

### **Water System Update: July 20, 2012**



We're entering the most popular vacation period, and several of you have asked for more information about water outages while your service connections and meters are installed. Jester Purtteman and I discussed this yesterday, and here's an update, the following in Jester's words:

*"The installation of 6 and 8" waterlines is complete, and unplanned system wide outages lasting for "however long it takes" should be coming to an end (although I would keep the bottled water on hand, as we can still get a few more outages). The final pieces of work that will result in outages will be*

- *the transition to the new booster pump system, and*
- *your individual water connection being transferred once the lines have been tested and disinfected.*

*During the transition from the old booster pumps to the new system, we anticipate a few hours of system wide downtime. There will probably be gravity pressure available from the reservoir, so anyone more than a dozen feet below the reservoir should have some water. We should have several days of notice of the changeover and will notify via the email list. If you are not signed up with that, please contact the Island Manager.*

*Unfortunately, we are unable to give significant notice for service meter installation. This is because each assembly will be its own little mystery when the crew gets there, and it will be impossible to make a schedule. Fortunately, it will also be fairly obvious when they get there, (you will notice the excavator digging at the corner of your lot) and transition will be pretty quick. Actual transition (out of water time) for each house while their service is transferred is likely to be about 15 minutes if it all goes right, and up to an hour if complications arise. Each service connection will require around an hour of digging time, and those machines are not quiet, so you will hear them coming. Situational awareness will be key, if you see the machines a few lots down, fill up the bath tub with water and be ready for transition. Service meter installation will begin next week (week of July 23rd) on the short 2" runs (the dead-ends) and then will progress to the rest of the island. Two to three crews will be on site at that time, and roads will once again be blocked for short periods, however, this install work really does take minutes instead of hours, and should be quite a bit less disruptive to island life. " Jester Purtteman*

#### **Reminders:**

- Give yourself plenty of time to get to the ferry – the crews will be moving quickly and might not be able to move directional signs along with them.
- Drive a little more slowly than usual. The water truck is out of service and it makes much less dust to drop your speed to 10 instead of 15 mph.
- Have bottled water on hand.
- If you need your vehicle during the day that the crew is on your road, try to park well away from your service connection. That should be marked with a blue stake (light blue for single connection, dark blue for double).
- Plan your special events for the weekends – the crew doesn't work then.
- Check the lost and found at the office.
- For those interested, the "payment in full" option probably won't be offered until October/November after the final bills have been paid.
- Contact the Island Manager at [hmcmanager@herronisland.org](mailto:hmcmanager@herronisland.org) with any questions you might have.

*Enjoy your beautiful Herron Island and look forward to the end of the project. More news on Tuesday.*