



The Pipeline

Issue #40

April 2014

Watering Restrictions? No, but...

As you are no doubt aware, our area experienced a very dry start to winter. The provincial observation well located in our aquifer has been recording record low levels since mid-January.

Residents have done an excellent job of reducing water consumption since the installation of water meters. At this time the board has decided to not impose watering restrictions but is asking everyone to continue to use our water responsibly. Water consumption and well levels will continue to be monitored and if indicated, restrictions may have to be imposed at a later date.

Here are some water wise tips:

- **Leave the lawn.** Watering deeply once a week encourages a much better root system than watering lightly each day. Also, by mowing at a higher setting (6.5 cm), the grass retains water better. Don't panic if your lawn begins to turn brown during extended dry periods; it's simply going dormant. An established lawn will recover and regain its green colour once the rain returns
- **Dig in the compost.** By adding organic matter to your soil, you pump up its water-holding capacity by 10 times. Fork the well-rotted compost into soil around plants and incorporate it into new beds. The garden will thrive with all this biologically rich, organic material, in addition to requiring less watering.
- **Mulch please.** One of the best ways to retain moisture is to lay several inches of mulch in the garden. This layer of material keeps roots cool and moist while inhibiting weed germination and growth—rapid-growing bullies that rob water and nutrients from desirable plants.
- **Water in the early morning.** If you water while it's (relatively) cool outside, water can soak in before it evaporates on the surface. And if you do it in the morning, that helps the plant to take up the water during the day.

Annual General Meeting Reminder



Date: Wednesday, April 9, 2014

Time: Registration starts at 7:00 pm

Meeting starts at 7:30 pm

Place: VIU Shellfish Research Station.

Agenda

Presentation of 2013 Annual Report

- Auditor's report and 2013 Financial Statements
- Questions from the floor
- Election: Three (3) Trustees, each for a 3-year term (expiring at the AGM 2017)



PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Pre Authorized Payment (PAP) Plan - applications

- available from the office and on the website. **PAP Plan is available for all financial institutions.**

On-line/Telephone banking - set up for most financial institutions (not available for RBC or National Bank).

Cheque or Cash - in person at the office. Cheques can also be mailed - please do not mail cash.

How do you compare?

Some comparison numbers for this invoice period:

- 13 % of all households used no water
- 69 % of all households used less than 40 m³
- 15 % of all households used between 40 and 74 m³
- 2 % of all households used between 75 and 100 m³
- 1 % of all households used over 100 m³

Electrical Upgrades to Wells – SCADA Project

To address electrical issues that have been ongoing for several years, the board is proceeding with updating the electrical components at the wells. After a review of the available options, the board chose to proceed with a SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system.

A Radio Path study was completed in 2013 to determine if radio communication was feasible. The report came back indicating that radio signals of an appropriate strength would be possible between the wells, reservoir and office. Phase 1 of the SCADA system was completed in 2013 with communication between the office and the reservoir being established (this was the weakest link identified in the radio path study). In 2014, the electrical panels in the wells will be replaced (or upgraded), level and flow equipment installed and radio communication between the wells, reservoir and office established.

Once completed, the SCADA system will allow the monitoring and operation of the wells and the reservoir from a central terminal at the office and eliminate the expenses being incurred to address the ongoing electrical issues.



Funds for the SCADA system will come from the Renewal Reserve Fund. The Renewal Reserve Fund is set aside for the upgrade, renewal or replacement of existing infrastructure and is funded by the annual Parcel Tax.

Drips & Drops

- ◆ **Annual Report for Drinking Water Systems:** The DBID Annual Drinking Water Report is now available at the office and on the DBID website. If you would like a copy mailed to you, please contact the office. For more information regarding the provincial Drinking Water Program go to: http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/protect/dw_index.html

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS:

APRIL 16, 2014

MAY 21, 2014

JUNE 18, 2014

LOCATION: 5031 MOUNTAINVIEW ROAD (DEEP BAY FIRE HALL)

TIME: 7:00 PM - PUBLIC IS WELCOME

Regular board meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm unless otherwise noted. Meeting dates can be confirmed at the office and on the website.

CONTACT US:

DEEP BAY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

5031 MOUNTAINVIEW ROAD

BOWSER, BC V0R 1G0

PHONE/FAX: 250.757.9312

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OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 AM - NOON MONDAY TO FRIDAY

WEBSITE: www.dbid.ca

Fire Department News

Burn Permits Required

As of April 15th and effective until October 15th permits are required for any open burning (including burn barrels).

Please call **250-757-2030** for more information.

Address Sign Visibility

TRY THIS - Take a drive in your neighbourhood at night and look at the house number signs. Which ones are easily visible? Chances are you will see the reflective signs mounted on a post at the road end of the driveway most easily. It's the same for your fire department.

Do you need to upgrade your house number sign? E-Z See Reflective Signs in Nanoose is a good local source for these signs. Check out their website at e-zsee.ca and watch this space for details.