

SERVING THE  
WEST SLOPE  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
SINCE 1922

## Upcoming Meetings

- Board of Commissioners Virtual Work Session; 10:30 AM, Tues, Jan 26
- Board of Commissioners Virtual Meeting; 5 PM, Wednesday, Feb 17
- Board of Commissioners Virtual Meeting; 5 PM, Wednesday, Mar 17
- Board of Commissioners Virtual Meeting; 5 PM, Wednesday, Apr 21

## What's Happening in the District?

Our door may say "Closed", but we have been working in the office and in the field through the pandemic. We are just restricting access into our office.

If you need us, call, email or knock on the door and we'll come

### Contact Us !

3105 SW 89th Ave.  
(503) 292-2777

On the web at:  
[www.wswd.org](http://www.wswd.org)

Email: [customer.service@wswd.org](mailto:customer.service@wswd.org)

Please share with us what you think of the newsletter and its effectiveness to provide information to you ... we want to hear from you! Call us and leave a message or send an email.



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## Improving the District's Infrastructure for the Future

A common question all utilities ask themselves is "When is it best to repair or replace a water main?" Like most utilities, West Slope Water District does both ... repair and replace. You might see us working in the street with water running along the pavement. At that moment, we are working to repair a broken water main. Sometimes our telemetry equipment alerts us to look for a broken water main, and sometimes we see it or our customers alert us to it because they are the first to see the water in the street. Repairing a broken water main is a "drop what you are doing" kind of task. To minimize water loss and property damage from the water, we strive to repair broken water mains as quickly as we find them. Some of the Dis-

trict's water mains are as old as 80 years old but are still in



very good condition. But as water mains age, they become susceptible to breaking. When a main breaks, we cut through the pavement, dig a hole to find the leaking pipe, and put a repair band

over the break that compresses the leak and holds the pipe together. But we also replace pipe that is no longer able to be repaired. Starting Fall 2021, we will be replacing a mile of pipe on Beaverton Hillsdale Hwy. The new water main will increase our capacity and improve service in that area. But main replacement is expensive requiring much planning and coordination involving other entities. These projects are funding by customer water payments, so thank you for your continued support !!!



## Water District Board of Commissioners—May 2021 Elections



The District is governed by a five member Board of Commissioners. Each Commissioner is elected by District residents to a four-year term. For the May 18 election, residents will vote for three Commissioner positions. To find out more about the election, call our office or go the Washington County Elections website at :

<https://www.co.washington.or.us/AssessmentTaxation/Elections/UpcomingElections/candidate-and-measure-filings.cfm>. Thank you in advance for making sure the District has great leadership !!



### **Emergency Preparedness Tips: Second of Four in a Series**

Storing water is just the first step in getting prepared for emergencies. Once you've done that, ask yourself five questions to take the next step: What else should go in my emergency kit? How will I receive emergency alerts and warnings? What is my shelter plan? What is my evacuation route? What is my household communication plan? Start with the tips below, and then visit [ready.gov](http://ready.gov), [PublicAlerts.org](http://PublicAlerts.org), and [redcross.org](http://redcross.org) for more emergency preparedness information.

- **Make a plan** using the tools on [ready.gov](http://ready.gov) for your specific needs and follow the steps below to round out your preparedness efforts.
- **Build and maintain a 14-day emergency kit** that is stocked with water, food, and other supplies. Start with the resources at [PublicAlerts.org](http://PublicAlerts.org) and add items to your kit based on individual and household needs. Building a kit can be easy and affordable – you're probably more prepared than you think! The Red Cross preparedness calendar is a great tool to build a kit month-by-month over the course of a year.
- **Sign up for Public Alerts.** Get messages about major service disruptions in the Portland-Vancouver metro area via text, email or phone.
- **Get a battery powered, solar, or hand-cranked radio**, preferably one that is a NOAA Weather Radio. Use your radio to keep up to date with emergency alerts and other information during and after a disaster. Oregon's primary emergency alert station is OPB 91.5 FM.
- **Have a toilet plan.** Emergency sanitation is an often-overlooked element of preparedness efforts. Stay healthy by separating waste and drinking water, good handwashing practices, and utilizing an emergency toilet system. Deadly diseases can spread when human feces are not handled and stored safely. Learn how to keep your household healthy!
- **Get to know your neighbors and community resources.** When a disaster occurs, you