

## FROM THE OHWA BOARD

It is November again and we have just gotten through one of the wettest Octobers on record and this begs the question, is there such a thing as “too much of a good thing?” Greetings from the OHWA’s Board of Directors as we head into the Holiday season and attend to all of the end of year tasks. We hope you will read through this newsletter for some pertinent information and consider joining us for the Annual Meeting on November 15.

## ANNUAL MEETING

Please come join us for the Orchard Heights Water Association’s Annual Meeting of Members. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 15 at 7 pm in the Titan Room at West Salem High School. We will be giving a recap of the past year, reviewing the budget for 2017 and discussing proposed actions affecting the organization in 2017. We also will be holding our annual election of officers and board members and are actively seeking someone from the membership to step up and volunteer to fill the vacant position on the Board. We hope to see you there.

## BACKFLOW TESTING

Beginning in 2017, all required annual backflow testing of individual member’s services will be performed by a backflow testing agent contracted by the Association on behalf of the membership. This means that each member will receive a one-time bill for the testing fee on their June billing statement. Each member will receive a copy of their backflow test report and, as always, if there is a failure to pass the test, each member will be responsible for any necessary repairs to bring the service back into compliance and to ensure that repeat testing produces a passing result. **If you already have an arrangement for recurring annual testing with a backflow testing agent, please make a note to cancel this service.** Any comments or concerns about this change in policy can be brought to the Annual meeting or addressed to the Board by contacting our office manager, Mary Tucker, at 503-569-9731.

## BE PREPARED

We have already weathered some early storm systems, but want remind everyone to make proper preparations for winter weather and possible power outages. Remember to stock up on fresh, storable drinking water, batteries and flashlights, and have a back-up plan if power should go out for more than 24 hours. When the power goes out, please conserve your use of water as we can only store about 36-48 hours-worth of water supply in our tanks.

## COMING CHANGES FOR 2017

We are hoping to develop a user-friendly website for OHWA that will make information about the Association available to the membership as well as any member of the general public who may be considering purchasing property within our service area. We are also researching no additional fee autopay options which would allow members to set up automatic payments for their accounts. We have high hopes for continued improvements for the membership in 2017.