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The View

REMINDER TO ALL OWNERS:

All large items of disposal such as AC units, microwaves, furniture etc, are to be disposed of properly and not left by the Coakley Bay Garbage Bins as our trash contractors will not dispose of and these items and they get left behind.

Please notify your contractors doing work in your condos of the Coakley Bay policy.

Where Coakley Bay's Water Comes From and Is It Really "Free"? A Layman's Guide to How it all Works and Why Water Has Real Value

Source of Our Water: All of the water that flows from our sink and shower faucets comes from a combination of rain water and well water. Rain water is collected from the roofs of the F & G buildings and stored in cisterns under the two buildings, then pumped to the various other buildings as needed. (F & G have very large surface roofs and large cistern capacity.) The water in these cisterns is chemically treated, then tested monthly by an outside quality control firm, as mandated by DPNR. In the past, all buildings caught water to be stored in the buildings' individual cisterns for resident usage, but recent DPNR requirements for monthly chemical analysis and periodic emptying and resealing of cisterns have made using all buildings cistern prohibitively expensive. So the decision was made by recent Boards of Directors to use only F & G, and water from the other buildings could be used for landscaping. Well water is collected from drilled wells located below the CB office. Since these bores access the water table very close to sea level, there is considerable salinity in it which must be removed prior to our using it. The reverse osmosis (RO) plant located in a shed just east of the office uses high pressure pumps to force water through membranes, removing the salt and rendering the water potable.

Water Distribution The water is distributed to your tap through an intricate system of pipes and conduits connecting the wells and cisterns and fifteen buildings. In most towns in the states, water is held in a big tower high above ground, and the water pressure to bring it to residents is generated by gravity flow. In CB's hilly terrain, all water is moved by dozens of electric pumps and powered by WAPA electricity.

Sewage Treatment Since St. Croix has no public sewage treatment system outside of the towns, CB must treat its own sewage. This is accomplished at our water treatment plant locating a half mile up the road from Ziggy's Gas at the eastern edge of the CB property. Huge tanks use enzymes, aeration, and gravity settling to treat water in three stages, creating the "gray water" most of us use in our toilets. The complex was designed to use this water (only one or two levels below drinking quality) through a separate plumbing system to run our toilets, thus saving our precious drinking quality water for other purposes. Again, sewage is electrically pumped up over the hill east of the F-bldg to the treatment plant, and then re-pumped after treatment to a series of twelve above-ground cement holding tanks located above the F-bldg awaiting gravity feeding to your toilets.

Is Our Water Really Free? Our water is free in the sense that owners are not charged any separate fees on their homeowners bill for water. (The Reef Condos, for example, charges 8 cents a gallon, amounting to about \$200 a month from a family of two.) But the costs of our elaborate water system are financially supported by our homeowner fees and these expenses can be considerable. Pumps need regular replacement, pipes can break requiring repair, water treatment chemicals must be purchased, time is spent by staff to maintain the system, water testing and permits cost money, and all water is pushed by pumps resulting in a monthly WAPA bill that would scare Bill Gates!

What Can I Do To Help? Think of our water as the valuable commodity it is, and do whatever you can to conserve it and limit its usage. Fixing dripping faucets, taking shorter showers, replacing old, water-guzzling toilets with newer models, going back to your original plumbing design of using gray water in the toilets instead of fresh water, turning off taps at sinks when brushing your teeth,—these are all simple little steps than can make a difference. And when renting your unit, make sure your tenant has an understanding of how valuable and precious our water is to us. And don't forget—limiting expenses associated with our water usage can help us keep our monthly fees as low as possible.

Drafted by the Coakley Bay Conservation Committee of Pam Pearson, Judi Perazzo & Eric Joyce



Automated External Defibrillator Installed in Coakley Bay Pool Cabana

Coakley Bay Association recently purchased a Heart Defibrillator. The defibrillator unit is now installed and located at Pool Cabana. The cabinet alarm and strobe light is activated when the door is opened.

An Automated External Defibrillator, commonly called an “AED” is a computerized medical device. It can check a person’s heart rhythm; recognize a rhythm that requires a shock, and it can advise the rescuer when a shock is needed. The AED uses voice prompts, lights and text messages to tell the rescuer the steps to take. AEDs are very accurate and easy to use. With a few hours of training anyone can learn to operate an AED safely. There are many different brands of AEDs, but the same basic steps apply to all of them.

Coakley Bay purchased The Lifeline SPV100 Public Access Automated External Defibrillator which utilizes a verbal response system to talk the Rescuer through the process of using an AED on a distressed person. This unit comes equipped with all of the Rescuer medical equipment needed. Once the paddles have been placed on the patient this unit tells you exactly what to do, and in what order, and also what NOT to do if the unit determines a problem with the application or the patient. We have also added pediatric paddles in the event a child, under 8 years old is the patient. If the Rescuer forgets to change the paddles from adult to a child’s paddles it will issue a prompt to change the paddles. Hopefully we will never need to use the AED, but now we have one on premises.

The Red Cross gave the initial training course to 4 employees and 6 owners. We have the Training CD in the office for anyone who would like to review the correct procedures for using an AED. No appointment is necessary. [The American Heart Association has more information online <http://www.americanheart.org/presenter.jhtml?identifier=3011859>.](http://www.americanheart.org/presenter.jhtml?identifier=3011859)

In the event of an emergency, if you are the rescuer, in addition to your efforts, PLEASE CALL, or have someone nearby CALL THE FIRE DEPARTMENT as the EMS are properly trained in this emergency and can send an ambulance. From a Cell Phone call 340-772-9111.



Once again Pro-Touch Painting has completed painting E and G Buildings. They started early this year, so they got the job done early. Buildings E and G will get all new windows



CONDOLENCES:
GLORIA LEVINE of F-11 recently passed away. Coakley Bay extends condolences to family.