

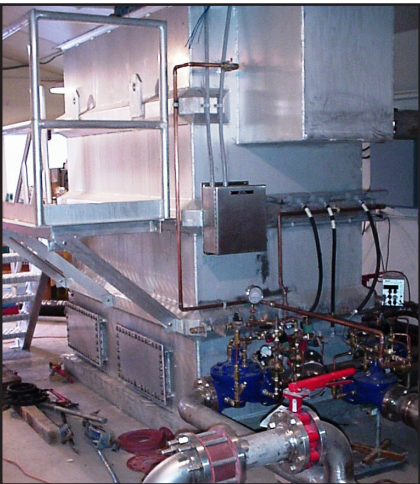


Sanitary Survey Results

Water system sanitary surveys were conducted by the Department of Health at the Riverbend, Riverview, Sunvale Acres, and Sandy Shores water systems this year. In Washington State, all Group A public drinking water systems must have a routine sanitary survey once every three to five years.

Following are the results for the Riverbend system. Results from the other systems have not been received to date.

- **Water Facilities Inventory** - Correct, with no changes to be made at this time.
- **Water Quality** - Water quality produced and delivered by the Riverbend system is excellent. Water from the Pend Oreille River is treated by a package plant that has an up-flow clarifier, rapid sand filtration, and chlorination. Recommended improvement: Relocate the chlorine sampling tap to a location in front of where the single line connection tees off from the main distribution line.
- **Planning** - A copy of the Small Water System Management Program for the Riverbend system is on file with the Department of Health.
- **Survey Results** - No significant deficiencies were identified.



Riverbend Filtration System



Riverbend Treatment System Piping

Citizens Water Committee

The Citizens Water Committee met on August 14 at the PUD's Newport office to review financial reports and discuss issues affecting each water system.

Financial information for each water system was reviewed by Sarah Holderman, District Treasurer/Customer Service Manager. She reported that no rate increases were recommended for 2015. She also explained a rate stabilization that is being reviewed for Metaline Falls commercial customers.

Mark "Bubba" Scott reviewed the 2014 Water Use Efficiency Report. Hook-up fees were reviewed and discussed. Bubba explained the necessity of inspecting water tanker trucks prior to them being filled from water system connections. It was agreed that fees should be assessed for this service. Bubba will develop a policy and fee structure.

Other water system issues included the following: Sandy Shores - Bubba will research options available for a back-up generator; Greenridge - Customers were recently encouraged to voluntarily reduce water usage; Riverview - Arsenic levels were discussed; Riverbend - A pump was recently replaced; Metaline Falls - System operations, valve replacements, and maintenance issues were reviewed.

WATER RATES

Every year, the financial status of each water system is carefully reviewed by District staff and the Citizens Water Committee, and rates are adjusted accordingly. Residential rates are as follows:

WATER SYSTEM	MINIMAL BASE RATE	MINIMUM GALLONS	@\$0.50 Per 1,000 GLS.	@\$4.00 Per 1,000 GLS.	@ \$8.00 Per 1,000 GLS.
Granite/Sacheen	\$65.00	10,000	Next 5,000	Over 15,000	
Green Ridge	\$62.00	10,000	Next 5,000	Over 15,000	
Holiday Shores	\$34.00	10,000	Next 5,000	Over 15,000	
Lazy Acres	\$30.00	10,000	Next 5,000	Over 15,000	
Metaline Falls	\$68.00	10,000	Next 5,000	Over 15,000	
Riverbend	\$80.00	10,000	Next 5,000	Over 15,000	Over 30,000
River View	\$30.00	10,000	Next 5,000	Over 15,000	
Sandy Shores	\$20.00	10,000	Next 5,000	Over 15,000	
Sunvale	\$45.00	10,000	Next 5,000	Over 15,000	

Note: Each lot is charged the minimum fee for the minimum gallon charge. Minimum gallons are credited for adjoining lots that have no meters installed. Adjoining lots are defined as lots that have adjacent (abutting) property lines with the lot that is receiving the primary billing. Those lots cannot be across a road from the primary lot. Each lot that is metered will receive a billing and will be allowed the minimum gallons. If a non-metered lot is sold, then a meter shall be installed at the expense of the new lot owner. The hook-up fee is \$2,500.00.

**Metaline Falls and Riverbend Water Systems Receive Awards**



Mark "Bubba" Scott accepts award from Jeff Johnson.

In July, Pend Oreille PUD water systems operators, Mark "Bubba" Scott, Rusty Gill, and Steve Cona (not pictured) accepted achievement awards for the Metaline Falls and Riverbend Water Systems from Jeff Johnson, Office of Drinking Water representative. The awards were from Washington State Office of Drinking Water for its Treatment Optimization

Program. (TOP).

Water turbidity at the Metaline Falls and Riverbend systems was 0.10 NTU or less for at least 95 percent of the time, which meets or exceeds the program's goal. Awards are presented to water systems meeting this high standard, as well as other stringent criteria related to public health protection.

Participants in the voluntary program commit to working toward meeting treatment optimization goals for particle removal and disinfection that are more stringent than current regulatory requirements. Because turbidity is a readily measured indicator of treatment plant performance, TOP tracks finished water turbidity data for all conventional and direct filtration plants in Washington.

**Riverview Arsenic Survey Update**

Water from the wells that supply the Riverview Water System contains arsenic at a level that continues to exceed the maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 0.010 mg/l. The most recent sample results from April 2015 were 0.012.

The Riverview Water System is a Group A - Transient Non-Community System. The Arsenic MCL noted above does not apply because most of the customers are on the water system less than 180 days per year. However, if the number of customers increases, from the current 22, to 25 or more year round residents, it will be reclassified to a Group A - Community System. At that point, the Department of Health will require the system to treat the arsenic.

Results of a recently conducted survey of the water system's customers regarding the arsenic levels indicated the majority of customers want the PUD to take no action at this time. The system will continue to be monitored.

**Plan Ahead to Prevent Frozen Water Pipes**

Pipes that freeze most frequently are those that are exposed to severe cold, like outdoor hose bibs, water sprinkler lines, water supply pipes in unheated interior areas like basements and crawl spaces, attics, garages, or kitchen cabinets. Pipes that run against exterior walls that have little or no insulation are also subject to freezing.

You can prevent the headache of dealing with a frozen water pipe by following these recommendations before the onset of cold weather:

- ☑ Remove, drain, and store hoses used outdoors. Open the outside hose bibs to allow water to drain. Keep the outside valve open, so that any water remaining in the pipe can expand without causing the pipe to freeze.
- ☑ Drain water from sprinkler system supply lines.
- ☑ Check around your home for other areas where water supply lines are located in unheated areas, such as the basement, crawl space, attic, garage, and under kitchen and bathroom cabinets. Both hot and cold water pipes in these areas should be insulated.
- ☑ Consider installing specific products made to insulate water pipes like a pipe sleeve or UL-listed heat tape on exposed pipes. Follow manufacturer's recommendations for installing and using these products. Newspaper can supply some degree of insulation and protection to exposed pipes.
- ☑ During cold weather, take these preventative actions: 1) Keep garage doors closed, if there are water supply lines in the garage; 2) Open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing; 3) During very cold weather, let the cold water trickle from the faucet served by exposed pipes.



**Your Home's Water Shutoff Valve**  
**What it is and why it's important**

Knowing how to turn off your home's water supply can help prevent water damage in the event of a broken pipe or leak. It's recommended that every household member know where the shutoff valve is located and how to use it. In the event of a burst pipe, getting the water shut off quickly could reduce damage considerably.

In most cases, the water shutoff valve is located either under the house or in the yard. If you have trouble locating your shutoff valve, call the PUD, and a water operator will stop by the next time their at your water system.

It's a good idea to check the valve periodically and make sure it's accessible. Remember, the PUD is responsible for water mains and meters. You're responsible for your private plumbing system, which includes everything beyond your water meter.



Your home's water shutoff valve is typically in the ground near an outdoor spigot, in line with your water meter.

**You can reach us at:**

447-3137

446-3137 (No. County)

242-3137 (So. County)

Hearing Impaired: 1-800-833-6388

**Visit us on the Internet at:**

[www.popud.org](http://www.popud.org)

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PUD Commissioners (from left to right), Dan Peterson, Curt Knapp, and Rick Larson