School Field Trips
Did you know that Skagit PUD offers school group tours of Judy Reservoir, the Water Treatment Plant and a visit to a stream within the watershed? Transportation reimbursement is available for schools served by Skagit PUD water, and includes the bus driver fee plus mileage. The tour is recommended for students ages nine (4th-grade) and up. The program focuses on an exploration of water’s role in our environment and society, with an emphasis on the importance of a safe and reliable water supply.

Large school groups visiting the Water Treatment Plant should plan for 1.5 – 2 hours.

For more information about the Judy Reservoir tour, please visit our website at SkagitPUD.org or call (360) 848-4477.

Mundt Creek Intake Gets Upgrade

A construction worker with TRICO sets up reinforcing bars for the concrete intake structure being refurbished at Mundt Creek. Improvements include a new “self-cleaning“screen that will be less susceptible to clogging from rock and gravel debris.

Maintaining and improving valuable assets plays a significant role in being a good steward of our water resources.

In the Cultus Mountain watershed, Mundt Creek provides 16 percent of the source water for the Judy Reservoir System. A water diversion at the creek was constructed in 1967. The Mundt Creek Diversion collects water through a screen located on the streambed. Stream flows drop through a screen into the concrete intake structure. By manipulating the volumes of water passing through this structure, operators manage the amount of water that enters the source water pipeline to Judy Reservoir.

The old screen was susceptible to blockages caused by rock and gravel transported by the stream. To address this issue, Skagit PUD is installing a redesigned intake screen at Mundt Creek, which requires damming the creek and pumping water around the work area. The new screen has narrow 1/8 inch openings and is sloped so debris can easily be carried away with the stream flow.

The project totals $600,000 and should pay for itself over time through reduced energy costs associated with pumping water at the Skagit River Diversion.

The intake is expected to be back in operation this fall in time for the start of our rainy season.
If a disaster strikes in our community, tap water may not be safe to drink or use. It is important to prepare for possible emergency situations ahead of time by preparing an emergency water supply for yourself and your family.

In emergency situations, use bottled water if possible; bottled water is the safest choice for drinking and all other uses. If bottled water is not available, it is essential to know how to make contaminated water safe to drink and how to find alternate sources of water.

Test your knowledge about water use and safety in an emergency:

(1) In a disaster, alternative sources of clean water can be found inside the home. Can you name three sources?
   - Melted ice cubes.
   - Liquid from canned fruit and vegetables.
   - Water from your home’s water heater tank.

(2) In a disaster, alternative sources of water can be found outside the home. Can you name three sources?
   - Rainwater
   - Streams, rivers, and other moving bodies of water
   - Ponds and lakes
   - Natural springs

(3) In a disaster, if you don’t have safe bottled water, you should do what to water make it safe?
   - A. Add Chlorine
   - B. Add Iodine
   - C. Boil it
   Answer: C. Boiling is the surest method to make water safer to drink by killing disease-causing organisms, including viruses, bacteria, and parasites. Iodine and Chlorine can kill most harmful organisms, such as viruses and bacteria, but are not as effective in controlling more resistant organisms such as the parasites Cryptosporidium and Giardia.

   IMPORTANT: Water contaminated with fuel or toxic chemicals will not be made safe by boiling or disinfection.

(4) The minimum amount of water each individual needs per day for sanitation and drinking is?
   - A. 1 gallon
   - B. 5 gallons
   - C. 16 ounces
   Answer: A. Store at least one gallon of water per day for each person and each pet. You should consider storing more water than this for hot climates, for pregnant women, and for persons who are sick. Store at least a three-day supply of water for each person and each pet (try to store a two-week supply if possible).

(5) If the water you’ve stored for an emergency hasn’t been commercially bottled, how often should it be replaced?
   - A. Every 3 months
   - B. Every 6 months
   - C. Once a year
   - D. Not until it starts to turn green
   Answer: B. Every 6 months

Source: Center for Disease Control & Prevention

Community Disaster & Emergency Preparedness Fair
Prepare yourself, your family and pets for disasters and emergencies.

Sat., October 21 | 10 a.m. - Noon
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
1700 East Hazel Street, Mount Vernon

The following groups will be on hand to share tips on ways to be prepared:
- Skagit County Emergency Management
- Skagit PUD
- American Red Cross
- Skagit Valley Hospital
- Mount Vernon Police Department
- Social Security Administration
- Fire Department
- Home Storage Experts
- Veterinarians

Say goodbye to postage stamps. Online bill payment can simplify your life. Easily create an account. View and pay your water bills anytime on any device. Sign up at SkagitPUD.org.