



RWDonline.net

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## CUSTOMER NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2017

### MISSION STATEMENT

Rainbow Water and Fire District provides high-quality drinking water and fire protection and emergency response services at a fair cost to our customers while protecting our assets for long-term success.

### BUDGET PROCESS

The Rainbow Budget Committee met over the spring to recommend a budget that balances our income and expenses, providing for our current needs while also saving for future infrastructure projects and emergencies. The Rainbow Board of Commissioners is reviewing our fire protection contract with Eugene-Springfield Fire and will consider asking voters this November to renew our fire protection local option levy. The Board reviewed water rates in June, and **we are happy to report that the price of water will NOT increase this year.** For your reference, the average Rainbow customer uses about 11 units (1 unit = 748 gallons) of water per month. For a typical  $\frac{3}{4}$ " meter, the water bill includes a base charge (\$18.00 per month) plus a usage charge of \$1.10 per unit for the quantity that is used. *We have an opening on our Budget Committee, which does not formally meet again until April 2018. If you are a water and fire customer and you are interested in this volunteer opportunity, please call us for more info.*

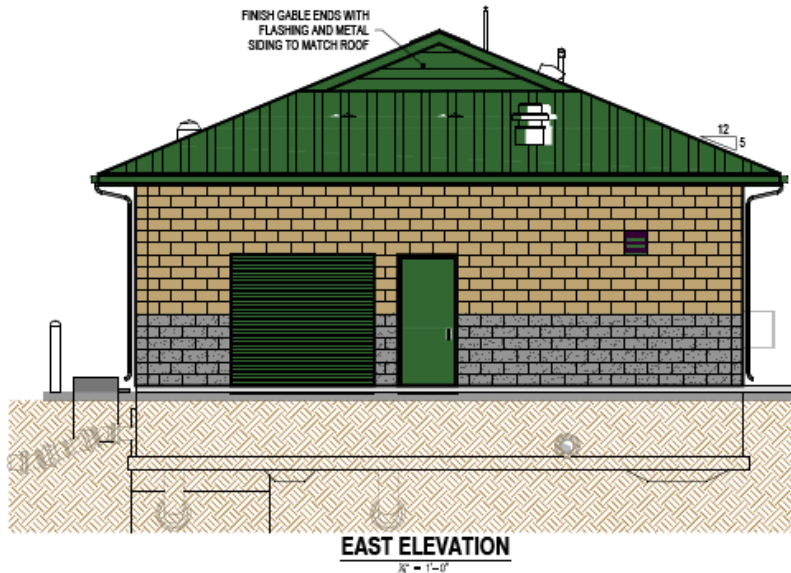
### AGING INFRASTRUCTURE

Rainbow celebrated our 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2014, and since that milestone we have started talking about our aging water system and the need to invest in repairs and replacements to maintain the system for future generations. We are beginning to implement this program. We have refurbished our wells, and started replacing older fire hydrants that have hard-to-find repair parts. This summer we will begin the first phase of a multi-year project to replace a pipeline installed in 1950 along Hayden Bridge Road east of 23<sup>rd</sup> Street. This modernization project will allow us to increase the pipe size and significantly improve flows in the area, which will benefit firefighting capabilities and water quality (through improved flushing of sediments).

### WATER QUALITY REPORT

Our **2016 Annual Water Quality Report** is online. You may view the report under our website's Water Quality menu, or by entering this URL: [www.rwdonline.net/2016RainbowReport.pdf](http://www.rwdonline.net/2016RainbowReport.pdf)

*Did you know? Lead in drinking water comes mostly from materials associated with home service lines and plumbing, which Rainbow cannot control. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may reduce your potential exposure by flushing your tap for 1-2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking that has been sitting for several hours. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead) or the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).*



## WATER TREATMENT PLANT

The water coming from our wells is naturally filtered by sand and gravel, and we do not normally need any treatment except adding a low dose of chlorine to disinfect against bacteria. As we reported at our project Open House last August, we learned it is possible for surface water to take a shortcut into one of our wells at high river levels, and chlorine disinfection alone is

not sufficient to treat the microorganisms that could be present in the water. This well has been sitting idle while we worked with our engineering team to design a filtration system. The new treatment system will allow us to both filter the water and raise the pH from our wells slightly to reduce corrosion of lead and copper in your household plumbing. We are soliciting bids to construct a small building and install the treatment equipment over the winter. At full capacity this facility will allow us to filter nearly 3 million gallons of water per day.

## BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Rainbow's Board of Commissioners meets monthly to adopt the policies that guide the staff and govern the District's customers. This month we would like to introduce you to:

**Lou Allocco** -- Position #4, Term expires 6/30/2020

Originally from New York, Lou moved to Oregon 13 years ago. He brings operations management experience ranging from US Navy submarines to hotel and hospitality (Valley River Inn), health plans (PacificSource), and municipal public works (City of Springfield). Lou has an MBA, and is employed as a Vice President with Pentagon Federal Credit Union. Lou is President-Elect of the Springfield Twin Rivers Rotary. He is married to Meg and has a daughter, two kittens, and a golden retriever. For fun, Lou enjoys golfing and driving and restoring his classic British cars. Lou has served on the Board since 2010 after a brief stint on the Budget Committee.



Find us on the web at [www.RWDonline.net](http://www.RWDonline.net) or use the [Facebook](#) link for Rainbow-Water-District.