

FRUITLAND MUTUAL WATER COMPAY FALL NEWSLETTER



VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.fruitlandwater.com

Check our website for updates and latest information.

There is information on local assistance agencies who can help with utility payments during this hard time.

****To optimize our testing process and record-keeping we're adjusting the annual testing schedule for all backflow assemblies in 2025. This may shift the month of your assembly's annual test but will still meet annual regulatory requirements. ****

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE FRUITLAND MUTUAL WATER COMPANY:

Each year, Fruitland Mutual Water Co. members elect several Board of Directors from a slate of candidates. The nominees may be new or existing Board Members seeking re-election. If you would like to serve on the board of Fruitland Mutual Water Co., or have a candidate to nominate, please send the candidate's name to our office.

Eligible candidates must be members of the Fruitland Mutual Water Co. in order to qualify for consideration. Prior to submitting a nomination, it is required for the candidate's permission to be granted, along with the signature of two additional Fruitland members for validation. Please include a brief biography and qualifications of the nominee. For the preparation of the ballot, please submit your nominations as early as possible. Proposals for bylaw changes can be received for review by the Board of Directors. Proposed changes must be accompanied by signatures of at least two members. All nominations and proposals must be received at the company office (4001 9th St SW) no later than **4:30pm on January 7, 2025.**

REMEMBER TO WINTERIZE:

As the chilly winter months approach, it is essential to protect your plumbing system from freezing temperatures. To prevent costly repairs, consider these simple steps: insulate exposed pipes, let faucets drip a little during extreme cold, disconnect hoses from outdoor spigots, and maintain your home's temperature at a steady level, ideally around 55°F or higher, to prevent pipes from freezing. By taking these precautions, you can help ensure your plumbing system remains frost-free and trouble-free throughout the winter season.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:

Ben Ames has worked for FMWC since early 2008. He is a father to his four adult children, husband to the beautiful Gina Ames, and is grandfather to nine grandchildren. Outside of work Ben loves to cook, maybe you've been to one of his pop-up Sandwich "Ben-Anzas". Highly recommend you try the "Cu-Ben" if you get a chance. He also moonlights as Santa for photographers in the area during the holiday season.

At work Ben is our Cross-Connection Specialist, he has held this role since 2018. Previously he has worked as a field specialist, where he oversaw sampling and permits. He used to chair the Resource Committee for the Pierce County

Regional Water Cooperative. Ben is a great wealth of knowledge for our office and field. If you see him in a company truck let him know just how much his hard work and dedication over the last 16 years is appreciated with a big "Thank You Ben!"



**** Up to date contact information is of utmost importance, please be sure to notify us if you have a change in information. Did your payment method expire recently? Call us to update. ****

LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY:

We completed and submitted our initial lead service line inventory on Oct. 15, 2024. We have posted the inventory on our website www.fruitlandwater.com, it is located under the water quality tab and viewable at the bottom of the screen there. We will be sending notices for properties with unknown lines as required in the LCRR regulations. Look for those in the mail soon, if your service line is categorized as unknown. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact Jasmyn Sisco. You can call the office at 253-848-5519 and ask for her or send her a direct email at jasmyn@fruitlandwater.com. Thank you for your help and cooperation in getting this inventory completed, and for the continued support in keeping it updated.

NEW ADDITIONS TO FRUITLAND WATER:

- Starkle Estates
- 126th St/ 86th to 90th Ave
- Hamilton Estates 2900 Block 13th SW

A WORD FROM OUR GENERAL MANAGER:

Dear Members,

Fruitland Mutual Water is updating their Hazard Mitigation Plan for the 2025-2030 cycle. This update was approved by the Fruitland Mutual Water board of directors at the August 19th Board meeting. FMWC is working in conjunction with the Pierce County Emergency management as well as other utilities in the region on this update. Please go to our website if you would like to see the approved minutes from the board meeting. Please take the survey we have added to our website from Pierce County. You can download or print off the survey and then forward any concerns on to us. This survey will help you understand and see how prepared you might be, and the feedback helps us, and the county plan any additional emergency preparedness that may be needed.

Our next annual meeting will be held on February 20th, 2025, you are welcome to come if you have questions or concerns about the Hazard Mitigation update.

It's a good idea to always have water storage on hand in case of any emergency that might arise that can affect your water service. The average American uses between 80-100 gallons of water a day, this includes water used for drinking, cooking, bathing, washing dishes and clothes, flushing toilets and other outdoor activities.

Later this fall and during winter the Fruitland crew will be working on annual maintenance. Part of this is trimming around fire hydrants and meter boxes. If you have special foliage or prefer to handle it yourself let us know so we can take note. The fire department requires a minimum of 3 feet of clearance all the way around fire hydrants. These requirements are the same for our water meters. Thanks for your understanding.



Ted Hardiman, General Manager