needs to be available to residents and district staff on a regular basis.

A commissioner would be expected to interface with staff at all levels and be involved with off-site activities relevant to SWD. These might include, but not be limited to, contact with the City of Sequim and Clallam County officials and Washington Association of Water and Sewer District functions.

Filing for Candidacy:

It is necessary to file an application with the County Elections Department. Filing week occurs in May every two years. Interested parties may file for candidacy in person, by mail, or online. Please contact Clallam County Auditor's Office in the Clallam County Courthouse building at 223 E. 4th Street, Suite 1, Port Angeles, WA 98362, 360-417-2568. Additional information and filing forms may be found online at the Clallam County Auditor's website. Besides the application for office you will be required to file a statement with state Financial Disclosure Commission. This can be done electronically.

Even Kleenex says not to flush their tissue



We often talk about what shouldn't be flushed or put through our sewer system; but we continue to see these prohibited items in our sludge, so we'll continue sharing with you what items not to flush.

Our Board President noticed that Kleenex has a “do not flush” graphic right there on the box. So if you didn't know, please do not flush facial tissues nor “flushable” wipes down the toilet.

Only human waste and toilet paper should go down the toilet. All other items, even when they proclaim they are “flushable”, do not belong in our sewer system via toilet nor sink.

Board of Commissioner Meetings

Our Board of Commissioners meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 9 am PT in the SWD office. This is an open public meeting and you are welcome to attend.