



Friday Five

Your weekly Thurston County update



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#1 - October is Health Literacy Month



October is Health Literacy Month! Taking care of our health is part of everyday life, not just when we visit a doctor, clinic, or hospital. Nearly nine out of 10 adults struggle to understand and use personal and public health information when it's filled with unfamiliar or complex terms. Health literacy can help us prevent health problems, protect our health, and better manage health problems when they arise. You can subscribe to [CDC News and Updates](#) for tools, research, and best practices for communicating clearly.

#2 - Two Public Hearings to be Held October 31

Board of County Commissioners Public Hearing



The Thurston County Board of County Commissioners will hold two public hearings on Tuesday, October 31, 2023, at 3:30 p.m., in Room 110, 3000 Pacific Ave. SE, Olympia, WA 98501. The following public hearings are:

- [Thurston County Code Chapter 8.22.010 Regarding Membership of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee \(SWAC\)](#)
- [Yelm Joint Plan Update](#)

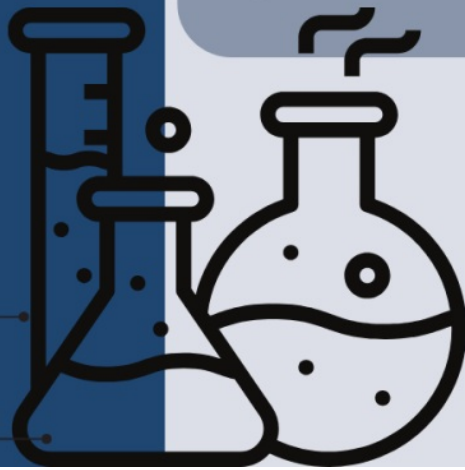
For more information on meetings and public hearings.

visit: <https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/departments/board-county-commissioners/meetings-public-hearings-and-work-session-agendas>

#3 - Thurston County Water Lab is Moving

ATTENTION!

THURSTON COUNTY WATER LAB IS **MOVING** TO 412 LILLY RD NE, OLYMPIA WA 98506!



The Thurston County Water Lab located at 2000 Lakeridge Dr. SW, Olympia WA 98502 is moving. The lab will be closed starting Thursday, October 26 through Monday, October 30, 2023. Samples will not be accepted until Tuesday, October 31, 2023, at the grand re-opening at 412 Lilly Rd. NE, Olympia WA 98506.

The Water Lab will NOT accept water samples for analysis from October 26 through October 30, 2023. No sample pickup will occur in Shelton, Mason County on Monday, October 30, 2023.

All methods of analysis will be available on Tuesday, October 31, 2023, except for Enterolert. In addition, water sample pick-up will resume at satellite locations in Shelton, Rainier, Rochester, Tenino, and Yelm on Tuesday, October 31, 2023.

Sample bottles are available at all satellite locations. In Olympia, community members can pick up empty bottles for testing, Monday – Friday, at the inside front counter:

- 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Public Health and Social Services, 412 Lilly Rd NE, Olympia WA 98506
- 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Environmental Health, Suite 225, 2nd floor of Atrium, 3000 Pacific Ave. SE, Olympia WA 98501

Learn more about the [Thurston County Water Lab](#).

#4 - Second Half of Property Taxes Due October 31



**SECOND HALF OF PROPERTY
TAXES ARE DUE TUESDAY,
OCTOBER 31, 2023**



The deadline for Thurston County residents to pay their 2023 second half property taxes is Tuesday, October 31. As required by Washington State law, late fees will be charged for those who do not make their payment on time. Treasurer's Office staff are available to answer your questions by phone or email during our business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday. You can call 360-786-5550 or email trsr@co.thurston.wa.us. Taxpayers have four options for paying property taxes:

- Mail a check or money order to the Thurston County Treasurer, 3000 Pacific Ave SE, Olympia, WA 98501.
- Drop off payments in the secure parking lot drop box – located at 3000 Pacific Ave SE, Olympia.
- Online at www.thurstoncountywa.gov/departments/treasurer.
- In-person at the Treasurer's Office, at 3000 Pacific Ave SE, Olympia.

You can also sign up for paperless property tax bills to receive future property tax bills electronically, with the option to schedule your tax payment in advance of the due date. [Learn more on the Treasurer's Office website.](#)

#5 - Used Cooking Oil Recycling Suspended at Waste and Recovery Center (WARC)



Used cooking oil recycling **suspended** at the Thurston County Waste and Recovery Center (WARC)



For more information:

thurstonsolidwaste.org/hhw



Effective immediately, the Thurston County Waste and Recovery Center (WARC) in Lacey has suspended its used cooking oil collection service at HazoHouse. The suspension comes in response to new traceability guidelines set by Mahoney, the current collection and recycling vendor, which prevents them from continuing collection at the WARC. Traceability refers to the ability to track the exact origin of the oil.

In the meantime, Thurston County Solid Waste is actively seeking a new vendor to reinstate the used cooking oil recycling service. Until a new vendor is secured, residents are advised to solidify their used cooking oil using a commercial oil solidifier or stearic acid before disposing it in their household garbage. These products are available for purchase online. You can find more information at thurstonsolidwaste.org/hhw.

Thurston County is committed to resuming used cooking oil collection and recycling and will notify residents if a new recycling option becomes available.

For questions, please contact Thurston County Solid Waste at 360-867-2491 or ThurstonSolidWaste@co.thurston.wa.us.



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