

HOLIDAY HIDEAWAY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Issue 6

FALL 2014

Your Board of Directors for 2014-2015

Sharon Schlittenhard, President
Wendell Phillips, Secretary
Sharon Hughlitt
Gary Rainwater

Larry Bohall, Vice-President
Bill Rainwater, Treasurer
David McKibben

Association Staff

Cas Hancock, Business Manager, Recording Secretary

Darcy Daniels, Bookkeeper

Water Co. Staff

Cas Hancock, Business Manager, Certified Water Operator

Darcy Daniels, Bookkeeper

Tama Campbell, Operator in Training

Gerry Francis, Operations Consultant

Maintenance:

Bonita Smith

Jason Krapf

Aaron Callero

Gabriel Bean

ASSOCIATION NEWS

As of our last Membership meeting, about 3/4 of the membership is paid up. The Membership in attendance at our 2014 meeting encouraged the Board to continue follow up with people who have not kept up with their dues.

We have pursued those accounts that were delinquent and have had limited success. There are a number of properties that have had liens placed on them until those dues (and related costs) are paid.

Help Save A Tree

The Board has completed updating our Association database and membership records. We would like to extend e-mail service to as many "Association Only" Members as possible, so we are still requesting your e-mail addresses. This saves staff time and printing and mailing costs, as well as reducing the amount of paper we use.



If you do not already receive Association and/or Water Company bills/news via e-mail, please send us an e-mail with your Name and Lot Number (s) and also update mailing address to:

info@hwater.org

or

billing@hwater.org

so we may add your addresses to our book. Your e-mail could be as simple as this (assuming you send it from the e-mail address you want us to use):

Jane A. Jones, Block 12, Lots 1, 2 and 3.
Mailing Address

This can work as an update of mail and e-mail addresses for the Water Company as well.

Please remember that we do not share your information with anyone, it is for our use only.

There are still a few payments that are not arriving. Please be sure you and your bank send all payments and other mail to whichever is appropriate:



Holiday Hideaway Water Co.
6967 Holiday Blvd., Anacortes, WA 98221

Or

Holiday Hideaway Association
6967 Holiday Blvd., Anacortes, WA 98221

A few reminders:

This is November and not time for Fireworks, but we need to say that Fireworks that shoot into the air are not legal anywhere in Unincorporated Skagit County.

Open fires also pose a fire hazard. They must be small, containable fires. Do not leave any fire unattended at any time.

We had an incident this past summer that could have become a disaster.

Please make an effort keep your lot clean and uncluttered.



Parking cars on the roads is dangerous, please park on your property.

Please do not park at the boat launch.

Commons Committee: The Committee helps maintain the Common areas of Holiday Hideaway. Bob Anderson, as Coordinator of the Committee, organizes volunteers to resolve any issues or ideas that do arise. Please contact Bob @ 360-293-3770 if you are willing to help when your Community needs you.

Dixon Elder has done a wonderful job cleaning up and planting bulbs throughout the Hideaway again this year. Be prepared to enjoy the burst of color come Spring! We will have Dix's description of his plans in our March issue of the H2W Water Spout. **Many thanks to Dix** for his hard work.

Many thanks are also due for volunteers Larry Bohall, David McKibben and Drew Norton who have spent time cleaning up and improving Cook's Cove and Deadman's Bay. Work needed on Long Bay is in the investigation stage.

For all community property, please practice caution when using any facilities.

Interested in Serving Your Community?

The Holiday Hideaway Association is the community organization that serves the HHA community. In addition to taking care of the three common properties, the Association also administers the Holiday Hideaway Water Company, which owns and operates the state certified drinking water distribution system.

The Board for the Association and the Water Company is made up of volunteers from the property owners. Meeting commitments vary somewhat, with a formal meeting scheduled for the last Sunday of every month, with occasional changes. The Board presides over the annual meeting of the Association which reviews membership revenue and expenditure and hears reports on the Water Company. The Board, with input from staff, sets rates for water and plans for the long term capital maintenance of the system.

If you are interested in giving back to the community and want to serve on the Board please get in touch with the President, or any of the Board members .

The problem of uploading of documents has been resolved. Board meeting notes and other documents are once again available on our webpage www.hha.octopia.com



The Board meets monthly to discuss any issues for our

**Association Members
and our
Water Customers**

We hope you enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving!

WINTER IS EARLY!

Ready or not, winter is here. We have already had chilly temperatures. As typical with Fall weather, the days are warm enough that a quick overnight freeze isn't a major problem...yet.

Soon, though, those cold temperatures will be around day and night, which means a greater risk of water freezing in pipes. THAT means a greater risk of bursting pipes, lots of damage and a large water bill (since water loss due to freezing is "preventable", our leak adjustment discount does not apply to water loss due to burst pipes from freezing).

If you are planning to remain at home during the winter, here are some useful tips:

- Drain water from sprinkler supply lines, disconnect and drain outdoor hoses. Don't cap the outside valve – leaving it open will allow any remaining water to expand outward, rather than expanding in the pipes and eventually breaking them.
- Insulate all pipes that run outside or along an exterior wall if possible, using pipe sleeves, foam, tape or even newspaper. Caulk around pipes where they enter the house. Make sure the pipes in indoor, unheated areas are well insulated, including attics, basements and garages.
- Open cabinet doors to allow warm air to circulate to the plumbing.
- Let a trickle of water run from faucets during extremely cold weather, which will help keep it from freezing in the interior and exterior pipes.



If your home will be vacant this winter, observe the following:

- Close off foundation vents to prevent cold air from coming in, and cover the vents with wood or Styrofoam.
- Shut off outside water taps and drain the valve by removing garden hoses.
- Make sure outside pipes and inside, unheated pipes are well insulated.
- Shut off and drain the indoor water system as well. Turn off the main valve, turn on all faucets and flush the toilet, then shut off all the faucets. Make sure the water heater is turned off during this process. Drain the heater, as well as pipes for the refrigerator, dishwasher and washing machine.

- Make sure the water is nearly all drained from the toilet tank (it may take a couple of flushes once the water is turned off), but try to keep a bit of water in the bowl to prevent sewer gas from backing up into the toilet – and the house.

- Keep all cabinets open to keep the pipes warm inside.

- Turn thermostat no lower than 55° to help keep pipes warm inside.

Shutoff Valves for Your Home:

If you are leaving your home, even for over-night, it is recommended that you turn off the water to your home. The plumbing in many homes has a master valve that will do this. If your home does not have such a valve, there is a valve in your water meter box, which will also allow you to turn off the water to your property. The valve in your meter box requires a special wrench, which we make available to people to "borrow". One of these wrenches is available on the exterior of each of the Water System's three building sites (adjacent to the entry door). Once you have used the wrench to turn off (or turn on) your water, please return it for others to use. Better yet, purchase a wrench and keep it at your home (such wrenches are available at large hardware stores).

If you turn off your water, also remember to turn off the power to your hot water tank. If, by chance a leak drains your plumbing, the hot water tank could be damaged if it remains "on" while there is no water in the tank. If you intend to be gone for several days, it is a good practice to turn off your hot water tank as a way to save energy. Switching to a tankless hot water heater may be a good alternative if your home is often vacant.



The Construction Cost Index that we use for pricing the costs of construction of water facilities and installation of individual services will rise 2.3% this year. Therefore, the Water Share Price, Meter Installation fee, Capital Surcharge, Meter charge and the RTS charge for 2015 will increase 2.3% with the Index, as of January 1, 2015. and will show on your February billing.

Questions about Association dues or Water bills may be sent to Darcy at billing@hhwater.org or call 360-299-4535.

If you have any questions about your water system, please feel free to ask your question via e-mail sent to Info@hhwater.org

If there is a water emergency please call Tama Campbell at 360-333-0107.

**Make plans now to attend
Our next Membership Meeting
April 2015**

Holiday Hideaway Association
6967 Holiday Blvd.
Anacortes, WA 98221