

# MUKILTEO WATER AND WASTEWATER DISTRICT

*Founded 1920*

Winter-Spring 2010

# MUKILTEO PIPELINE



## Big Gulch Nearing Completion

For the last seven years the District has been involved in efforts to address the impacts of uncontrolled storm water on the sewer lines that follow the length of Big Gulch into the District's Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The District's Big Gulch Sanitary Sewer Reconstruction Project has constructed a stormwater headworks structure, a high flow bypass line, a new sanitary sewer pipeline, and an additional line for future needs. Stream and sensitive area restoration in the upper sections of the Big Gulch drainage basin has been done as well.

The District has also completed the phase of the project which involved using horizontal directional drilling techniques to move the lower reaches of the sewer line away from the impacts of the creek. This technique minimizes environmental damages by drilling the pipeline underground and going beneath the sensitive areas. This new pipeline now connects to the pre-existing pipeline which flows into the wastewater treatment facility.

The final phase of the project includes replacing the wastewater treatment facilities' access bridge at the bottom of Big Gulch, performing the remaining needed stream restoration and mitigation, and construction close out processes. Completion of the entire project is anticipated by the end of 2010.

The Big Gulch sewer trunk line carries approximately 80% of the wastewater flow to the Districts' treatment facility. The District has worked with the City of Mukilteo and various state and federal agencies to implement this very difficult and complex repair project to a major piece of public infrastructure, and we will continue to work to protect the sewer line and the Gulch for the benefit of this and future generations. ■

## Sewer Rate Increases Approved

A public hearing was held on March 3, 2010 to discuss proposed multiyear increases and commercial rate restructuring.

The increased rates for our Mukilteo and Paine Field customers are necessary to cover upgrade and replacement costs of the Big Gulch Sewer Trunk Line Replacement Project, sewage lift stations, monitoring systems, miles of sewage collection lines, and the wastewater treatment facility, all of which are crucial to the health and safety of the public and our environment.

Beginning April 1, 2010, customers within the City of Mukilteo and Paine Field will see an increase of approximately 20% in the sewer portion of their billings, which was approved by the Board of Commissioners on March 17, 2010. An increase of \$1.50 for our Everett customers' Monthly Sewer Base Rate will also take effect on April 1, 2010, as a result of a wholesale sewer rate increase from the City of Everett. For rate change details please see our website at [www.mukilteowwd.org](http://www.mukilteowwd.org). ■

## With Our Appreciation!

As of January 2010, the District bid farewell to Commissioner Richard Andrews who had been a Commissioner at Olympus Terrace Sewer District since January 1998.

Commissioner Andrews was instrumental, with his fellow Board Members, in setting policy for both Districts. Such policy decisions allowed projects such as the Big Gulch Sewer Trunk Line Repair and Reconstruction, the Merger of the two Districts, along with many other matters, to be conducted in a cost, efficiency, and public safety conscious manner.

The District would like to thank this dedicated individual who used his integrity, experience, energy, and insight to greatly benefit the ratepayers he served. ■



## District Celebrates 90 Years of Service to the Community!

The Mukilteo Water District (MWD) was formed in 1920 and is the oldest active water district in the State of Washington. The City of Everett provides the District with a treated drinking water source, while the District owns and maintains the storage, transmission, and distribution system within its service area.

The District began providing sewer service to South Everett in 1977. The Mukilteo Water District merged with the Olympus Terrace Sewer District in November 2007, in an effort to reduce costs, which expanded sewer service to include a major portion of Mukilteo. The merged entity formally changed its name to the Mukilteo Water and Wastewater District (MWWD) in 2008.

The total District water and wastewater service area, including open space and currently undeveloped land, is approximately 5,500 acres or 8.6 square miles. MWWD currently provides service to approximately 73% of the City of Mukilteo, as well as Paine Field and South Everett areas.

The District's mission is to provide excellent water and wastewater services, and fiscally responsible management of the resources of our ratepayers in an environmentally responsive manner.

Staff is working to implement customer services such as debit and credit card payments, as well as direct online account viewing and bill paying. We will do our best to provide responsive service for the next 90 years. ■

## Website Attractions

The District has developed a website we believe is a valuable resource for answers to your questions. The web address is [www.mukilteowwd.org](http://www.mukilteowwd.org). In the customer services section you can find service rates as well as billing cycles and payment due dates by area. In addition to water quality reports you can get conservation tips for every season. You may learn about cross connections, backflow prevention, regulations, and the wastewater treatment process. Board of Commissioners meeting information and minutes are posted, and visitors will also have the opportunity to learn about District projects. In the future, customers will have the ability to make debit and credit card payments. So, check it out, and feel free to give us your comments concerning the site. ■

## Wastewater Treatment Facility Makes Important Upgrades

The Mukilteo Water and Wastewater District operates a wastewater treatment facility (Big Gulch Wastewater Treatment Facility) located in the drainage basin of Big Gulch Creek. The treatment system used at the facility is known as an Oxidation Ditch Extended Aeration System.

The aeration system, which had been in use for almost 20 years, used up costly energy, created a potentially pathogenic aerosol, and was a source of high noise pollution at the facility. Due to its age, the system was in need of major repair and replacements. Therefore, in an effort to save energy and reduce maintenance, the District installed a higher efficiency system that is saving hundreds of thousands of kilowatt-hours per year. The new system requires no oils or greases for maintenance, which means less hazardous waste to dispose of, and less maintenance for operation. Additional benefits include the reduction of the aerosols and noise created by the former system.

The District's wastewater treatment facility is equipped with state of the art technology designed to protect the public and our valued environment. ■

Mukilteo Pipeline is distributed twice yearly and is designed to keep Mukilteo Water and Wastewater District customers up-to-date on water and sewer related issues, projects, and conservation education. We appreciate your comments and suggestions regarding this newsletter.

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