Making Your Day Brighter
-Allan Martin, City Treasurer

In 1893 A system of Water Works is how our City Council described the many interdependent and related parts that provide water into our homes and businesses. You may see the Public Works employees reading meters in their bright, high visibility shirts. Or you may have interaction with the Utility Billing staff when paying your utility charges or applying for water service.

Finance staff and Public Works work closely to keep the water flowing, and truly are the ones that make the City work. Our billing clerks and meter readers work as a team to gain efficiencies and hold down costs.

The City staff continues to work smarter. Since aligning reading cycles to be more efficient staff has streamlined communication between the field and office workers. Working smarter, the City continues to add “touch read” technology, focus on early maintenance, and standardize reading and billing processes.

Soon the utility billing statements will be printed and mailed by an outside vendor who specializes in such services allowing staff to work on more demanding and technical responsibilities. Utility documents needing to be filed with Kitsap County will soon be transmitted electronically, saving paper, delivery cost, and time.

The City employees that make up your Water Works team are highly trained and certified in their field. They are helpful individuals who are proud of their work, and proud to serve the citizens of Port Orchard. Please remember these dedicated people when you turn on your faucet and our system of Water Works delivers for you fresh, clean water!

Public Works Department
-Mark R. Dorsey, P.E. Public Works Director

Current Projects:
• Ribbon cutting for Well #9 was held on 07/30/13.
• DeKalb Pier Phase 1 was completed on 07/30/13.
• Bay Street Pedestrian Pathway Segment 2, joint Project with the Port of Bremerton, was completed and the new guardrail and fencing was installed.
• Bay Street Pedestrian Pathway Segment 5 was completed on 07/31/13.
• The Public Works Developer’s Guidelines draft is in review with anticipated adoption in early 2014.
• McCormick Woods STEP System conversion and pumping of 60 homes projects to be completed by 09/30/13.
• Leak detection inspections completed.
• Cedar Heights sidewalk drainage and sewer project construction has started.

Upcoming Projects:
• Sidney Ave. street end improvements slated for 2013 are on track.
• Traffic impact fees slated for 2013 are on track.
• McCormick Woods Park Phase I design is in process. Construction will start in September of 2013.
Crime Prevention Tips—Burglary
-Police Chief Geoff Marti-

The Burglary Basics:
The most important thing you can do is call the police to report a crime or any suspicious activity. You have to be the eyes of your neighborhood. And remember you can always remain a pair of anonymous eyes!

Light up your residence, lock your doors at all times, and call the Police when you see something suspicious.

- Make your home look occupied, and make it difficult to break in.
- Lock all outside doors and windows before you leave the house or go to bed. Even if it is for a short time, lock your doors.
- Leave lights on when you go out. If you are going to be away for a length of time, connect some lamps to automatic timers to turn them on in the evening and off during the day.
- Keep your garage door closed and locked.
- Don't allow daily deliveries of mail, newspapers or flyers build up while you are away. Arrange with the Post Office to hold your mail, or arrange for a friend or neighbor to take them regularly.
- Arrange for your lawn to be mowed if you are going away for an extended time.
- Check your locks on doors and windows and replace them with secure devices as necessary.
- Pushbutton locks on doorknobs are easy for burglars to open. Install deadbolt locks on all your outside doors.
- Sliding glass doors are vulnerable. Special locks are available for better security.
- Other windows may need better locks. Check with a locksmith or hardware store for alternatives.

If Your Home Is Broken Into:
If you come home to find an unexplained open/broken window or door:

- Do not enter - the perpetrator may still be inside.
- Use a neighbor's phone to call police.
- Do not touch anything or clean up until the police have inspected for evidence.
- Write down the license plate numbers of any suspicious vehicles.
- Note the descriptions of any suspicious persons.

Other precautions you should take:

- Never leave keys under doormats, flowerpots, mailboxes or other “secret” hiding places, burglars know where to look for hidden keys.
- Keep a detailed inventory of your valuable possessions, including a description of the items, date of purchase and original value, and serial numbers, and keep a copy in a safe place away from home — this is a good precaution in case of fires or other disasters. Make a photographic or video record of valuable objects, heirlooms and antiques. Your insurance company can provide assistance in making and keeping your inventory.
- Trim your shrubbery around your home to reduce cover for burglars.
- Be a good neighbor. If you notice anything suspicious in your neighborhood, call 9-1-1 immediately.
- Mark your valuables with your driver's license number with an engraver you can borrow from your precinct. Marked items are harder for a burglar to dispose of and easier for police to recover.
- Form a Neighborhood Watch Group. We can help you work with your neighbors to improve security and reduce risk of burglary.
- Consider installing a burglar alarm system.

Don’t become a victim! Take the time to protect yourself through prevention and attention.