
From: "Claudia Ellsworth" <islandmgr1958@gmail.com>
Date: Friday, November 30, 2012 3:25 PM
To: "undisclosed-recipients:"
Subject: Tips about water hookups
These come from our resident inspector Dana Gruber....

Charles and I today discussed details concerning the water hook ups. Please let the residents know when we do their connection to expect some air in their lines for several seconds. This is due to having to open their lines with an installation.

Likewise, we're trying to make sure those that are here full time have their systems turned on. If they do not have water before we are done working, let us know so we can do immediate problem solving. Example: We encountered one resident who had two lines coming to their house and we 'chose' the wrong poly pipe as the main connection line. They let us know they had no water and we could quickly fix the problem.

Thanks for taking note!

From: "Claudia Ellsworth" <islandmgr1958@gmail.com>
Date: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 10:23 PM

Subject: Here is your Engineer's Update

A few lucky folks along East Madrona (and soon South Herron and West Madrona) are now enjoying water from their new service connection on the new mains! The contractor has three crews out, a pair digging up services, and one switching them over. Their first day out was slow, only a handful of services completed, their next day they doubled that figure, and yesterday they were up to 16 services in one day. As they get the process smoothed out this will pick up, I expect 30 or more per day by the end of the week. Last word yesterday was that they had reached the south end of East Madrona. Today they should be headed around South Herron and up West Madrona to close up Loop 1.

Hydrant flushing has caused some road headaches and a grader should be on the island today to clean up Herron Lane down on the south side end where the roadway became nearly impassable. Unfortunately, there is little else that can be done to clear these huge pipes, without a few hundred gallons per minute flow the water just cannot be brought to speed and flushed. This is probably the end of most of the hydrant work, and I will be bringing a fire hose out to better direct flows next week if it is necessary to perform any additional flushing.

Trenches are continuing to consume some gravel but for the first time in a while the roads were generally in better shape than the week before. My trips around the island Monday yielded much less suspension damage to my little car than it has been recently, so the battle there seems to be tipping in our favor. Please remember to direct your questions and requests to HMC for the next two weeks, the crew is trying to get this done and we'd all be well served by as few distractions to them as possible. Cross your fingers for the crew and wish them good weather, we're almost there.

Jester Purttleman, Project Engineer

From the Island Manager-- as Jester noted, if you have questions, please email me or bring them to the office. Every time that the crew is halted in their progress, the project takes longer. this has become a minor point of contention between us and the contractor, and can make contract negotiations around the end of the project a little more difficult, and potentially more expensive.

Once again, thank you for your patience. You can see that many holes have been filled in as meters have been set, and we are moving to completion.

Claudia Ellsworth, Island Manager

From: "Claudia Ellsworth" <islandmgr1958@gmail.com>
Date: Monday, November 19, 2012 5:12 PM
To: "undisclosed-recipients:"
Attach: 2012+Water+Meter+Assembly.jpg.jpg
Subject: IMPORTANT SHUTOFF VALVE INFORMATION....and an Engineer's Update

A few days ago, we had a much more upbeat and optimistic message than this, regarding purity tests and water meter installations. But the weather moved in, and so here we go....here is an update from the project engineer.

Delays and rain, that's the main message for the week. After an absurd amount of rainfall in the past 24 hours the contractor decided it was best to leave the groundwork alone. As soon as it dries up enough to get going, the contractor will begin installing services on Loop 1 as planned, and then continue on through the other loops. The crew might get brave tomorrow and give it a try, but I would not be surprised if they just wait. If they open up yards right now to put services in it will be a lot of added mess and work getting the meter boxes set in 2 foot deep pools of standing water. We'll keep you apprised as this gets rolling, but I'm not expecting to get to send that email until next week at this point. As a reminder, Loop 1 consists of: West Madrona Blvd, East Madrona Blvd, and South Herron Blvd, south of Maple.

IMPORTANT CONNECTION INFO --

We've gotten a few requests to have the valves "left" after installation by people concerned that there would be no way to turn off service to winterize or work on the plumbing in a home. I've been guilty of giving poor answers to the question of "what happens to our valve" because I had not properly understood the question, for which I apologize! I will attempt to clarify: The OLD valves will no longer serve any purpose because the meter setters have a valve in them. Take a look at the attached photo, it shows where the new valve is located. If you need to winterize your home, or just want to turn off water service, from now on you will be able to go open your meter box (which will be infinitely easier to find than the old valve cans in many cases) and twist the valve closed and have the same effect as your old shutoff valves.

The OLD shutoff valves will be removed from essentially all existing services (barring a handful that cannot be located), the new valve in the setter will be the point where you will turn off water to your home from now on. The contractor will not be leaving OLD valves on the NEW system. The old valves will be buried in place to act as a plug for the old system during transition because for a short period of time both the old and new systems will be pressurized at the same time. After transition is complete the old system will be turned off, and the OLD valves will serve no other purpose. They are harmless and may be left as is, but should not be reconnected afterward as they would serve no purpose but would be a source of future leaks and headaches. I hope this clarifies the how the new system will operate for everyone.

Now if we could just quit breaking rainfall records, we'd be in good shape! Have a happy Thanksgiving!

Jester Purtteman

Northwest Water Systems, Inc.

PO Box 123

Port Orchard, WA 98366

From: "Claudia Ellsworth" <islandmgr1958@gmail.com>
Date: Thursday, November 15, 2012 2:24 PM
Cc: "Jester Purtteman" <jester@nwwatersystems.com>
Subject: Caution Requested

In the next 7-10 days, the water construction crew will be installing forms around each of those very important water valves located right in the driving surface of Herron Island roads. There are over 60 of them. Once the forms are in they will be poured with concrete to permanently protect our water valves when the grader goes by, or heavy equipment comes onto the island. We don't need to spend a lot of time discussing how important it is to protect these valves, and to complete this project!

So, please....drive carefully and avoid any traffic cones or valve locations. We all want this project to come to a happy ending,.

That said. Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

From: "Claudia Ellsworth" <islandmgr1958@gmail.com>
Date: Tuesday, November 13, 2012 1:37 PM
To: "undisclosed-recipients:"
Subject: Engineer's Update Week of November 13

Here's the update for the week of the 12th to the 16th. Progress has unfortunately stalled as a result of a leak on West Herron Boulevard, which was not fixed until late last week. Samples and flushing continued today and the contractor will hopefully start getting sections finally flushed and ready for switches by Wednesday, bringing this to a close. The contractor made some significant improvements to many of the roads in the interior of the island last week and conditions are now back from nearly impassible to somewhat manageable for many people.

Look for improved conditions this week as the contractor is finally able to clean up the smaller roads (that's you, Herron Lane and Single Lane Road) before service installation commences. We anticipate progress to pick up rapidly once the samples are clean.

Installing meters for about 95% of the island is going to be one scoop of the excavator, pop the valve out, put a new adapter in, thread a meter into the setter, and set the box over the setter. For the easy connections, each one is likely to take in the vicinity of 20 minutes for the singles, and 30 for double setters, so the contractor should make good time at that. About five percent will have the added challenge of finding the valve and extracting it (unless the owner has tagged the valve with a stake and a note asking the contractor to leave the valve), which will add a half hour for someone with a shovel, and the final 0.2% (about 3 cases or so) will take a little hunting around to find the connection. I expect the "challenging" ones to be completed last as the contractor will be working hard to make their deadline.

Cross your fingers for clear weather and be ready for updates to start coming in when services start changing over. As always, thanks for all the patience!

-- Jester Purtteman, Project Engineer

From: "Claudia Ellsworth" <islandmgr1958@gmail.com>
Date: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 5:45 PM
To: "undisclosed-recipients:"
Subject: Road Work Notice!

The construction crew has finally located a persistent leak on West Herron Road, in the 600-700 block (do we have blocks?). Several deep sharp trenches have been dug in the process of locating this leak. In the next few days there will be considerable activity in this section, as the crew bring in loads of rock to fill these excavations. This rock will not be going in to fill trenches until the immediate problem of protecting the water line has been taken care of.

Please continue to email the office with information about severe road conditions, and we will forward those to the project engineer for action.

Also, please do not further abuse the roads and ditches by driving too fast. Obey stop signs, too, please.

The Water Project crew will be trying fix the damaged area (from the Cenex Truck mishap) on the single lane road by the weekend. This area is now blocked by an earth berm, and traffic is routed to the north or the south. When it is fixed, the dirt berm will be removed.

Thank you.

-Claudia Ellsworth

Island Manager

Here is more information from the Project Engineer:

Last week the contractor got a little too ambitious, while flushing and ran out of water on Thursday, as many of you know. Since then the contractor has flushed most of the island and I took samples Monday. By Wednesday afternoon we should find out whether the samples were clean or if the contractor has to give it another (this time somewhat more gentle) flushing. If all goes well meter installation will begin later this week. We anticipate final meter installation taking around two weeks. At the same time as meter installation, another crew will pour concrete "shoulders" around all the valve cans, so that we can quit cringing every time we drive over them. Once the shoulders are in for the valve markers and the road has been cleaned up for the final time the in-the-road and in-the-way work will be done. If the last flushing was successful that could be as early as the end of next week.

Between now and then the trench lines (where pipe was installed) will continue to settle (e.g. form ruts) and be hard to get over. The contractor has added gravel and compacted the worst of them, and has ordered larger rock to get a few of the worst places stabilized.

Please make every effort to keep your car off the shoulders where pipe was installed. That is soft ground and the more material that is pushed out, the more material that must be added back, and that costs money. I have seen the tamping work done, I have seen them adding gravel, and I know they are doing what they can to keep the situation under control. Please do your part, and try to go over the trench crossings slowly, and try to go down the solid, undisturbed, part of the road when possible. It is almost over, three weeks left to go.

Thank you.

-Jester Purttelman

Project Engineer

Ken Freeman

From: "Claudia Ellsworth" <islandmgr1958@gmail.com>

Date: Friday, November 02, 2012 7:15 PM

To: "undisclosed-recipients:"

Subject: Important Traffic News

Repairs are being done on the single lane road (East Herron) where the Cenex truck ran into trouble yesterday. Because some Members persist in driving through traffic cones, the road will be blocked by a dirt berm between 305 E Herron Blvd (Jensen) and 303 E Herron Blvd (Rubida). Vehicles from Jensen's to Schilter will have to come and go from E Herron Blvd. Vehicles from Rubida to Mowry will have to come and go via E Madrona. That area of the road is very dangerous right now and more damage may occur if vehicles continue to drive over it.

Also, last night a glitch may have occurred in the computer system that operates the pumps, allowing the reservoir to empty. the problem is being worked by the contractor and project engineer, and your water supply should continue uninterrupted.

Thank you.

Ken Freeman

From: "Claudia Ellsworth" <islandmgr1958@gmail.com>
Date: Thursday, November 01, 2012 10:45 PM
To: "undisclosed-recipients:"
Subject: Water Pressure today

You may be experiencing low water pressure. The water crew has been flushing hydrants, which lowered the level in the reservoir. Luckily, we have some terrific new pumps which are refilling the reservoir overnight.

We also had a Cenex propane truck get stuck on the one way road. it was near a water valve in the roadway, but we don't believe that it was damaged. The water construction crew valiantly responded with a backhoe to assist, but were unable to get the truck out of the mud. they will check the valve if they haven't already.

Cenex sent a tow truck and a backup propane truck. Everyone, from the office staff to the ferry crew and water construction crew, assisted, and we received a phone call late in the day from Cenex thanking us all for our efforts in getting the truck out and safely off the island. For those who are not in the know.....a vehicle filled with flammable fuel does not travel on the ferry side by side with passenger vehicles, so a shuttle is required.

Thanks to all who helped today.