

Welcome, New Employees!

Two outstanding staff joined our water system crew: *Thomas Brown, and Jon Nichols.*

And we’re already keeping them busy. From exercising and flushing fire hydrants and water mains, doing maintenance on pressure release valves, doing new service installs, and even shop and truck maintenance and detailing, as Jon says, “Each day is something different... it’s never monotonous!”

Should you detect a leak in your home or on your property, you might be greeted by one or both of them: they love to meet with our customers to help them identify possible sources of a leak, and answer any questions they might have about getting it repaired. “We go out of our way to be helpful, polite, and professional in both appearance and in demeanor... personal service is the backbone behind everything we do for our customers,” says Thomas.

Jon has spent the majority of his 23 year career in the waterworks industry, including 15 years at ROMAC, a major supplier of parts and equipment for water systems. Many of the skills he learned with that company have been directly applicable to the type of routine system and equipment maintenance he does for NCWD. He is a certified WDM Level I, and has a Class A Commercial Driver’s License (CDL), as well as a Flagger’s Certificate.



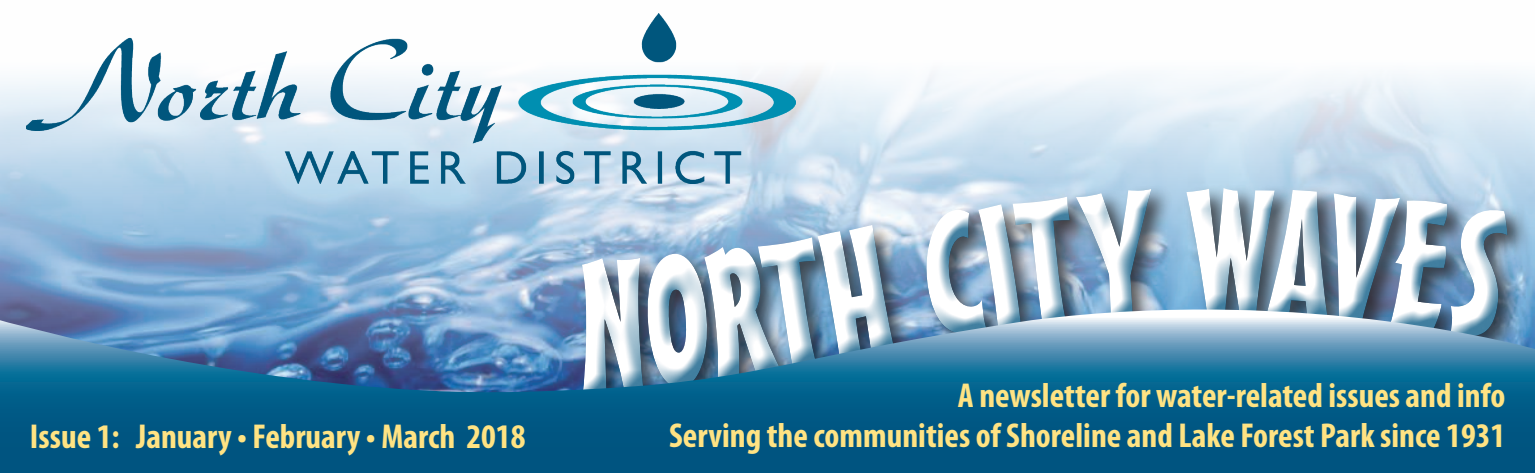
Thomas Brown



Jon Nichols

Thomas was a familiar face at NCWD even before coming to work for us, having worked with James W. Fowler Construction on our new North City / Denny Clouse Pump Station. While working for them he also helped with the construction of a well treatment facility in Marysville, and seismic upgrades in a underground reservoir beneath Jefferson Park in Seattle—giving him invaluable perspective about water systems. So far he has completed his Confined Spaces and Flagger’s Certificates, and is dilligenly working towards his WDM Level 1 Certificate and Class A CDL.

Both Jon and Thomas are enthusiastic about the water industry, the range of tasks they get to perform each week, and the warm sense of family they have working for our District. We’re absolutely thrilled to have them!



From Our Board...

by Larry Schoonmaker, President

2018 represents an exciting year in the ongoing evolution of your water district, with a significant undertaking that will have far-reaching effects throughout many years to come: a new Water System Plan. As a special purpose district that is singularly focused on water, we put a great deal of effort into developing proactive, long-term planning to ensure our water system is safely, efficiently, and cost-effectively maintained. Our Water System Plan will help us ensure our operations and assets remain in great shape well into the future—addressing everything from water use, conservation, and regulatory requirements, to key infrastructure upgrades—including specific capital improvement projects like our North City Denny Clouse Pump Station project (representing over 10 years of planning) and our upcoming new Maintenance Facility (in the planning stage for nearly 30 years). In this first newsletter of 2018, we describe what’s entailed in a Water System Plan; future issues will go into more detail about the various plan components, and what we are learning (and planning for) as we go through each stage of its development.

SAVE THE DATE:

15th Annual
EARTH SMART GREEN FAIR
in Lake Forest Park
on Saturday March 31
10am – 2pm
at Third Place Books
Commons (3rd floor)

Learn more at:
www.cityoflfp.org

Do You Have One of These At Your Home or Business?

- ☐ Fire Sprinkler system
- ☐ Lawn irrigation system
- ☐ Swimming pool
- ☐ Hot tub / jacuzzi tub
- ☐ Livestock watering system
- ☐ Decorative fountain
- ☐ Hydraulic boat lift
- ☐ Water makeup lines (that supply a boiler or hydronic heating)

OR if you raise farm animals, you are required to:

1. Have a “Cross Connection Control” (backflow prevention) device installed;
2. Have a state certified Backflow Assembly Test performed annually; and
3. Send us a copy of your test result.

If you checked any of the above items, OR if you are a business of (most) any kind,

For more information, please contact us at 206.362.8100.



The North City Waves Newsletter is brought to you by North City Water District, and its Board of Commissioners:

Larry Schoonmaker (President), Charlotte Haines (Vice President), and Ron Ricker (Secretary).

Feel free to contact us at PO Box 55367, or 1519 NE 177th Street, Shoreline, WA 98155.

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Inside This Issue

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Three Ways to Stay in Touch

- 1) Join www.nextdoor.com for neighborhood news and notices
- 2) Follow us on www.facebook.com/NorthCityWaterDistrict
- 3) Sign up for news, alerts, free classes and more on our website at www.northcitywater.org

North City Waves Newsletter ~ a publication by North City Water District

2018: The Year of the Water System Plan

As a Special Purpose District established specifically for, and singularly focused on water, we've been developing and updating a proactive Water System Plan since 1933.

What is a Water System Plan?

Think of a Water System Plan as a comprehensive road map: identifying and analyzing where we've been, where we're at currently, how we're doing, and where we're headed. The goal of a Water System Plan is to ensure our water system, its associated operations, staff, and equipment, are being managed and maintained as safely, efficiently, and cost-effectively as possible.





What distinguishes one Water System Plan from another are the policies established by its governing organization (in our case, our publicly-elected Board of Commissioners) by which that system is operated.

Why Develop a Water System Plan?

Anyone who provides water service to the public—whether special purpose district, public utility district, city utility, or even private water system—is required by Washington state to create and update a Water System Plan every 10 years (extended from a 6 year cycle at the beginning of last year).

Components of a Water System Plan

North City Water District includes the following sections in our Water System Plan, addressing each one with comprehensive analysis and planning:

- **1. Overview:** Purpose, Policies, Rules and Regulations, Conservation, Customer Service, and long term water supply contract with Seattle Public Utilities
- **2. Basic Planning Data:** Historical data; Topography; Land Use and Zoning; Population and Employment; System Demand Projections
- **3. Existing Water System:** Supply; Emergency; Facilities; Equipment; System; Water Treatment
- **4. Minimum Design Criteria for System Components:** Jurisdictional Regulations; Planning Considerations; Reliability and Security; Water Supply and Pressure; *(continued above)*...

Pipeline Velocities, Sizing, and Material: Valves; Fire Hydrants; Cross Connection Control; Water Storage; Pump Stations; Facility Placement; Plans and Specifications; Water Quality Standards

- **5. System Analysis:** Source; Storage; Pumping; Distribution; Monitoring
- **6. Capital Improvement Planning**
- **7. Operations & Maintenance:** Personnel; Processes; Records; Water Quality; Safety; Emergencies; Public Notification; Preventive Maintenance
- **8. Financials:** Water Supply, Cost of Service, Connection Charges, Funding, Capital Improvement Financing, Developer Policies, Standard Details and Specifications, and Multi-Year Rate Study

How is a Water System Plan Updated?

Each time we do an update, we begin with the prior plan, and then collect data to compare, contrast, and analyze past projected versus actual results. This gives us an informed foundation from which to identify necessary adjustments and modifications.

For example, we have long held the philosophy of doing some capital improvement projects every year, along with inflationary rate increases when necessary—thus avoiding major rate increases to address major projects and system upgrades.

The same is true of our larger, more significant facility upgrades: by planning for them over one or two decades, we can achieve a more gradual financing solution as well as a proactively updated water system.

As a result of this long-term planning, we have completed over \$26 million in capital projects in the last six years, taking advantage of public private partnerships with two developers, collecting connection charge revenues from proposed development, and taking advantage of some low interest loans and bonds—resulting in significant system upgrades with minimal rate increases.

Because much like a small business, we not only pay attention to our bottom line, we are also keenly aware of maintaining great customer service.

Should you have any questions about our 2018 Water System Plan, feel free to contact us at 206.362.8100.

2 Free Gardening Classes This Spring:

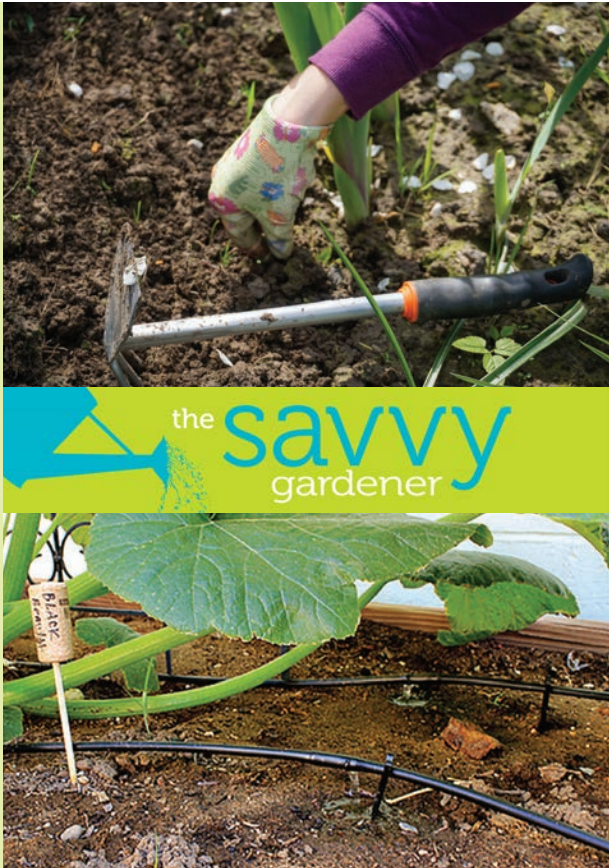
Thursday, March 22, 2018 – 6:30 to 8:00 pm
Proven Tips & Techniques for First-Time Gardeners

Get started with simple and fun tips for a beautiful, sustainable and low-maintenance garden. Instructor Peggy Campbell shares basic techniques that are easy on you and the environment, including how to keep weeds out, pests at bay, water use low, and enjoy color year-round. Peggy is an ecoPRO Certified Sustainable Landscape Professional with a Bachelor's in Horticulture from WSU.

Thursday, April 19, 2018 – 6:30 to 8:00 pm
Drip Irrigation for Home Gardeners

Learn how easy it is to water your garden with resource-efficient drip irrigation! Even though our climate is known for its rain, during the droughty summer, we still need to water food crops, thirsty ornamentals, and container gardens. Instructor Laura McGrath will show you how to maximize the water you use in your landscape. Laura teaches classes for Tilth Alliance on topics including organic vegetable gardening and permaculture, and regularly trains volunteers to install drip irrigation systems in community gardens.

Both classes held at North City Water District, 1519 NE 177th St. in Shoreline. To sign up, email theresah@northcitywater.org or call 206.362.8100. Savvy Gardener classes are made possible by sponsorship from North City Water District and the Saving Water Partnership.



New Maintenance Facility Gives Local Firefighters a Chance to Practice



Our new Maintenance Facility is making steady progress: we've submitted permits to the City of Shoreline, and hope to put the first contract for Site Work out to bid this spring.

However the most exciting news during this first stage is an opportunity to collaborate with a local government agency: Shoreline Fire Department will be using the property for multiple training exercises with other regional fire departments, before the site work (and eventual building demolition) begins.

Other than various fire department vehicles on the site, you won't see much activity: most of the training will be taking place inside the vacant buildings. There will also be NO burning... if you see something that resembles smoke, it's "Hollywood" smoke, not the real thing.

We're thrilled that these old buildings can serve a final purpose—not only helping our local Shoreline Fire Department with various response and training efforts, but also providing an opportunity for them to practice with neighboring departments, helping all of them better

anticipate and support each other in the event of a real emergency.

Once these training efforts are complete and our permit is in hand, we'll begin the first phase of the project: demolition of existing structures, installation of utilities and related infrastructure, followed by improvements along each of the three sides of the property.

The second contract for Building Construction will go out later in 2018. We opted to separate the efforts into two contracts, given how competitive the construction market is, and how committed we are to finding any and all methods to stay on budget.

