



The Tap

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Camano Water Association

City of Fife

Firgrove Mutual Water Co.

Fox Island Mutual Water Association

Fruitland Mutual Water Co.

Lake Josephine Riviera

Lakewood Water District

City of Milton

Mt. View-Edgewood Water Co.

Parkland Light and Water

*Pierce County Public Works and
Utilities*

City of Puyallup

Rainier View Water Co.

Spanaway Water Co.

Town of Steilacoom

Summit Water & Supply Co.

City of Sumner

*Public Utility District No. 1
of Thurston County*

Valley Water District

Washington Water Service Co.

City of Yelm

President's Pipeline

Anyone with an email account gets their share of jokes and other frivolous messages. Recently, I received one penned by an anonymous author about a valuable lesson of life. It read:

Dear Optimist,
Pessimist, and Realist,

While you guys were busy arguing about the glass of water, I drank it.

Sincerely,
The Opportunist

The message seems appropriate, since we are in the drinking water industry; but the lessons extend beyond the benefits of drinking water. Other life lessons implied by this message immediately come to mind. These include taking action, risk-taking, and timing; all embody the uniqueness of your Water Cooperative, and all have played a role in our success during 2013.

In today's competitive environment fraught with highly charged politics and scarce resources, we will not survive by simply keeping our head down,

hoping nobody notices us. We solve problems by getting involved and making sure decision-makers have the information they need to make a valid decision. This requires ACTION on our part. While others prefer to argue whether the glass is half full or half empty, the survivor is the one who takes action and drinks the water.

Taking action often involves the second life lesson, RISK-taking. Study history, and you learn life's problems are solved because someone took a risk. Proving the earth was round and exploring for food and resources would not have occurred if someone wasn't willing to take a risk and sail off to the unknown. The present and future are no different. We cannot be afraid to take risks if we want to make progress. Sure, risk-taking can produce undesirable results at times, but usually only when you ignore the third life lesson in the above message, TIMING...is everything.

Even the best idea or plan will fail if the timing is wrong.

In the above message, if someone had drunk the water to begin with, everyone would have been mad, and the argument would be over who drank the water; not whether the glass was half full or empty. By waiting for the argument to ensue, nobody even noticed that the Opportunist subsequently drank the water.

Throughout this past year, your Water Cooperative has employed these life lessons. Pick any example of Co-op activities, from legislative bills we introduced, to taking action on Fire PALS, to letter-writing about many subjects; you have not been afraid to take action and risks to achieve solutions to problems, and you have been mindful of opportunities presented by timing.

Hopefully, like me, you feel pride and satisfaction in your role as being part of the solution rather than part of the problem. Public Health doesn't just happen; you make it happen as a member of the Water Cooperative of Pierce County, and I thank you. Now please drink that glass of water!

Marc Marcantonio



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Senate Passes Fire Hydrant Exemption Legislation

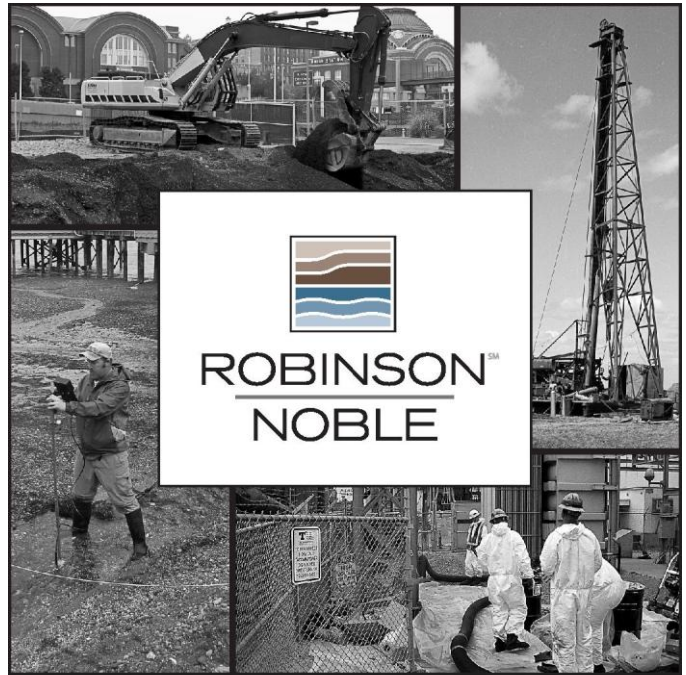
On December 17, 2013, the U.S. Senate passed HR3588 by unanimous consent, a bill to exempt fire hydrants from coverage under the Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act. Earlier this month, the House of Representatives unanimously passed this same bill, and now the legislation moves to the President for his signature before becoming law. The Water Cooperative of Pierce County strongly advocated for this national legislation and materially contributed to the success of this legislation passing.

The Water Cooperative is also strongly advocating for passage of Senate Bill 1824, designed to exempt existing brass inventories from the

January 4 deadline for the Reduction in Lead in Drinking Water Act. We have asked Senators Murray and Cantwell to cosponsor Senator Enzi's (WY) bill, so we do not waste scarce funds to scrap existing brass fixture inventories where a lead problem does not exist. We remain hopeful normal attrition will be permitted so that funds are not wasted, and to prevent a shortage of parts in inventory needed for emergency repairs.

Thank you to all Co-op members for taking valuable time in contacting legislative representatives to advocate for these improvements, to the benefit of the public and all water utilities in the USA.

Marc Marcantonio



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Earlier in the year, an email question was raised about how other members deal with hydrant meters used for construction projects or with fill stations a contractor can use to fill mobile water tanks. Many members were quick to provide information. The Communications Committee collected the responses as shown in the tables below:

Fill Station Meters

Respondent	Permit/ Application Fee	Designated Fill Station	Current Usage Charge
City of Bonney Lake	No	Yes - Automated code & PIN required	Current water consumption rates
City of Fife	\$50		1,000CF for \$45/mo & \$3.13/100CF over that
Firgrove Mutual Water		Yes - 2 stations	\$40/billing cyc, basic fee rate of \$13.50/mo & bulk rate of \$2.40/100CF
Lakewood Water District		Yard meter	\$21.63 first 800CF, 900CF - 2,000CF charged at \$1.11/100CF & over 2,100CF at \$1.51. If don't use 800CF in 1st fill, can come back in same work week
Mt. View-Edgewood Water	No	Yes, fixed RPBA/Meter	\$50 weekly charge (only if water is used and up to 5,000 gallons). If they go over 5,000 gallons during that week, it's an additional \$0.01 per gallon.
Spanaway Water			\$10/load filled at office/shop
Thurston PUD #1			Only District Personnel are authorized to install a connection to mains or a hydrant (unless otherwise approved or in an emergency)
Valley Water District	\$25	District office only	\$2.50/100CF

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Respondent	Construction Hydrant Meter	
	Deposit	Usage Charge
City of Bonney Lake	\$500	
City of Fife	\$1,000	
City of Sumner	\$1,800	Monthly base rate for 3" meter & normal consumption charges subtracted from deposit
Firgrove Mutual Water	\$2,200 - 3" Hyd Mtr \$750 - 1" Hyd Mtr	\$2.40/100CF & nonrefundable \$30/backflow assembly test & \$55 admin fee
Lakewood Water District	\$100 & \$5/day rental fee & current backflow assembly test required	LWD reads hyd meters at end of each month & consumption charged w/min of \$21.63
Mt. View-Edgewood Water		MTVE has a strict no-use policy for fire hydrants due to ease of enforcement and Homeland Security concerns.
Parkland Water	\$1,500 - covers meter & backflow device	Units consumed at retail rate. A 1-month minimum \$60 base rate is subtracted from \$1,500 & refund the difference
Rainier View Water	\$25/one-time withdrawal not to exceed 10,000 gals & \$1,012 damage deposit	\$200/mo unlimited usage
Spanaway Water	\$2,000 for hyd meter & BCVA & \$50/mo meter rental fee	\$2.25/CCF - if fill at hydrant, rental & water usage deducted from dep & refund balance
Thurston PUD #1	\$1,500	Commercial rate & charge for meter reading & hydrant use fee. 2,500 gals total/daily permit; 10,000 gals total monthly permit, 10,000 gals/per mo for 6 mo permit

WCPC Annual Meeting

The Water Cooperative’s Annual Meeting was another great success. Thanks so much to Pierce County for hosting and for all the volunteers who made the event come off without a hitch.

Happy Holidays!



Our host Katherine Brooks of Pierce County along with organizers Lora Scott (Summit Water) and Susan Cutrell (Parkland L&W)

A graphic for Parametrix featuring the company logo at the top, which includes the name "Parametrix" and the tagline "ENGINEERING . PLANNING . ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES". Below the logo is a horizontal bar with colored segments. The main image is a landscape with a large yellow water tower, a building, and a mountain in the background. At the bottom, a grey box contains the text: "Helping clients with water resource management, water systems, and drinking water quality since 1969".

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

WCPC Annual Meeting

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Set-up is nearly complete. Decorations provided by Irene Murakami (Rainier View). Bottled water courtesy of Mountain Mist.



Door prizes provided by contributing partners and the Co-op.



We had a good spread from Dean Allen Catering.

Innovation in Action
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WCPC Annual Meeting

More Photos

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4



Dinner was a success!



A special award was presented to Jerry Petersen (right) by Mike Ireland to celebrate Jerry's upcoming retirement.

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