



Water. *lines*

BIRCH BAY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT
SERVING THE GREATER BIRCH BAY AREA SINCE 1968

Sewer Forcemain Project Continues On Schedule

The District would like to extend its greatest thanks to customers for their patience during the construction of the sewer forcemain upgrade on Birch Bay Drive. The District began construction on the Birch Bay Drive sanitary sewer forcemain project in December 2009 and is on schedule to be completed by the end of April. The District was able to get the contract in a favorable bid climate and complete several water line upgrades at the same time.

The purpose of the project is to replace 9,000 feet of existing 14 inch forcemain from Pump Station #3 to the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) with multiple large pipes made of high density polyurethane (HDPE).



Crews actively working on the sewer forcemain upgrade on Birch Bay Drive

Conservation at the District



The District completed installing heat pumps that plumb re-claimed water to all District buildings for heating in the winter and cooling in the summer.

The District has been heating District facilities with the heat pumps since mid-February. The switch to heat pumps from existing propane furnaces will amount to \$12,750 a year in energy savings and \$200,000 over the 15+ year life span in energy savings.

The District's next step in improving energy and water conservation onsite is to upgrade the existing process water system for the WWTP. The upgrade will allow the District to expand the use of recycled plant effluent for other WWTP processes onsite such as chlorination. Currently the District uses approximately 8gpm of potable water 24 hours a day seven days a week for chlorination at the WWTP. Utilizing recycled process water for chlorination will reduce potable

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Cash for Appliances!

March 15th, 2010 is the official start date for Washington State's Cash for Appliances Program. The Washington State Department of Commerce will offer \$75 rebates for ENERGY STAR refrigerators and \$100 rebates for ENERGY STAR clothes washers as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The program period will run until December 31, 2011, or until funds run out, whichever comes first.

The rebates are available to all Washington State consumers who are replacing existing appliances in residential households. The rebates do not apply to new construction, commercial or institutional organizations, multi-family buildings or landlords. Rebates are limited to one refrigerator and one clothes washer per household. Applications and instructions on how to receive the rebates are available at www.CashforAppliancesWA.com.



**CASH for APPLIANCES
WASHINGTON**

cashforapplianceswa.com

Harvesting the Rain

Rainwater collection is the capturing and storing of rainwater from rooftops in a container until it is used for non-potable outdoor water uses when water is less abundant. It is during the warmer summer months – June through August – that the Pacific Northwest receives the least amount of rainfall. During this time, Birch Bay's potable water systems experience peak demands up to three times higher than the average demand during winter months. Most of this increase in water usage comes from outdoor watering for lawns and gardens.

How to Harvest the Rain

- A rain barrel is a container that collects and stores rainwater from rooftops and downspouts. Rain barrels typically range in size from 55 gallons to 95 gallons and can be used alone or grouped together in connected sets
- Ready-made barrels can be purchased locally, ordered online or you can build your own

Benefits of Harvesting the Rain

- Rainwater collection is an easy way to conserve water outdoors during the summer and helps to reduce demand on local water supplies
- Rainwater is ideal for plants because it is naturally "soft" and free of minerals and chemicals
- Using a rain barrel helps reduce stormwater run-off that can cause flooding and carry pollutants into our waterways.



For more information or further questions, contact Birch Bay Water Conservation Specialist Emily Resch at 360-371-7100.

World Water Day

The Whatcom Water Alliance, a regional water conservation group of cities and water districts in Whatcom County, is participating in "Walk for Water" on March 21st hosted by the City of Bellingham. Participants will walk 2.3 miles to demonstrate the equivalent distance a person will walk in a day for safe drinking water. The walk is followed by activities and booths at Bellingham's Depot Square from 11am-1pm. The event is being held to honor World Water Day which focuses attention on the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources. For more information contact Emily at 360-371-7100.



Fix a Leak Week

March 15-21, 2010

EPA WaterSense program is sponsoring "Fix a Leak Week" March 15-21 to remind Americans to check their plumbing fixtures and irrigation systems for leaks. The WaterSense website www.epa.gov/watersense offers useful tips and videos about leak identification and repair. The District also has printed information available for customers on leak detection and repair. For more information contact Emily Resch at 360-371-7100

SAVE THE DATE!

"Walk for Water"

Date: March 21st

Time: 10am

Place: Village Green in Fairhaven (10th & Mill St)

Details: Event details under World Water Day



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water use at the District WWTP by 90% or 4 million gallons per year. The District WWTP is the fifth highest water customer in its service area, averaging 748,621 gallons per two month billing cycle to operate the WWTP.



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