



NEWSLETTER

FALL 2018



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1957

Location
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Lake Stevens, WA
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Website:

www.lkstevenssewer.org

To keep up to date on sewer district news and information please check out our website www.lkstevenssewer.org or visit us on Facebook at *Lake Stevens Sewer District*

Don't be a turkey this Thanksgiving! Do not pour your fats, oils and grease down the drain! Try using an aluminum or tin can to collect the liquid fat. Let it solidify and then throw it in your garbage!



Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
7:30am-5:30pm

Phone Hours:
Monday-Friday
9:00am-4:30pm

Regular Board Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month at 9am and are open to the public

Manhole History

The word "manhole" has an interesting history. 'Manhole' was first used to describe the access holes between the



decks of old sailing ships. It wasn't until later the term was used to describe the structure through which access to sewers for maintenance could be achieved. Perhaps the name was adopted because it was, in essence, a hole into which a person would go to do maintenance,

or it was adapted from street level to the sewer beneath the street.



**GENERAL ELECTION
NOVEMBER 6TH**

Never pour oil down your drain

I have a lien on my property from the sewer district; what is it and why?

Mention the word "lien" and the puzzling looks begin. Yes the Lake Stevens Sewer District does place a lien on properties when a ratepayer fails or is unable to make payment on their sewer bill. What is a lien exactly? A lien is a document recorded at Snohomish County showing we have an invested interest in the property ensuring that before the property transfers ownership, we will be reimbursed for the services we provided to that address. The current recording fee charged by Snohomish County in total is \$200 and covers the cost of the placement and release, which the County has recently increased. This fee is the responsibly of the property owner whose property received the lien.

Why is this important you ask? The Lake Stevens Sewer District is funded by the revenue we collect each month from you the ratepayer, not from a general tax. This revenue supports the ongoing maintenance of the sewer lines, the treatment plant, staffing, and other needs to run a business. When someone cannot pay their bill the impact is a reduction in revenue which may affect all of the rate payers. Placing a lien on the property is state statutory protection that we will secure the funds that are necessary for your public system. We do not stop sewer service due to public health safety and do not have water rights to shut water off; therefore we are required to place a lien. The District will release the lien when the account is paid to a zero balance.

This is exactly what happens when you buy a home; the lender will place a lien on the property, to protect the investment from any losses. If you do get notice of a pending lien, the best thing to do is call the District and talk to our collections department and see what kind of payment plan is available; we do have resources that may be able to assist you.

Sewer Knowledge:

Our district maintains and operates 29 lift stations. A lift station is used for pumping sewage from a lower to higher elevation, particularly where the elevation of the source is not sufficient for gravity flow and/or when the use of gravity conveyance will result in excessive excavation and higher construction costs.



Meet One of Your New Commissioners: Mariah Low



Mariah Low was sworn into office to the Board of Commissioners for the Lake Stevens Sewer District on June 14th, 2018. She grew up in Machias and graduated from Snohomish High School in 2001 and earned a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry with a minor in Chemistry from the University of Washington in 2005 and has a strong science background. Mariah decided to stay in the area with her husband, Sam, and their five children, to be close to her parents and family but also to enjoy our lake community. The lake allows her to indulge in one of her favorite sports, water skiing. When she's not on the lake you can find her taking her two dogs, a Labrador and Golden Retriever, for walks and hikes. Mariah spends as much time outside as possible. Other activities she enjoys are music, in particular, playing the piano. Mariah brings, not only an amazing background in science but also great knowledge about our community, our lake, and our residents that is invaluable to the sewer district. Please join us in welcoming her!

Mark Your Calendars

October:

Regular Board Meetings:
2nd & 4th Thursday
31st: Lake Stevens
Family Halloween

November:

Regular Board Meetings:
2nd & 4th Thursday
12th: Veterans Day— offices closed
23rd-24th— Thanksgiving—Offices Closed

December:

Regular Board Meetings:
2nd & 4th Thursday
24th & 25th-Christmas
Eve & Day-Offices
Closed

All meetings subject to change, please check www.lkstevenssewer.org calendar for updates

Mission: Meeting the challenge of protecting the environment and providing quality sewer service to the community