# St Mary Lake Water Treatment Plant



Kerr Wood Leidel Consulting Engineers have completed the preliminary design for a

new Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF) water treatment plant at St. Mary Lake as mandated by VIHA. The Board of Trustees and Staff are presently reviewing the proposed design and potential financing options. We will shortly be starting the public engagement process with you, our ratepayers, once we are satisfied with the initial design and our financing options have been determined.

#### 2014 Parcel Tax

2014 Parcel Tax invoices will be mailed on February 4th and be due and payable on or before 4:00 p.m. on March 5, 2014. All payments outstanding after the due date will be charged a 10% penalty on March 6<sup>th</sup> and another 10% penalty on September 2<sup>nd</sup> if not paid by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Interest on unpaid taxes from prior years compounds daily at the current Ministry-set rate of 6% per annum.

Visit the Regular Charges page of our Billing & Rates section on our website for more information and the 2014 rate structure.

## District Works with SSI Watershed Protection Authority

The Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority (SSIWPA) was formed in 2013 to address watershed protection and water quality in Salt Spring Island lakes. Presently SSIWPA is looking at issues around St. Mary Lake.

Participating on behalf of the District are Trustee Dr. Jeffrey Thompson, BSc, PhD, FCIC, and our Water Quality Specialist, Meghan McKee, BSc.

If you own property around St. Mary Lake you can be part of the solution by assisting SSIWPA as they look for a long term solution to the water quality in the lake by;

 Attending an open meeting of SSIWPA and adding your voice and firsthand experience as a

- lakeside resident to the process.
- Encouraging your neighbours' and friends to participate in the process.

Learning more about SSWIPA's purpose and activities on their website at:

http://ssiwatersheds.org/

## Use the Correct Account # When Paying Online

When paying online, be sure your payment is credited to the correct account. You need to set up two accounts for the Waterworks - one for tolls, your bi-monthly water consumption, and one for your water parcel tax.

Your water toll account number can be found under our address block in the top left corner of your bill and will look something like this: Account # 0012345.

North Salt Spring Waterworks 761 Upper Ganges Road Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1S1 Phone: (250) 537-9902

Fax: (250) 537-1956 Roll #: 764 00453.020

**Top Left Corner of Invoice** 

As shown above, your parcel tax Roll # is located in the same spot

on your tax bill. When setting it up online for payment, drop the 764 prefix and delete the period before the last three numbers. For example, the preceding account # would be 00453020. Depending on what bank you use, for either type of account, you may have to add an extra zero or two at the beginning of your account number to meet banks digit requirements. Complete details for setting up your online banking by account are on our website on the Payment Methods page.



## Avoid Frozen/Burst Pipes

Avoid burst pipes during a cold snap

this winter by making sure your

pipes are adequately insulated and/or covered with soil to prevent them freezing, and that outside hoses are shut off and drained.

#### Go Paperless with eBilling

eBilling is now available. Saving both paper and postage, you can now receive your invoices and newsletters in pdf format via email.

If you would like to go paperless, and haven't already signed up for this service, sign-up forms are available on the Contact page of our website and in the office.

#### Going Away?

We are happy to accept your postdated cheque(s) for deposit before the due date or you can pre-pay on your account. If you use online

banking, most banks allow you to pre-schedule payment.

### Lack of Rainfall could Mean Conservation Measures in 2014

November to March is when our lakes and ground water are replenished, but not this fall. If this current dry spell continues, conservation measures, such as restricted watering, may have to be instituted this summer to ensure everyone has an adequate water supply in order to meet their daily requirements and to ensure our lake levels don't drop to unacceptable levels. As an example, the chart below illustrates St. Mary lake levels this year vs. prior years.

