



General Manager's Report *Richard P. Volckmann*

June – early summer – warm days, cool nights, foliage is still green, mama bears and cubs are on the hunt for stray garbage and birdseed, still no cows grazing on our lawns, *and the swimming pool is open at last!!*

Swimming Pool - As most of you know, we experienced a real test of our patience, endurance and inventiveness in dealing with the Washington State Department of Health's requirements for operation of our commercial pool. However, Edelweiss has prevailed. With the help of a quart of vegetable food coloring, the pool passed the required circulation and pumping capacity tests with flying (red) colors! The pool is up and running and is open for business. By popular request, we're going to keep it a bit warmer than it was last summer. We'll keep checking the propane bills to see if there is a big difference from those of a year ago.

Water Line Upgrade – The water line across the upper meadow has been completed. This new 6" line replaces the old 4" line which allows for much more reliable water delivery to the northwest portion of Edelweiss and takes into consideration further build-out of Edelweiss. It also has allowed for the installation of a fire hydrant at the corner of Highland and Crab Apple roads.

Because of the unavoidable amount of soil disturbance, there remains a significant swath of dirt across the meadow; we plan to have this area seeded in the fall, just before snowfall, in an attempt to head off the inevitable influx of noxious weeds. With over-seeding and spraying of the weeds (such as knapweed), we should see significant recovery of grasses in a year or so.

The Okanogan Electric Coop is installing a power conduit along East Fawn Creek Road. Taking advantage of the fact that they are digging a trench for the conduit, we are installing 500 feet of six-inch water line in the same trench. Although we do not have the funds at this time to connect the line to an existing water line, the pipe will be in the ground when we need it, and because we will not have to dig a new trench later, it is at a much lower cost than it would be in the future.

Firewise – The Firewise program is now at the point where we can begin the work on the properties which have elected to participate. The contractor (Druids Reforestation) is finishing up a job for the Department of Natural Resources, and plans to begin work in Edelweiss on July 1st. If you have opted out of the program it is very important that you do the work yourself.

Roads – Highland and Homestead Roads have been regraded and treated with lignin suphionate. The substance has been down for about a month, and for the most part seems to be holding up quite well. The amount of dust is significantly lower along the treated stretches of road. Remember, the lignin will last much longer if we can get everyone to hold their speed to 15 miles per hour.

Speed Bumps and Speed Signs – Craig and I have put down some experimental speed bumps on Homestead and Highland Roads. The jury is still out as to their effectiveness. It could be that we need many more in order to have a community-wide effect on speeding. We'll see how it goes; in the meantime, we invite your comments.

In addition to the speed bumps, we have put up a few signs advising - 'SLOW/15 mph/Children/Pets/Dust'. Again, we'll see if these signs have an effect, and if so, we may add more of them.

I'd like to remind all our fellow property owners that the management team is here to help and benefit the entire community, and if anyone has a comment, suggestion, etc. we are glad to respond.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about the 2008 Water Report below.

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Edelweiss Maintenance Commission Consumer Confidence Water Report For 2008

Is my water safe? Last year, as in years past, the tap water in Edelweiss met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Washington State drinking water health standards. Our local water system specialists vigilantly safeguard our water supplies and once again we are proud to report that for the preceding year, the water in our system has been well below all established maximum contaminate levels, and has met or exceeded all water quality standards.

Do I need to take special precautions? Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants particularly can be at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means of lessening the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from? Edelweiss is supplied from two independent water source/distribution systems referred to as the Campground Well system (SO2) and the Cassal Well system (SO3).

SO2 supplies water to the campground area and to the residential lots 92-97 on Sunflower Lane. The water source is a 40 foot deep well located adjacent to the entry to the campground area, about 45 feet from the

edge of Goat Creek Road. The water is pumped to a reservoir located above Sunflower Lane and is gravity-fed to the household and campground services.

SO3 supplies water to all the residential lots except for those previously mentioned. It also supplies water to the swimming pool facility. The water source is comprised of two wells spaced about 20 feet apart and approximately 119 feet deep. They are located about 500 feet northwest of the intersection of Goat Creek Road and East Fawn Creek Road. The wells operate on a rotating schedule, alternating every other month. The water is pumped to a still-well and 'booster pump' located at the intersection of Mustard Mountain Road and East Fawn Creek Road. From there it is pumped to one of two reservoirs (one underground - 75,000 gallons for winter use, and the other above ground - 120,000 gallons for summer use) located above Blue Grouse Road. The water is gravity fed from these reservoirs to Edelweiss households and services.

Source water assessment and its availability. Our source water is some of the most pure water in the United States. It is unfiltered and untreated. There are no known potential sources of contamination (i.e. gas stations, dry cleaners, feed lots, sewage treatment plants, etc.).

Why might there be contaminants in my drinking water? Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and in some cases radioactive material. It can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. These include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may have come from sewage plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm-water run off, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

- Pesticides and herbicides which may come from a variety of sources relating to agriculture, storm run off and residential use.
- Chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic compounds which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also can come from gas stations, storm run off and septic systems.
- Radioactive compounds which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of natural gas production and mining operations.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the allowable amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved? If you have questions regarding the Edelweiss water system, you can call the managers, Richard Volckmann (509-996-9897) or Craig Hook (509-996-2427). You are also invited to attend the Annual Membership Meeting, held on Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. For the scheduled date please call or email the Edelweiss office, (edelweiss@methownet.com) or (509-996-9232).

Conservation tips. The average U.S. household uses approximately 350 gallons of water per day. There are many low-cost or no-cost ways to conserve water. Water your lawn at the least sunny times of the day. Don't water your lawn when it's raining! Fix toilet and faucet leaks (a dripping faucet can waste 100 gallons of water per day!). Take short showers – a 5 minute shower uses 4-5 gallons of water compared to 50 gallons of water for a bath. Turn the faucet off while brushing your teeth and shaving (3-5 gallons of water can be wasted per minute.) Teach your kids that our water supplies are limited. We need to ensure that the next generation has the same drinking water that we enjoy.

Edelweiss Maintenance Commission 2008 Drinking Water - Sampling Results

During 2008 water samples were obtained from each water source, Campground (SO2) and Cassal (SO3) and tested for nitrate as prescribed by the Washington State Department of Health and shown in the table below. As can be seen by the results shown for both SO2 and SO3, our water tested far below the maximum contaminant levels. We also tested for total coliform bacteria on a monthly basis throughout the year. No coliform bacteria were detected in any of our routine sampling.

| <u>Regulated contaminants</u> | <u>MCLG*</u> | <u>MCL**</u> | <u>SO2</u> | <u>SO3</u> | <u>Sample Date</u> | <u>Violation</u> | <u>Typical Sources of Contamination</u> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Nitrate | 10.0 | 10.0 | 0.32 | 0.18 | 06/26/2008 | No | Runoff from fertilizer, livestock contamination, erosion of natural deposits |

* (MCLG) - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - - the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. The MCLG allows for a margin of safety.

** (MCL) - Maximum Contaminant Level - - the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. The MCL is set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Please be sure to check our website at www.edelweissmethowvalley.org for Board Meeting Minutes, the Annual Meeting report and EMC Newsletters.