

FROM THE OHWA BOARD

We are officially into the summer season. Here are some water-related issues that your board is working on for the membership:

Meter changes: We are into the second year of upgrading each member's water meter at the service box. If he hasn't replaced yours already, Toby Cothran may be visiting you in the near future to change out your old water meter for a newer, more accurate model. If you are home when he is at your address, he will introduce himself and let you know what he is doing. Replacement only takes a few minutes in most cases, so your water will be turned off only momentarily. In isolated cases, more detailed work will need to be done to make upgrades. We will let you know if we run into these kinds of issues.

Summer water supply: Doug Priest, Orchard Heights water operator, reports that water levels in our wells and spring are fine at this time. If weather patterns continue, and we have a long, hot/dry summer, then August or September could be an issue. We remind all members that we are connected with City of Salem (COS) water and will continue to use a mix of water from our own supply and COS when demand and usage is high. As such, our members will be held accountable to the same restrictions the COS may place on users to conserve water. (As in odd-even watering days and non-essential water usage.) While we get the added security of being connected to a large, reliable system, we also share the problems that could affect supply, such as the recent algae bloom at Detroit Reservoir. Know that while not predictable, the Salem staff closely monitors that situation weekly and our water operator shares any concerns with OHWA board and staff. This is one of the reasons we strive to keep updated contact information on OHWA members--so we can keep you informed of any water supply issues. Please be sure that office manager, Victoire, has your current information. **Victoire Felix at: ohwassn@yahoo.com, or by phone at 503-871-1359.**

2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report: You will find this document included in this mailing. It is a required report under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act that lets you know details about the water that comes from Orchard Heights Water Association. You should have received a similar mailing from the City of Salem since a portion of the water that comes to your home is from that source. Please take note of the water conservation tips outlined in the report. We can all do our part to help maintain an adequate supply of water for our members.



MEET LEO WOODS, OHWA TREASURER

My name is Leo Woods. My wife Patti, and I, have lived in West Salem and been OHWA members for 40 years. I've been a Board Member for 7 1/2 years and been the Treasurer for the entire time. Before I retired, I was a Letter Carrier with the U.S. Postal Service. Today Patti and I still operate a nutritional supplements business which we started 37 years ago. I originally joined the Board mainly just to fulfill my obligation as a member of the association, but ended up finding it to be a very educational experience. Being a Board Member has given me a whole new appreciation for our water system and what is required to insure that we all have a clean, reliable water supply.

***note: Leo is retiring from the board at the end of the year, and we are looking for new board members to fill his position.*

REMINDERS

- Have your backflow device tests completed by July in order to meet the Sept. 30 deadline.
- Update your contact information with Victoire via email: ohwassn@yahoo.com, or by phone: 503-391-9238.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.