

WATER LINES

BIRCH BAY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

Serving the Greater Birch Bay Area Since 1968

Summer Newsletter 2009

20 Years at the District!



Charlie Hagin and Fred Reid just celebrated their 20th anniversary working for the Birch Bay Water and Sewer District. Charlie Hagin is the Water Utility Foreman for the District and Fred Reid serves as the Sewer Utility Foreman for the District. Their years of experience and knowledge are a valuable asset to the District. Thank you for 20 great years and more to come!

Kickerville Reservoir Painting



The District is giving Kickerville Reservoir a new coat of exterior paint to protect it from the outdoor elements. The interior of the reservoir was last painted in 1989. Kickerville Reservoir stores 2.5 million gallons of water and is the District's main water storage tank. It holds enough capacity to provide water to District customers for up to 5 days during winter months and 2-3 days during the summer when water usage increases.



The District is also having the Birch Point Reservoir painted, a job last done in 1984. All work is expected to be completed by mid-June.

To paint Kickerville Reservoir requires:

- 52 tons of sand for sandblasting
- 350 gallons of primer and paint



WATERING SCHEDULE

June 15 — September 15

| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THURS | FRI | SAT |
|-----|-------------|------|-----|-------|-----|------|
| ODD | No Watering | EVEN | ODD | EVEN | ODD | EVEN |

The District will be implementing a voluntary watering schedule effective June 15th through September 15th to help better manage our water supply during the summer months. The watering schedule is part of the Whatcom Water Alliance's regional water conservation program that is promoted by all major water utilities in Whatcom County. Residents with odd numbered street addresses can water on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. Residents with even numbered street addresses can water on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, Mondays are non-watering days to allow the Districts' reservoirs to recharge after the weekend. For more information visit www.bbwsd.com or contact the District at 360-371-7100.

Three Myths about Lawn Care

Myth #1—Lawns are always thirsty.

FALSE—Lawns only need one inch of water per week including rainfall to keep it green and healthy. Watering on a daily basis is not only wasteful, but is unhealthy for the grass. Overwatering can kill your grass and make it more susceptible to diseases.

Myth #2—Lawns are meant to be closely cropped

FALSE—Cut grass no shorter than 2 inches. This helps to reduce evaporative water loss and increase drought resistance. Cutting your grass too short places added stress on plants during the heat of the summer.

Myth #3— Lawns need to be fertilized regularly to be green.

FALSE—Too much fertilizer may actually harm or even kill the grass by increasing the lawn's susceptibility to disease. Fertilizer promotes growth, but it also increases water consumption. Apply only the minimum amount of fertilizer needed.



Did You Know!

According to one study, **24%** of lawns have some sort of lawn ornament.



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Birch Bay Water & Sewer
7096 Pt. Whitehorn Rd.
Birch Bay, WA 98230
Phone: (360) 371-7100
Fax: (360) 371-2806
Website: www.bbwsd.com

Commissioners:

Don Monfort
Carl Reichhardt
Patrick Alesse

General Manager:

Roger M. Brown

Discovery Days



Mark your calendar!

This year Discovery Days is scheduled for July 18th and 19th. The District will once again be participating in the parade and will have a booth in the Arts and

Crafts Fair, which will be located at the Sealinks Golf Course. District representatives will be on site to answer any questions you might have and offer information on District programs. We look forward to seeing you at this fun, local event!

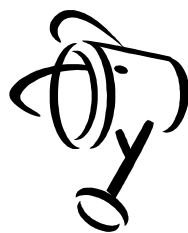
District and City Win Conservation Awards

Birch Bay Water and Sewer District and the City of Blaine were each awarded two awards in water conservation by the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Water Works Association (PNS-AWWA). The City and District won awards for their joint Residential Outdoor Water Conservation Program and Water Conservation Program for Youth. The awards were part of PNS-AWWA 2009 Excellence in Communications and Conservation.

WATERING EXEMPTIONS

The Voluntary Watering Schedule does not apply to the following situations:

- Drip irrigation systems or handheld watering methods
- Limited capabilities with existing older irrigation controller or devices
- Watering of flower and vegetable gardens
- Watering newly planted lawns



OUTDOOR WATERING TIPS

Go Golden! Lawns do not need water to survive the summer heat. Grasses will recover when there is more precipitation and temperatures cool, or

One Inch Per Week! Turf-grasses only need 1 inch of water per week to stay green and healthy.

Adjust mower height. Longer grass shades root systems and holds soil moisture better than closely clipped lawns.

Regularly check and adjust your sprinklers. Water only your lawn, not your sidewalk or driveway.

