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Board meetings

Board meetings are typically held at 8:30 am on the third Tuesday of each month in the offices of Camano Water Association, located at 82 W. Monticello Drive, Camano Island.

Members are encouraged to attend. Call the office at (360) 387-9136 to confirm the date and time.

New reservoir goes into operation in November

You're invited to the dedication of the new Camano Water Association (CWA) reservoir, a special highlight of the Annual Membership Meeting which takes place **9:30-11 am on Saturday, November 5.**

Workers started construction on the 200,000-gallon water tank located on Monticello Drive in June. Construction is now substantially complete. Crews will fill, disinfect, and then conduct state water purity tests. After testing, which will take place by late October, the reservoir can be put into operation.

The reservoir is a significant addition to the water system, as CWA plans for future needs. It will answer the high water demand during hot summer days in July and August (see the water usage chart on page 4) when the water supply dwindles. And, as new neighbors build homes in the Camano Country Club, the water tank will store enough water to fully meet the needs of the growing service area.

The recently built water tank will connect with other existing CWA reservoirs to efficiently manage and balance the water supply. The reservoir also ensures abundant water reserves in case of a major fire or other disaster.

As part of the water tank construction, workers built fencing around the site, bringing CWA into compliance with state and federal security requirements.

CWA awarded the project to Trico Construction with its competitive bid of \$653,164. The project is funded by the \$23 Capital Improvements fee collected with your bimonthly water bill. The new reservoir is part of a 10-year capital projects plan to meet immediate as well as future water requirements.

For more information, contact the CWA office at info@camanowater.com or call (360) 387-9136.



Builders work atop the new Camano Water Association reservoir on W. Monticello Drive. Construction began in June and finishes in October. CWA will dedicate the reservoir on November 5.

Backflow prevention devices to be installed on all water meters

So far this year, water technicians have installed double-check valve assemblies (DCVA) to water meters on 72 properties.

This effort marks the beginning of Camano Water Association's (CWA) 10-year Cross-Connection Control program, in which the meters of all 1,000-plus homes in the Camano Country Club service area are being fitted with a backflow prevention device.

The goal is to install the devices in an average of about 100 homes each year over the next 10 years.

Backflow happens when water from a non-potable water system like a swimming pool, hot tub, pond, or fountain "cross-connects" into the drinking water system.

Under certain conditions, including a pressure differential, water from the non-potable system can be pulled not only into your home's drinking water supply but also into the public

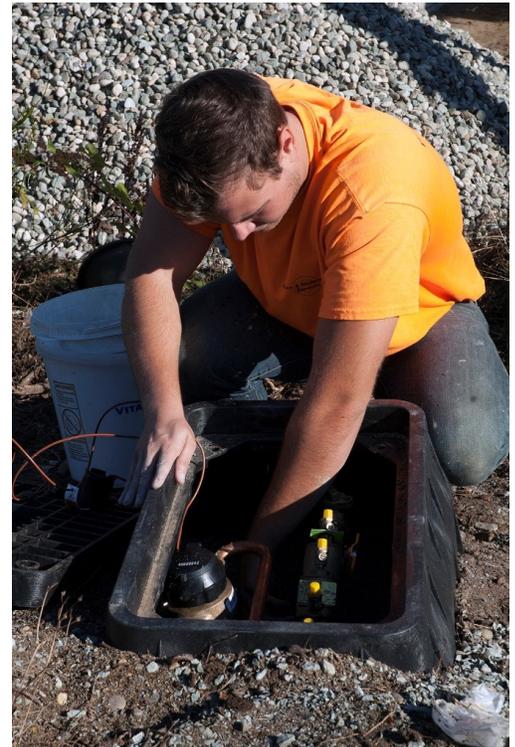
drinking water supply. Obviously, such backflow can pose a serious public health hazard.

Installing the backflow prevention devices on all water meters in the service area protects the water supply for all CWA customers.

Homes that feature non-potable water systems are a higher priority and will be scheduled sooner.

When your property is scheduled for the work, you'll be notified at least five days in advance. The installation will take less than three hours. To prepare, be sure your meter is visible and accessible — free from mulch, shrubs, other vegetation, and stored items. CWA will check and maintain the installed valves each year.

This project is partially funded by the Capital Improvements fee on your water bill. For more information, visit www.camanowater.com, or contact CWA at info@camanowater.com or (360) 387-9136.



Water technician Eddy Matheson of Water & Wastewater Services installs the backflow device on a meter as part of Camano Water Association's 10-year Cross-Connection Control program to protect the drinking water supply from backflow.

Automate payments

It's so easy to set up your bimonthly water bill payment as an automatic deduction from your bank account.

To start, download the application at www.camanowater.com. Click **Forms & Publications**, and then click **Automatic Payment Plan Application**.

You can also call the CWA office at (360) 387-9136 to request the application.

Neighboring water systems join in study

As part of an effort to improve public water safety for Camano Island residents, Camano Water Association (CWA) has recently completed the grant-funded "Water System Cooperation Opportunities Project" in association with seven neighboring water systems.

In this project, Camano Water Association representatives researched aspects of water system facilities and operations to help determine the benefits and costs of possible cooperative relationships among the water systems. This project was funded by a grant from the Washington State Department of Health.

See the feasibility study now posted on www.camanowater.com.

Annual system flush takes place in March

Camano Water Association flushes the water distribution system every March, helping to maintain the supply of fresh and clear water to your home.

The flushing process sends a rapid flow of water through the main pipes — about 158,500 gallons — to remove built-up sediment. This sediment, which does not pose a health concern, is mostly made up of residual minerals.

How will I know the flush is coming?

In your January and March water bills, expect to see an announcement about the annual system flush. You'll also notice signs posted around your neighborhood. The flush is done between 8 am and 3 pm.

Do I need to do anything?

When the system flush is taking place, your water might become temporarily discolored. Therefore:

- ◆ Try to keep your water use to a minimum until the flush is completed.
- ◆ Avoid doing laundry during the system flush, as sediment can stain fabrics.
- ◆ After the flush, run your outside faucets until they run clear.
- ◆ If your tap water inside the house is discolored, turn on multiple cold water faucets and let them run for a short time until the water runs clear.
- ◆ Remind your neighbors when the flush is about to happen, especially those who don't get out much and might not see the neighborhood signs.

If you have questions, contact Camano Water Association, (360) 387-9136, info@camanowater.com.



A meter tracks the amount of water used in a system flush. To flush the system last March, 158,500 gallons were used.

Beach Drive project planned for 2018

As part of Camano Water Association's 10-year capital improvements plan, 2018 will see new service lines and meters installed on Beach Drive and Holloway Lane, replacing the oldest pipes in the system.

Scheduled for summer of 2018, this project is estimated to cost \$850,000, and will be funded by the Capital Improvements fee.

Get involved

Running your water system is a team effort. The three-person staff manages daily operations while the members of the Board of Trustees provide oversight and strategic planning.

The staff and trustees invite CWA members to get involved. You can:

- ◆ Take an interest in the water system or its business operations.
- ◆ Help build cooperative relationships with other water systems, with Camano Island Fire and Rescue, and with other island organizations.
- ◆ Reach out to other Camano Water Association members and customers and to the local community.

We'd love to hear from you. Contact Lenore at info@camanowater.com or call (360) 387-9136. Or, stop by the office for a chat.

Make sure the CWA office has your current phone numbers and email address.

**Inside:
Ballots and meeting
agenda**

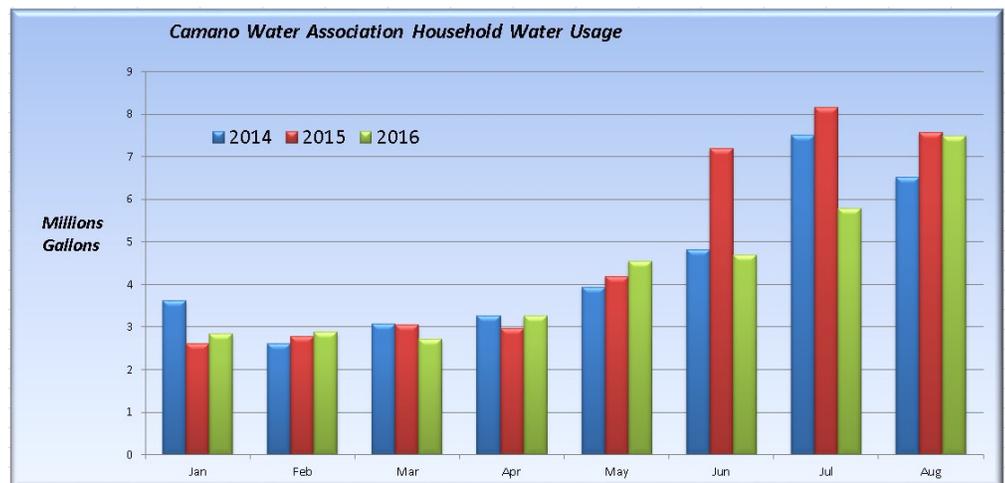
Join in on the annual membership meeting on November 5

All Camano Water Association (CWA) members are encouraged to participate in the annual membership meeting, **9:30-11 am** on **Saturday, November 5, 2016**. The meeting will be held at Camano Water Association, 82 W. Monticello Drive, Camano Island. A special event will be the dedication of the new reservoir.

See more details in the meeting notice included inside. Agenda items include:

- ◆ Treasurer's report
- ◆ Capital improvements
- ◆ Planned maintenance
- ◆ Future projects
- ◆ Company goals
- ◆ Board elections

If you cannot be present, please use the ballots and proxy provided with this mailing. For more information, email info@camanowater.com or call (360) 387-9136.



This chart tracks the millions of gallons consumed by CWA members and customers from January through August over the past three years. Learn more about your water utility at the annual membership meeting on November 5.

CWA: Flowing quality drinking water to people in the Camano Country Club area.