



IWA PIPELINE



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3651 Sanibel-Captiva Road Sanibel, FL 33957 • <http://www.islandwater.com>

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. • Phone: (941) 472-1502

INJECTION WELL UPDATE

Progress continues at a good pace on construction of our deep injection well. All drilling has been completed, to the total depth of 3,235 feet. The 18 inch diameter casing has been set to a depth of 2,545 feet (from 2,545 to 3,235 feet is the "open hole," where injection will take place). Next will come installation of the final 14 inch casing to a depth of 2,500 feet. Then, a series of tests will be performed to ensure that the well is properly constructed. Finally, we will perform a full-scale test of the well to confirm that it meets all design criteria.

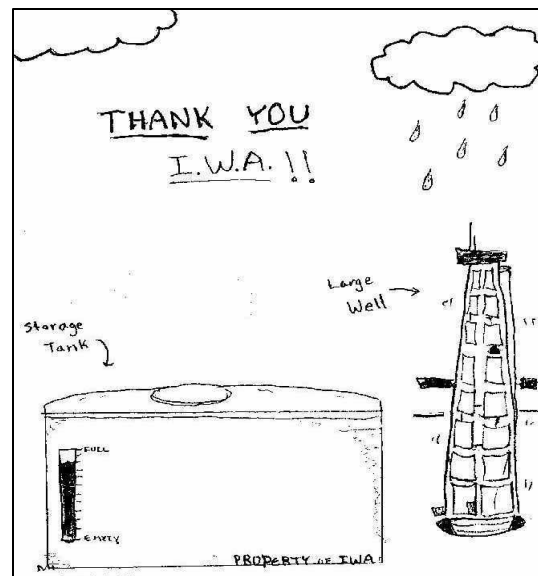
The drilling process was an interesting one. We wore-out several expensive drill bits and found geology that was a little different than what we expected. Basically, the geologic zone where we will be injecting our brine and the City of Sanibel's treated effluent is a little deeper than anticipated. While it cost us a little more money to drill deeper, the bright side is that it will give us an even thicker layer of rock between the injection zone and our drinking water aquifers, providing increased protection from any upward movement of the injected fluids. The vertical separation will now be over 2,000 feet of very dense rock ... nearly half a mile. The increase in cost is a modest one, and we still anticipate completing the project on or under budget.

During the drilling process, we took four "cores" of the rock at different depths, in order to analyze the rock properties. These samples are very interesting. They range in age up to 40 million years old. Most of them are limestone-based, and some contain fossils of ancient sand dollars. We plan to make a display of the rock samples for our lobby, as time permits.

After the injection well is complete, we will be moving the drill rig over about 150 feet and drilling the deep monitor well to a depth about 1,700 feet.

This well will be one of two which will be used to monitor the ground water to detect the extremely unlikely upward movement of injected fluids, long before it would pose any danger to our drinking water aquifers.

We anticipate that all construction activities should be complete before March 1st, and the well will be in service a month or two later. We have already had quite a few visitors tour the construction site. If you would also like to take a tour, please stop in our offices during business hours, and we will be happy to show you around. Also, we would again like to thank our neighbors for being so understanding regarding the noise and lights from construction activities. We will continue ~~to minimize both, to the extent possible, consistent~~ with maintaining a safe working environment.



FWTPOA MEMBERS???

Drawing by Lars Bredahl

On Friday, October 1st, sixth grade students from Mrs. Swartz's and Mrs. Taylor's class at Sanibel Elementary School visited and toured IWA's Reverse Osmosis Plant. Based on the thank you notes we received (see examples below), we'd say the students are good candidates for FWTPOA members (Future Water Treatment Plant Operators of America).

"Dear Mr. Smith and Mr. Brown, Thank you very much for showing us the IWA. I never knew all that important water stuff. I would like to come again soon. The tour was very descriptive. ~~Thanks again! Good luck purifying the water!~~"
Sincerely, Emily Compton

~~"Dear Mr. Brown and Mr. Smith, Thank you very~~



much for your wonderful tour of the IWA (Island Water Association). I found everything you had to say very interesting. Some of those facts were absolutely amazing! I am glad our class was able to go on this field trip. I never thought water could ever be so interesting! I was very impressed with all the things you had to say. I'm so glad we have people like you to take care of our water!!"
Sincerely, Kelsie Macray

"Dear Mr. Smith and Mr. Brown, "I want to thank

you for taking time to teach my classmates and me about Reverse Osmosis and how your water plant works. Before I came to the plant I didn't know much about how you filter and purify water. Now I'm exceptionally knowledgeable about reverse osmosis and the steps and knowledge you need to know to work at the plant." Sincerely, Kenny Smith

IT'S NOT US! (USUALLY)

Beginning in the Fall of 1999, there will be extensive pipeline installation construction projects underway in many Sanibel neighborhoods, including Rabbit Road, Wulfert Road, San-Cap ~~Road, West Gulf Drive and the Donax area.~~ The great majority of this work will be related to sewer system expansion and installation of a new reclaimed water system by the City of Sanibel. Although Island Water personnel may be seen in the area of this construction activity, their only role is as observers, to help the contractor avoid damage to our water pipes. Questions regarding these construction projects should be directed to the City of Sanibel Utility Department at 472-1008.

Island Water is also involved in a number of more minor pipeline construction projects of its own, the only notable one of which is installation of a new 8 inch diameter water main on West Gulf Drive, from Rabbit Road to the cul-de-sac on the west end of the road. This project is intended to replace an old, smaller water main, resulting in improved water quality and pressure for our members. Questions about this project should be directed to Tom Cali or Dick Derowitsch at 472-1502.

RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN ISSUED

Along with all other companies who use hazardous chemicals, IWA was required to produce and submit a Risk Management Plan (RMP) to the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) by this past June 21st. We complied with this requirement, and a copy of the Executive Summary is available on the EPA's internet site, at: [http://www.epa.gov:9966/srmpdcd/owa/RMP_DTL\\$FAC.QueryView?P_FACILITY_ID=7316](http://www.epa.gov:9966/srmpdcd/owa/RMP_DTL$FAC.QueryView?P_FACILITY_ID=7316).

At IWA, the hazardous chemical we use is Chlorine, which is a common, and highly toxic chemical that is used at nearly all water and wastewater treatment plants for disinfection purposes, in order to ensure a bacteriologically safe water supply, consistent with Federal, State and local regulations. At IWA, Chlorine is handled in an all-vacuum piping system, so that any leaks

would result in air entering the piping, rather than Chlorine being released. Any leak that still somehow occurred would be automatically detected by instrumentation, and emergency forces would be automatically called. Our operators and the Sanibel Fire Control District are highly trained to respond to and contain any leak within 15 minutes or less. In addition, we are currently in the process of installing a Chlorine scrubber (for around \$500,000) to completely neutralize any leak. We really have the proverbial "belt and braces," but we obviously believe that the safety of our employees and neighbors justifies such extreme measures.

Despite all the above noted safety precautions, the USEPA defined for us (and everyone else who uses Chlorine) a worst case scenario that results in a potential zone of impact with a radius of 0.9 miles from our treatment plant at 3651 Sanibel-Captiva Road. This radius includes an area from just off the Gulf beach on the south to about halfway through Ding Darling Wildlife Refuge on the north, ~~and an equal distance east and west on Sanibel-Captiva Road.~~ In our opinion, the probability of this ~~worst case scenario actually occurring~~ is somewhere between extremely unlikely and physically impossible. However, fortunately the USEPA also allowed us to define a more realistic case, which results in a radius of only 0.1 miles, which barely extends off our treatment plant site. It must be emphasized that the RMP also acknowledges that we have not had a release of Chlorine in the past 5 years, and, in fact, we have never, ever had one from the facilities described above. Furthermore, when our new scrubber is installed, the probability of any release becomes even more remote.

We plan to post more detailed information regarding our RMP on our internet site at <http://www.islandwater.com> before February 1, 2000. In addition, hard copy of the same information will be available at our offices, and we would be glad to send you a copy as soon as it is available. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please call IWA General Manager, Roger Blind at 472-1502.

ONLY PAY US ONCE, PLEASE!!

A couple of months ago, you may have thought that your water bill looked a little different. You were right! One of the results of upgrading our computer software to avoid the Y2K problem is that we got stuck with a new bill format. Like most things, there are pros and cons to the change.

Of course the biggest advantage of the new bills

is that we will be able to print them after 1/1/2000. The new format also provides a little more information, including the service period and the number of days of service covered. However, on the disadvantage side, the bills no longer clearly designate credit balances. Many of our members temporarily pay us more than they owe, usually when they are going to be off the Islands for a period of time and don't want to worry about paying their water bills. On the old bills, if a member had a credit balance, the amount was clearly marked with a "CR." Unfortunately, on the new bills, the only indication that the "Total Due" in the lower left-hand corner is a credit is a small negative sign after the amount shown. ~~While that may be very clear to accountants, most people either miss the negative sign or don't understand it, and they pay the~~



amount shown, essentially paying us twice. The member does not lose any money by making this unnecessary payment, since it just increases the credit balance for the next month, but it is an unnecessary payment. We are trying to get our software vendor to correct this problem, but so far without any success. In the meantime, please watch out for this problem and don't pay us any amounts followed by a negative sign, unless you just want to increase your credit balance with us. Of course, you can avoid this problem altogether by joining our automatic bill payment program. Just give us a call on 472-1502 to join.

There is one thing that has not changed with the new bill format. We still need you to include the stub (the smaller portion of the bill) with your payment, and please do not staple it to your payment check. If you fail to follow either of these requests, it takes us longer to process your payment, which costs all members more money. Thanks!!



IWA NEEDS YOU!!

It's election time at IWA again, and this year two seats on our Board of Directors will be up for election. The seats are currently held by H. R. (Lee) Derleth and R. A. (Rich) Calabrese. Lee, the

Board President, is completing his third term and is ineligible for re-election. Rich, the Board Secretary and Vice President, is eligible for election to his second term of service, having served on the Board since April 1998.

IWA is governed by a five member Board of Directors who serve without pay. Directors must be year-round residents of Sanibel or Captiva and must be IWA members or an official representative of a condominium or other IWA corporate member. Meetings are normally held on the fourth Tuesday of every month. Directors are elected by the membership at IWA's Annual Meeting to be held in April.

Anyone who would like to run for one of the open seats should contact our Executive Assistant, Lori Thompson, at 472-2113, extension 125.

MISSED AGAIN!!

Well, another hurricane season is almost behind us as this newsletter was being written. It was an active season for those of us in Southwest Florida. In the relatively brief period from September 7th until October 18th, we were threatened by three tropical systems. First came Hurricane Floyd in mid September. Floyd was a large storm, and for a while it was aimed straight at us. Fortunately (for us), it turned north and later wreaked havoc in North Carolina. One week later came Tropical Storm Harvey, which was supposed to hit north of Tampa. This time the storm turned in our direction, and it actually passed just off our coast, making landfall near Marco Island, after rearranging the sand on our beaches a bit. Finally came Hurricane Irene in mid-October. This hurricane was forecast to make landfall in Charlotte Harbor, just north of us, at a sustained wind speed of 85 mph. That would have been a very bad situation for our islands. We would have been just on the south side of the eye, with the winds blowing straight

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