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Board meetings

Board meetings are 2 pm on the third Wednesday of each month. Call the office at (360) 387-9136 to confirm the time and meeting location.

January's pink water issue and its resolution

On January 14, a member notified Camano Water Association (CWA) about a water discoloration issue.

Upon investigation, CWA found the pink water was caused by an overfeed of sodium potassium permanganate (SPP) into treated water from a solenoid injection pump. SPP is an oxidant which reduces the amounts of iron and manganese in the water.

CWA immediately took the pump offline. To prevent more pink water from entering the distribution system, CWA also flushed all its reservoirs.

After cycling about 200,000 gallons of water from the various tanks and then refilling them, we began flushing the distribution system on January 16. This flush removed another 200,000 gallons of pink water from the system.

CWA has been in contact with

the Washington State Department of Health, which is satisfied with the timeliness and mitigation tactics of CWA's response to the issue.

To prevent this issue in the future, CWA is adding a permanganate analyzer to the treatment system. The device will be monitored through our Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system.

See the full statement at www.camanowater.com.

Annual full water system flush happening March 13 to 16

As part of the Camano Water Association regular maintenance program, workers will flush the entire water system March 13-16.

In this annual flush, about 150,000 gallons of water will be flushed through the water distribution system. This forceful flow breaks up and removes built-up minerals and other sediment in the pipes.

The flush will take place from 8 am to 3 pm on each of the four days. Look for street corner signs in the areas being flushed that day.

When you see the signs saying the flush is being done in your neighborhood, try to minimize water use until the flush is done. Avoid doing laundry during the flush, because it's possible for the loosened sediment to stain fabrics. Also consider alerting your neighbors.

This annual system flush is essential for maintaining the supply of fresh and clear water to your home.



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

Important water dates

Mark your calendar with the following important dates about your water service:

March 6: March bills mailed

March 13-16: Annual water system flush

March 15: CWA board meeting

March 31: March bill payment due

April 19: CWA board meeting

May 6: May bills mailed

May 17: CWA board meeting

May 29: Memorial Day, office closed

May 31: May bill payment due

June 21: CWA board meeting

November 4: Annual members meeting

To view the CWA calendar for the year, go to camanowater.com and click the **Calendar** tab. You can also print the year-at-a-glance CWA calendar.

Clear discolored water

After a system flush, you might need to clear discolored water from the water coming into your home. After the system flush finishes in your neighborhood, follow these steps:



1. Run your outside faucets full blast for 5-10 minutes until the water runs clear. Using a white bucket is helpful to check water color.
2. After you verify that outside water is running clear, turn on multiple cold water faucets inside your home and let them run full blast for a short time, again, until the water runs clear.
3. As an extra precaution after experiencing discolored water, cycle an empty washing machine before washing your first load.

Follow these steps anytime you experience discolored water.

Several options for paying your water bill

Your water bill is sent around the fifth of each odd-numbered month. If you do not receive a bill by the 10th of the billing month, please contact CWA at info@camanowater.com or (360) 387-9136.

Payment is due by the last day of the same month to avoid the late fee. There are several options for paying your bill:

- ◆ Checks and money orders
- ◆ Your bank's bill pay service (allow one week for payment to arrive)
- ◆ Cash (in-person only)
- ◆ Debit or credit card (pay through the website or contact the office)
- ◆ Automatic bill pay (go to the website or stop by the office to enroll)



Note that CWA does NOT use any third-party online payment services. For 2023 billing rates, go to camanowater.com, and click the Water Rates tab.

Thank you, Peter Turner

We say a fond farewell to long-time CWA employee Peter Turner, Information Technology (IT) Analyst, who retired in December from his nine years of service.

Peter installed and tracked the data loggers monitoring the aquifer in all CWA wells. He also developed the Annual Drinking Water Quality and Water Use Efficiency reports required by the Department of Health. He analyzed water usage data and created the 10-year financial forecast. For this newsletter, he regularly supplied excellent photographs, especially of the CWA capital projects.

Andrew Turner is stepping in to continue these responsibilities in service to CWA customers.

Thank you, Peter. Enjoy retirement!