



Inside the Rim

August — September 2013

Wilderness Rim Association

**PO Box 315
North Bend, WA 98045**

Phone: 425-888-0087

Fax: 425-888-2136

Email: office@WildRim.org

Web: WildernessRim.org

Office Hours

Temporarily, by appointment only

This newsletter is also available at WildernessRim.org.

Annual Meeting

Trustees: **Newly Elected:** Jim Besso, John Greer, Earnest Henrie, Steven McDonald, Kimberlea Miller, Fernando Platin Jr., and Matthew Rourke.
Returning: Donna Greathouse Neel, Joyce Jansen, Brian Mogridge, Ellen Smith.

ARC: Jessica Besso, Doug Greathouse, Cherie LaTourette, Steven McDonald, Matthew Rourke, and Richard Smith.

Ballot items:	The 2012 Annual Meeting Minutes	Approved
	The budget and dues increase	Not approved
	The two Park Special Assessments	Not approved
	The six Bylaw amendments	Not approved
	The Security Patrol Special Assessment**	Approved

** To be billed in September

Water Emergency or Questions

In case of low water pressure, loss of water flow, breaks in mains or questions about your water bill, please call:

Sallal Water Association
425-888-3650

July 17 Board Meeting

New Officers

President: Steve McDonald
Vice President: Brian Mogridge
Secretary: Jim Besso
Treasurer: Donna Greathouse Neel

New Committee Chairs

ARC: To be decided at the ARC meeting on August 7th
Budget and Finance: Donna Greathouse Neel
Communications: John Greer
Park: Ellen Smith
Water Utilities: Earnest Henrie

August & September Events

Board Meetings (at the Chalet)

August 14	7:30pm
September 11	7:30pm

Committees Session at Chalet

August 7	6:00 pm
September 4	6:00 pm

Budget & Finance

Donna Greathouse Neel

Water Utilities

Earnest Henrie

Public Safety

Brian Mogridge

Park

Ellen Smith

ARC

Matt Rourke

Communications

John Greer

Water Rate Increase

The Water Utilities Committee and the Budget & Finance Committee recently proposed a water rate increase. This increase addresses the Water budget shortfall. WRA Water System Rules & Regulations requires all surcharge revenue be deposited into a reserve account. The WRA Water System is self-insured and the reserve account provides for emergency repairs and on-going capital improvements. This rate increase will be in effect July 25 for water billed on the September invoices.

For several years the surcharge has been used to help pay for water and water system operations to avoid raising rates to WRA homeowners during the economic downturn, resulting in the \$91,000 deficit shown in the budget that was proposed at the Annual Meeting. The goal is to run the water system with the reserve fully funded by the surcharge without losing money.

The details of the increase are still being developed. The current proposal is:

- Fees will increase to cover the full cost of water and water operations.
- The Surcharge will drop from \$16 to \$8 per billing cycle to go first for capital improvements needed this year, if any, with the balance to be transferred to the Water Reserves.
- This will reestablish the practice of funding the Water Reserve Account, with approximately \$25,000 this fiscal year.
- If future rate or reserve analysis identifies a need to raise the Surcharge, we will respond in a way that protects the system and considers member needs.

The Board will address this issue at upcoming board meetings. Please participate. If you have comments on this issue please email the office (office@wildrim.org) or the Water Utilities Committee (water@wildrim.org) or Budget and Finance (BnF@wildrim.org) or attended the Board meetings.



Trustees Who Served Last Year

The following trustees have stepped down from the Board since July 2012. Each of them deserves our sincere thanks for their time and contributions.

Stephen Miller	July, 2006 - Sept, 2012	President
Andrea Nelson	July, 1999 - Oct, 2012	Secretary, Treasurer
Kathy Hyland	July, 2012 - Nov, 2012	Vice President
Janet Sailer	July, 1999 - Dec, 2012	Secretary
Jamie Rosen	July, 2012 - Dec, 2012	Treasurer
Danelle Coley	Dec, 2012 - May, 2013	Treasurer
Denise Lystad	Dec, 2012 - July, 2013	Secretary
Cherie LaTourette	Dec, 2012 - July, 2013	
Chuck Walsh	Feb, 2013 - July, 2013	President
Wilfred Chromey	July, 2010 - July, 2013	Vice President, Treasurer
Suzanne Perkins	July, 2012 - July, 2013	Vice President

Annual Assessment Remains at \$80

The new budget was not approved at the Annual Meeting. WRA will continue using the 2012-2013 budget as required by WRA Bylaws.

Each lot owner will be billed \$80 on their end of July bill. Payments are due at the WRA office or at Sallal by August 31, 2013. If your payment will be late you can avoid \$15 late fees by contacting the WRA office prior to August 31 to make payment arrangements.

You can contact the office at office@wildrim.org or 425-888-0087. To make payment arrangements, you will need to provide your account number, name, address, and contact information.

Financial Audit Planned

The Board has authorized a financial audit for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2013. WRA's last audit was completed in 2008 by CPAs with Cagianut & Company.

Typically Reviews have been conducted each year by Rick Krona, CPA, in conjunction with federal tax return preparation. The Review for 2010-11 is nearing completion and 2011-12 Review will be conducted immediately thereafter.

The Budget & Finance Committee has already begun the process to find an auditor. Audit and Review results will be available to the membership after they are completed. These results will not be posted on the WRA website since this is private business information. Any member can request copies of these financial reports by emailing the office at office@wildrim.org or by calling 425-888-0087.

Links to more articles on <http://WildernessRim.org>

From the Park Chair <http://www.wildernessrim.org/2013/07/park-chair>
From the Public Safety Committee <http://www.wildernessrim.org/2013/07/public-safety>
Join our Volunteer Fire Department <http://www.wildernessrim.org/2013/07/fire-dept>



It takes a lot of energy to deliver and treat the water you use. Letting your faucet run for five minutes uses as much energy as leaving a 60-watt light bulb on for 22 hours.

REMINDER
Water bill payments are due August 31, 2013

For **water** billing questions, please call Mary at **425-888-3650** **

Make your checks payable to **WRA** but mail your check to:

**Sallal Water Association
PO Box 378
North Bend, WA 98045**

If you have a late fee on **water you feel should be waived, send a clear statement of the pertinent facts to office@WildRim.org. Mary at Sallal no longer addresses these concerns for us.

Bylaw Amendments Need 67%

To be included in the Annual Meeting ballot proposed Bylaw amendments must be submitted to the Board by the March meeting.

To become part of the WRA Bylaws a proposed Bylaw amendment must achieve a two-thirds majority yes vote.

League of Women Voters

Julie Anne Kempf and Angela Henry with the League of Women Voters each generously volunteered six-plus hours of their Sunday afternoon to organize, teach and help with the vote count from the Annual Meeting. Their participation assured WRA of a fair, accurate and impartial ballot count. Art Farash, George Goudie, Jamie Oberg, and Al Sharon also counted ballots.

Thank you to all participants and observers for your help.