The purpose of this report is to provide the Board of County Commissioners with timely departmental updates. Please contact the Director of the relevant department if there are any questions about this information or if a briefing is desired.

Central Services

New Facilities Services Manager Comes Aboard

Julie DeRuwe joined the County on March 2 as the new Central Services Facilities Manager. Julie brings considerable experience in facilities operations and management to the County. Since 2006, she managed 80 maintenance and custodial employees for the Olympia School District (OSD). The OSD has 23 school and administrative buildings totaling 1.4 million square feet on over 360 acres of grounds. She worked closely with the OSD’s Capital Projects Program in support of major construction and remodel projects and was an active participant in OSD’s facilities planning.

Prior to joining OSD, Julie held a succession of responsible positions in state government, starting in 1998 as a purchasing officer with the Office of State Procurement at the Department of General Administration (GA), advancing to facilities operations & administration in the Division of Capitol Facilities at GA in 1999, and then to an Assistant Administrator position for the Department of Licensing in 2002. Julie also has private sector experience, working in a variety of financial and facilities services positions with City Fed Mortgage Company (1983-1990) and REI (1990-1997).

Among her initial priorities at Thurston County, Julie is working to:

- Integrate with the Facilities team to support a culture of professionalism, integrity, and customer focus.
- Learn and evaluate Facilities’ budget and rate models, and develop a budget for 2016.
- Review the Facilities’ building reserve plan and establish a service level agreement for the ARC, as required by the Letter of Intent between the Board and Sheriff.
- Monitor critical facilities projects, including controls system repairs at the Jail, domestic hot water boiler repairs at FJC and Building 3, and preparations to move into the ARC.
- Evaluate contracted custodial and landscaping services and prepare options and recommendations for the Board to renew, rebid, or replace the contracts.
- Participate in the current internal audit of the Facilities division and develop a responsive action plan for implementing any resulting recommendations.
- Review, update, and, as needed, establish internal operating policies and procedures to standardize and clarify Facilities business practices.

Intranet Upgrade Success

The County’s new Intranet site went live on March 25. The site was converted from Sharepoint 2007 to Sharepoint 2013 - the latest effort in the county’s conversion to the Office 365 suite of Microsoft products. The IT team of Dan Murray and Cori Layman did a great job converting thousands of existing pages to the new platform with minimal disruption to county employees. The IT team is now turning its focus to the more complex update process for the County’s external Internet website, with a goal of completing the conversion by the end of 2015.
ARC Technology Support

Information Technology is heavily involved with IT support for the opening of the ARC. A punch list of technology tasks has been developed and the team is working to prioritize and complete the items on the list. General work to be completed includes: placement of PC and phones, network/cabling, security system upgrades, video court set-up and support, and eDocs5 system implementation.

TCTV Upgrade of Public Meeting Broadcast Capabilities

In 2014, the Board entered an agreement for Thurston Community Television (TCTV) to serve as project manager for the upgrade of television production, audio/visual and other related equipment in Commission meeting rooms in support of local access Public, Education, and Government (PEG) television programming. TCTV selected, with Board input, a design firm that is nearing completion of the design for the equipment and installation. Central Services Facilities has been tapped to provide limited construction work on the project to build out a control room for the equipment.

In February 2015, the Board affirmed their related interest in video-conferencing. The TCTV project does not include video-conferencing. TCTV’s project can provide audio and video connections to a County video-conferencing system and equipment; however, additional work is required to establish that functionality. In March, Central Services IT staff worked with TCTV and private vendors on gathering cost estimates for adding video-conferencing capabilities to the system for Room 280.

ER&R Accomplishments

ER&R maintenance technicians performed work on 295 repair orders during the month of March. This included 134 unscheduled “demand” maintenance work orders resulting in mechanics making on-the-spot repairs to vehicles and equipment for immediate support to county customer agencies. Scheduled maintenance repairs and preventive maintenance services totaled 149, which is critical to reducing the demand for maintenance and increasing the readiness and availability of the fleet. The team also responded to and completed 12 service calls, providing on-site assistance and maintenance repair.

ER&R stores specialists and the budget analyst completed the sale of, and distribution of, funds for 12 additional surplus assets. The heavy shop maintenance team is now helping to prepare the next set of assets for auction while the light shop works hard to up-fit new County vehicles for customer distribution. The team also completed hundreds of repair parts requisitions and processed sales tax claims worth hundreds of dollars in tax credit back to the County.

In addition to their normal daily responsibilities, the ER&R team is working on several initiatives such as CAMS data clean-up, internal audit action plan, safety audit action plan, and continuing to increase efficiency through process improvements. The entire ER&R Team continues to do great work every day providing fleet services in support of the county.

Vehicle Surplus Auction Contract Nearing Award

In 2014, the Central Services Director suspended surplus auctions of light duty vehicles in order to develop and conduct a Request for Proposals (RFP) for vehicle auction services. The Board authorized release of the resulting RFP on February 10, 2015. ER&R completed the evaluation of proposals in March and has selected an auction firm. The next step is to negotiate the contract, and ER&R expects to have an auction contract in place sometime in April.
Meanwhile, ER&R has been utilizing the State Surplus Program. For instance, so far in 2015, twenty-two assets were sold resulting in a recapitalization of $82,250 to be returned to the owning department’s ER&R replacement fund. ER&R will continue to move selected equipment through the State Surplus Program until the auction contract is in place. The surplus equipment status list can be viewed on the Intranet: http://share/dept/cs/erandr/Pages/AssetManagement.aspx.

Fuel Card Master Contract Change
Thurston County accesses fuel card services through Washington State’s fuel card master contract. The newest master contract was awarded in 2014 to a different vendor, so the County had to change from Comdata Fuel Cards to U.S. Bank Voyager Fuel Cards by March 31, 2015. ER&R began issuing the Voyager card on March 13.

The new contract with Voyager has a very attractive rebate and offers a much wider availability of authorized fuel stations. The available fuel stations under the Voyager contract now include all Pacific Pride fuel stations. This will allow the County to transition to a single fuel card instead of having to use both the Pacific Pride cards and the new Voyager cards. This change will not affect fueling at the Tilley fuel station.

It is very important for Comdata fuel card holders come to the Tilley Campus, ER&R Central Stores to exchange Comdata cards for the new Voyager card if they have not already done so. The Comdata accounts were closed on March 31 and the Comdata card cannot be used after this date. The Pacific Pride cards will remain active until ER&R sets a date to close the accounts; however, authorized users can now begin transitioning to the new Voyager card.

Commute Trip Reduction Mandatory Survey (CTR)
As in years past, a mandatory survey of all Thurston County employees’ commuting habits is planned for the week of April 24, with a required response rate of at least 74% of all employees.

The County Manager has agreed to send an e-mail drafted by Central Services’ Employee Transportation Coordinator (Linda Lawson) just prior to the survey week, informing employees of the survey’s purpose and its mandatory nature, in an attempt to achieve the best response rate possible.

On-line Accounts Payable Process
The Administrative Services/Central Services Accounting & Budgeting Unit has gone “live” with the On-Line Accounts Payable Process. Accounts Payable has been processed on-line for many years, but the new on-line approval process means our managers approve invoices for payment electronically, rather than signing hard copies of paperwork. Paper use will be significantly curtailed, as back-up documents are now electronically attached to invoices. This will also make researching payment records easier, as opposed to the former method of photocopying, hard-filing, and archiving boxes of records.

Records Center- March Statistics
From March 1st to the 25th, staff work included:
- 26 boxes scanned (25 for the Coroner’s Office, 1 for Environmental Health)
- 275 scan hours
- 37,051 pages scanned
- 35,101 pages exported
- 1370 documents exported
Central Services -- Continued

Mailroom - Bulk Mail

As of January 1, 2015 the US Postal Service stopped accepting mail for discounted rates (“bulk mail”) as mail sorting started taking place in Tacoma after the closing of the Tumwater Bulk Mail facility. To ensure the county’s continued access to preferable, discounted bulk mail rates for large mailings, our Mailroom staff acquired a second permit in Tacoma and implemented a new process accordingly.

Auditor Lease Renewal

As the Elections Division’s lease was due to expire March 31, a lease amendment was made to extend occupation at the current facility. This extension will provide the Election’s Division with a stable location through the 2016 Presidential election and while the feasibility of possibly remodeling the 3400 Building to house the Election’s Division is determined.

Sheriff Patrol Lease Renewal

As the current lease expires May 31, an AIS is in-process to request an extension of the Sheriff’s Patrol facility lease for an additional two years. This extension will provide the Sheriff’s Office with a stable location for patrol functions while the feasibility of possibly remodeling or replacing the Courthouse Complex and other related questions are determined.

TwinStar Tenant Lease Renewal

Our tenant lessee, TwinStar, has notified us that they plan to stay at the current location for an additional 10 years. After Central Services staff finishes gathering data to assign the correct rate for the lease, the new lease will be negotiated. The current lease expires June 5.

RFP for Buildings 2 & 3 Security Study, Project #25506

Five proposals were received on March 23 and have been reviewed and evaluated by representatives from Central Services, Sheriff’s Office, Superior Court, and District Court. Interviews will be scheduled for the week of March 30. Contract signature goal is May 4.

RFP for Courthouse Remodel/Relocate Feasibility Study, Project #25507

Three proposals were received on March 16. Interviews with all three proposers were scheduled for March 27 with representatives from Central Services, the Auditor’s Office, Sheriff’s Office, Superior Court, and District Court. Contract signature goal is April 24.

RFP for 3400 Mottman Feasibility Study, Project #25463

Five proposals were received March 19, with candidates currently being evaluated by representatives from Central Services/Records Center, the Auditor’s Office, and WSU Extension. Selected candidates will be interviewed in April. Contract signature goal is May 8.

RFP for GeoData Aerial Photography

This RFP advertised on March 13 and 20, with proposals due April 10. Owen Reynolds of GeoData was instrumental in the preparation stage of this RFP. Contract signature goal is May 15.

Public Records Requests

A public records request for GeoData information is in the final stages of completion.
## Public Works

### Division/Section: Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OLD BUSINESS</th>
<th>PROGRESS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scatter Creek</td>
<td>Mapping cross-sections for FEMA flood study - in progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gate-Bellmore Trail</td>
<td>Mapping trail grade for future project – in progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gate Road culvert replacement study</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Division/Section: Engineering/Construction/Tech and Engineering Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OLD BUSINESS</th>
<th>PROGRESS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Technical Support</td>
<td>• Worked on completing the County Road Administration Board forms, reports and Road Log updates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Asset management research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Continued data collection for 2015 Chipseal Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Construction</td>
<td>• Continued to collect data for the ADA Transition Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Working on Record Drawings for all projects completed in the last 5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• All other capital construction projects substantially complete or in winter shutdown</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Division/Section: Public Works IT Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEW BUSINESS</th>
<th>PROGRESS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daily Service Calls/Web &amp; Social Media</td>
<td>Ongoing/Daily. Web/Social Media updates as received. Approx. 97 non-project user service calls. Support phone calls (non-logged) and projects not in total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existing web site</td>
<td>Updating information via requests from division managers. Implementing minor changes to sustain the site through Sharepoint migration late this year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WARC Tollbooth low-voltage wiring</td>
<td>Requested from, and working with, Central Services to upgrade low-voltage wiring in tollbooths to address reliability/resiliency concern</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OLD BUSINESS</th>
<th>PROGRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APWA</td>
<td>Progressing on APWA re-certification update. Nearly complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Sharepoint</td>
<td>Development on internal web site continues. Public Works IT Ops pages nearly complete. The move is on schedule</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vueworks</td>
<td>Guardrail ops now live. Will be moving to Pothole ops shortly, re-starting that development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Division/Section: Engineering Services/Real Estate Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEW BUSINESS</th>
<th>PROGRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annexation Request</td>
<td>Reviewed Annexations Requests, 2 for the city of Tumwater and 1 for the City of Lacey</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OLD BUSINESS</th>
<th>PROGRESS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rich Road Improvement Project</td>
<td>Completed 13 of the 18 partial property acquisitions. Working with BNSF Railroad regarding the crossing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bald Hill Improvement Project</td>
<td>Have met with the 4 property owners for partial property acquisitions</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Division/Section: Development Review

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEW BUSINESS</th>
<th>PROGRESS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oak Tree Preserve Public Hearing</td>
<td>Oak Tree Preserve is a 1,000+ lot subdivision off of Marvin Rd with one entrance at 19th Ave through the McAllister Park Subdivision and the other across from the Lake Forest Subdivision access. The hearing took place on March 23 &amp; 24. There was also an appeal of the SEPA that was resolved prior to the hearing by the developer establishing a traffic calming plan that addressed the concerns of McAllister Park residents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrapping Up Various Development Projects</td>
<td>Several subdivision projects are in the final stages of development…installing sidewalks, pouring curbs, paving roads, etc. Good timing as the large Oak Tree Preserve subdivision will require a lot of inspection time.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>OLD BUSINESS</th>
<th>PROGRESS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Road Standards Update</td>
<td>Charter created and being reviewed. Systematically reviewing each chapter and making comments about potential revisions. Will periodically meet with staff to go over these revisions and finalize draft language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEAN</td>
<td>The LEAN team is still meeting weekly to implement the proposed changes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Division/Section: Solid Waste/Waste Reduction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEW BUSINESS</th>
<th>PROGRESS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Silver Springs Organics offers free compost for school garden projects.</td>
<td>SW staff worked with Waste Connections to provide free compost from Silver Springs Organics for the FoodBank and GRuB school gardens projects on an ongoing basis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 data is in for FoodBank Restaurant Rescue program. Solid Waste funded the startup of this cooperative effort on grant funds in 2012.</td>
<td>2014 – 26.44 tons 2013 - 13.77 tons 2012 – 5.45 tons This translates into 33,000 meals in 2014 or 90 meals per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WasteLessFood residential awareness program</td>
<td>Revisions to the campaign are almost complete and will launch in April. Updates were based on lessons learned and community surveys</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### OLD BUSINESS

The Solid Waste Plan update.

The Plan is updated every 5 years and a request for proposal (RFP) was issued for the work. The RFP responses were received and Green Solutions was selected. A contract was drafted and signed [www.co.thurston.wa.us/solidwaste/regulations/regulations-home.html](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/solidwaste/regulations/regulations-home.html).

The applications for the Department of Ecology Coordinated Prevention Grants for local governments are due March 31, 2015.

The proposed grant projects were approved by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee and the Board of Commissioners. Project will assist local food banks and meal programs with infrastructure needs to capture more surplus food from businesses. The application was submitted electronically on March 20. [www.co.thurston.wa.us/solidwaste/business/business-fooddonation.html](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/solidwaste/business/business-fooddonation.html).

The plastic bag ban ordinances required a survey and report 6 months after the July 1, 2014 implementation.

The survey results and report are now complete and posted at [www.thurstonsolidwaste.org/plastics](http://www.thurstonsolidwaste.org/plastics). Solid Waste staff has presented to the County Board of Commissioners and will present to any other jurisdiction upon request.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### Division/Section: Utilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEW BUSINESS</th>
<th>PROGRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Grand Mound:**
1. 4 new homes being built in White Rock Loop
2. Multi-resident housing (4-Plex) homes
3. Modern Machinery storage yard (Ivan Street Project)
4. Redwood Mobile Home Park clean up.
5. New Development on 203rd (38 homes with all new water and sewer lines as well as water main extension)
6. Waste Water Plant influent contained chemicals with High PH that caused the plant to be out of compliance for just over 2 weeks | 1. The homes are at 90% completion
2. Finishing the final design approvals.
3. Approximately 95% complete
4. Property is cleaned, cleared, and for sale.
5. Clearing and installation of sewer manhole and new sewer main is in progress.
6. Waste Water Plant is in compliance at this time. |
| **Boston Harbor:**
1. Inspect and evaluate Sewer STEP tanks.
2. Three New homes being built currently and three more homes to be built in 2016
3. Water Loss issues are being address | 1. STEP tanks approximately 20% inspection complete
2. That would add more water connections only
3. Waiting for final approval of sole source water meters and we will have new meters installed by summer. |
| **Tamoshan:**
1. Looking at options for water treatment to deliver better quality water to customers.
2. Blower failure | 1. Applied for grant money to study our water and determine the best options to treat the water to meet Department of Health water quality requirements. We received the money and now are starting scope of work.
2. Took blower off line until we can properly troubleshoot the issue. |
### OLD BUSINESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boston Harbor: Step Tank evaluation/Repair</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This is an ongoing project with a few hundred tanks. We have pumped and inspected 33 tanks this year. Upon completion of evaluation we will prioritize and complete repairs that haven’t already been completed. Estimated evaluation will be completed April-2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Division/Section: Noxious Weeds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEW BUSINESS</th>
<th>PROGRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Set public hearing for Long Lake reauthorization 3/24</td>
<td>Public Hearing to be held May 19 - 3:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSDA Knotweed grant proposal</td>
<td>Pre application form submitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Lake control plans</td>
<td>Steering committee is reviewing the first survey data and making plans for the years control methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant award letter received from DOE</td>
<td>$59,024 to conduct Elodea removal from 7/1/2015-6/30/20, in addition U of W also awarded $56,000 for Parrotfeather research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence lake Yellow Flag Iris control planning</td>
<td>survey complete, notifications and permissions to be sent by 4/15</td>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Brazilian Elodea grant</td>
<td>Meeting this week to decide on grants submitted last December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noxious Weed Assessment 2016</td>
<td>Weed Board will discuss in April</td>
</tr>
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### Division/Section: Waste and Recovery Center (WARC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEW BUSINESS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New WARC Manager</td>
<td>Erwin Swetnam started as the new WARC Manager on March 2, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspections</td>
<td>Completed successful ORCAA inspection on March 24, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Upcoming inspection at HazoHouse with Environmental Health for the 2015 Moderate Risk Waste Facility Permit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects</td>
<td>Developmental stage of updating Tollhouse wiring and equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WARC staff are working with the Engineering staff to provide information regarding the proposed new freeway off-ramp project with City of Lacey and DOT</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OLD BUSINESS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Projects</td>
<td>Work is moving forward on the new entrance road project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public Tipping area repair and storm water control project is ongoing and still in the design stage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Public Works -- Continued

Division/Section: Road Maintenance Operations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEW BUSINESS</th>
<th>PROGRESS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Purchases</td>
<td>Working with ER&amp;R staff on specifications and ordering replacements for several pieces of heavy equipment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OLD BUSINESS</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015 Preservation</td>
<td>Finalized the 2015 Chipseal and asphalt overlay list with Technical Support section. Prep work continues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPDES</td>
<td>Crews continue to clean storm drain systems and sweep in the NPDES area.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Public Health and Social Services

Top News

Housing and Community Renewal

- Community Investment Partnership applications have been received. The following provides some detail on the responses with a comparison to last year in parenthesis:
  - 38 Agencies submitted proposals (36 in 2014)
  - 60 distinct programs (55 in 2014)
  - 7 requests to Start a New Program
  - 45 requests to Support an Existing Program
  - 14 requests to Expand a Program
  - $1,464,848 in Requests ($1,675,644 in 2014)
  - 16 in the Financial and Residential Stability (15 in 2014)
  - 27 in the Children and Youth Area (24 in 2014)

- The RFP responses will be reviewed and rated by the committee members and sent to the CIP Steering Committee for funding recommendations to the Thurston County Board of County Commissioners by May of 2015.

Veterans Services

- The Veterans program is now providing services at the Lacey Vets Services Office.
- They are at this location Tuesday, Wed. and Thursday. Monday and Friday they are still at PHSS.
- These offices are shared with other Veterans services, allowing the development of a one shop stop for Veterans.

Trending

Thurston Thrives – Action for Community Health

- Thurston County moved up in the annual County Health Rankings (www.countyhealthrankings.org) to 8th among Washington State counties (from 9th in 2014) due to reduced early death rate.
- There is still greatest need for improvement in measures of health behaviors (e.g., smoking and drug use) and physical environment (e.g., housing conditions).
- Thurston Thrives, our community’s call to action to improve our community’s health, was designed around the full set of factors used by the rankings.
- PHSS staff prepared a press release and data statements about the rankings.
Also...

- The department continued support for formation of the Thurston Thrives Coordinating Council – assisting the Thurston County Chamber Foundation in sending invitations to 18 initial members of the Council.
- The first meeting will be April 23, 2015 at 3pm (location to be determined).
- For more information, please see [www.thurstonthrives.org](http://www.thurstonthrives.org).

**New Tools for Restaurant Applicants**

- PHSS is working with Washington Department of Commerce, Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater to create common web and print resources to help restaurant applicants navigate building, zoning, and food safety rules.
- This follows similar efforts in Seattle, Tacoma, and Spokane.
- The goal is to help applicants understand decision points they face and the cost and time needed for permits.
- This effort will help applicants talk to the right people, at the right time, and be better informed about how the choices they need to make to obtain the permits and approvals that they need.
- Completion is expected in about six months.

**Septic Summit 2**

- Septic Summit 2 will take place April 29 at LOTT
- The Summit will be a forum to review issues related to urban density septic systems and options for addressing the issues.
- Council members from Lacey, Olympia and Tumwater and the county commissioners learned about issues associated with urban density septic systems in the cities and urban growth area at Septic Summit 1 in 2011
- Over the last four years, a work group has been working to explore conversion issues and potential solutions

**Investigation and Control of Disease**

- Communicable Disease Control Staff continue to work with health care providers and other public health partners to facilitate the evaluation, monitoring, transportation and treatment of travelers and individuals when they return from providing humanitarian aid in African countries with continuing Ebola disease transmission.
- We have monitored one individual classified as low risk for a 21 day period since January. That person remained free of Ebola.
- When appropriate, in the future staff will use a video monitoring system for direct active monitoring.

**Maternal Child Health**

- The Nurse Family Partnership Program (NFP) has received a new grant of $207,000 from Thrive Washington to expand home visiting services for Thurston County women on Temporary Assistance for Needy Families.
- NFP home visits begin during a woman’s first pregnancy and continue through the first two years of her infant’s life.

**Chemical Dependency**

- DSHS has funded a facilitator for Thurston and Mason Counties to hold six meetings.
These workgroups are called a “learning collaborative” are made up of adults and teens.

The purpose is to look at how the community can better support teens in recovery (chemical dependency or mental health) in the following priorities:

- Youth Involvement at all levels
- Youth feel safe/wanted/sense of belonging in places they go
- Community education and inclusion about the value of youth and services to the community
- Fun and/or learning experiences (with caring (cool) adults)

**Regional Support Services**

A number of Legislative bills are still active with some likelihood of being passed.

As a result we are expecting the following:

1. Added resources to help expedite incarcerated individuals who require competency evaluations.
2. DSHS should receive additional funding to open more beds at Western State Hospital for competency restoration. This should help our County jail shorten the time somebody who is incompetent to stand trial stays in the jail.
3. We are expecting a change in the involuntary law where individuals who are evaluated for involuntary treatment due to substance use will be detained in the same fashion as under involuntary treatment for mental disorder.
4. Apparently there is a good chance that integration of mental health and primary care for foster care children may be expedited earlier then the year 2020. We do not know the full impact if this bill does go through.

**Also of Interest**

**Early Algae Blooms on 2 Lakes**

- Substantial blue –green algae blooms are present on Hewitt and Pattison Lakes
- GOOD NEW! So far no toxins were detected in samples collected by PHSS staff
- We will periodically sample the lakes while algae blooms are present
- When algae blooms are present we recommend that people avoid contact with areas that have visible algae or algae scum on the surface, keep pets and children out of the water, and catch-and-release any fish caught during a toxic algae bloom.
- More information is available on our [Blue Green Algae](#) web site.

**Septic System Care**

- Presented at LOTT Clean Water Alliance on septic system maintenance to 7 residents for their Saturday workshop series

**Thurston Thrives/Community Partnerships**

- Action Teams (for example, Child & Youth Resilience, Community Design, Education, Food and Housing) continue to meet with support from PHSS.
- At least three ‘action hubs’ are pulling together multiple teams to work jointly on strategies (e.g., Child & Youth Resilience, Community Resilience and Education; Community Design and Housing; various Food organizations).
Toxics Reduction:
- Presented “Get Out of My Hair: Toxics in Personal Care” at three conferences – Expanding Your Horizons, Student Green Congress, and Chehalis Basin Student Congress – reaching a total of 90 middle school students.
- Presented to classes at Pleasant Glade Elementary School and Olympia Regional Learning Academy, reaching a total of 185 5th - 8th graders.

Resource Stewardship

WSU Extension
- 4-H Smart Food Families grant was received through WA 4-H and USDA. This is a collaborative project between WSU Thurston County 4-H Youth Development and WSU Thurston County Food and Nutrition.
- The Diabetes Prevention Program is about half way through a 16-week series of classes at Labor and Industries and with Thurston County Employees. Another series of classes will start in May.
- 30 individuals are currently about half way through the initial training to become a certified Master Gardener and the Closed Loop and Dirt Works Master Gardner gardens are now open and work parties have started.
- Water Resource education just completed two scheduled Native Plant Salvages with volunteers. Upcoming events include a Rain Garden Workshop for April, a Naturescaping for Water and Wildlife Field Class in May, and a Meet the Trees of Washington workshop for June.

Water Resources

Private Stormwater Facility Inspection Program
- Each year, Stormwater staff inspects 196 wet ponds, 778 dry ponds, 2,475 catch basins and manholes, and 581 swales on commercial and residential properties. On March 26, 2015, Stormwater Utility staff mailed a total of 670 annual stormwater facility inspection packets to individuals and management entities responsible for the maintenance of privately-owned stormwater facilities. Of this total, 360 packets were sent to residential owners, and 310 packets were sent to commercial property owners. Each packet contained a detailed map showing the ponds, pipes, catch basins, and swales that comprises the privately-owned facility. The annual inspection packets inform owners and managers of their responsibility to perform regular maintenance on their stormwater systems, and they provide County staff with valuable information on the condition of privately-owned stormwater facilities throughout the County. A Stormwater Facility Maintenance Workshop will be held at Tumwater City Hall on Saturday, April 18, 2015. This annual class, offered by the Storm and Surface Water Utility, provides participants with important information about storm pond inspection processes, maintenance and vegetation management, and other stormwater issues. Stormwater Facility Maintenance workshops have been offered to the public since 2002.
Resource Stewardship – Continued

Water Resources Takes Lead on NFIP CRS Re-Verification

- Water Resources will be working with staff from Long Range Planning, Current Planning, Building, Geodata, Emergency Management, and Public Works to conduct a Community Rating System (CRS) Verification site visit in 2015. The CRS program is a voluntary part of the National Flood Insurance Program by which Thurston County residents purchasing flood insurance can receive a discount on their insurance policy. Thurston County currently has a rating of 4, and insurance purchasers receive a 30% discount. We are one of only 11 communities in the nation that have a rating of 4 or better.

Land Use Environmental Review

- During the past 90 days, ending 2/28/15, Resource Stewardship has received 655 land use permit applications. This includes applications for building sites, building permits, land divisions, site plan reviews, and special use permits. During the same period one year ago, 624 apps were received.
- For the Compliance Section, the 90-day numbers are 721 for the past 90 days and 675 for the same period last year.

Long Range Planning

- The Legislative session continues to bring lots of bills and requires analysis to determine which ones may or may not, affect Counties. In addition to his work on the Habitat Conservation Plan, Jeremy Davis has been monitoring the bills as they emerge, along with the Friday morning calls with WSAC and coordinating with other departments that may have an interest or be affected. So far over 2,500 total bills have been introduced for consideration. Some deadlines in March have reduced the number of interest to the County but we continue to get requests for information.
- Long Range Planning (LRP) staff is working with Katie Pruitt from Land Use and Environmental Review to evaluate development code updates needed as well as provide some guidance and policies for those items that we may not get to this year. The wetland rating update and the BOCC appeal process have gone to a public hearing with the Planning Commission on March 18. Those items will be forwarded to the BOCC for their review and consideration.
- Andy Deffobis presented eight Open Space applications during a public hearing at the April 1, 2015 Planning Commission Meeting.
- Long Range Planning’s new Public Information officer is on board! Stacy Klein will be primarily working on the Habitat Conservation Plan grant but may also have some limited time to assist with web updates. She also will be working with Water Resources and the various departments and messages that we want to get out to the public.
- April 1 begins the season for review of various habitats, including prairie. Marisa Whisman will be assisting Land Use & Environmental Review staff in reviewing sites to determine whether there are areas that need additional review. Her biological expertise will be extremely valuable in determining presence/absence of plant and animal species and assisting landowners in narrowing the additional information needed in reviewing property. She also will be able to provide training for staff on plant identification.
- The Capital Facilities Plan process is kicking off. Brad Murphy will be working closely with County departments to make sure their 6 year plans are appropriately shown in the final CFP and budget.
Fairgrounds & Event Center

- LTAC (Lodging Tax Advisory Committee) approved $20K contribution to the 2015 Fair.
- Price quotes for purchasing pen panels coming from Fair Board. This purchase will greatly reduce the dependence on borrowing panels from other fairs (SW WA, Kitsap, etc). Central Services-ER&R is assisting in the purchasing process with a $25K budget.
- Location of Fair Banner over Capitol Way secured with WA Dept. of Enterprise Services for 2015 Fair.
- The first “Savor South Sound” planning meeting of the year was held at the Fairgrounds with great collaboration between Commissioner Romero’s office, Fair Board, Fair staff, Nisqually Tribe and Fair Foundation.
- Caretakers are formally transitioned to contractor status and will receive payment as such beginning April 2015.
- Cow Van approved to be parked at Tilley Road site for the purposes of expediting inmate worker pick-up and drop-off by Fairgrounds Facility Tech.
- New member of Fair Board approved by BoCC, named Charmayne Garrison from the City of Rainier.
- On-going rental agreement with Woodturners of Olympia in-process.
- Fair Foundation auction took place on March 21st.
- Initial contract discussions with The Olympian for advertising the 2015 Fair began.
- Met with Sheriff’s Dept. and Medic One at Fairgrounds to discuss upgrades to the Safety and Health Services Building.
- Fairgrounds hosted a series of successful Resource Stewardship community meetings.
- On-going landscaping and brush removal is taking place by Facilities Tech.