

# Cantrall-Buckley update

BY LAIRD FUNK

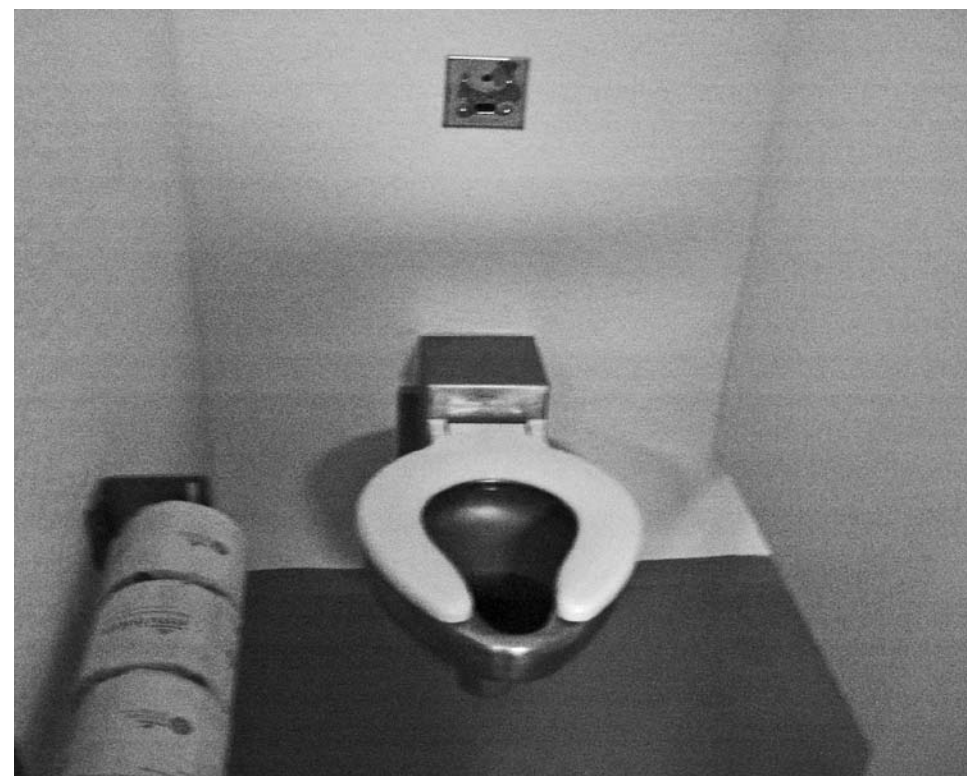
On November 22, the engineer beheld the completed project and he was pleased. Yes folks, the construction of the Cantrall-Buckley wastewater treatment system and all related pieces wrapped up on that chilly Saturday and all of it passed the final engineering inspection with flying colors. The wetland treatment cell was filled with drainfield rock and planted with over 2,000 wetland plants, including some iris from Day Boddorff of Applegate Growers, which is the current operation at the original Buckley ranch. Some of them have already taken advantage of the fairly mild weather and have started growing.

The underground drip system, which is the final disposal of the treated effluent, was installed in the campground meadow and the meadow seeded with a native grass seed mix, which was generously donated to the park by our local BLM office. The same mix was used to seed all areas of disturbance throughout the park. Over 50 pounds in all were broadcast. The native red clay soil is prone to erosion in heavy rain so we wanted to have the seed in and germinating before the more severe winter weather came along.

The drip system itself was an exercise in precise layout in order to get the required 5000 feet of drip tubing properly placed in the 10,000 square foot meadow. That is a lot of tubing in a pretty small place. There were 70 rows of tubing only 18" apart, but the job was made somewhat easier by building a plow which plowed in two lines at a time, saving untold hours of trenching and filling. Another timesaver was the fact that the emitters came already installed inside the tubing so we did not have to come back and punch in 5000 emitters!

Earlier, in mid-October, Pacific Power arrived with three crews and set to work setting a new pole and stringing wires from it to a nearby line pole on Cantrall Road. Meanwhile, one of the crews pulled the power cables from giant spools and threaded them through the awaiting conduit. Another set of cables was run from the new power panel to the transformer site and then the transformer was dropped over them and the connections made. After a return trip a day or so later to install the meter and energize the panel, the campground at Cantrall-Buckley entered a new age-electricity!

Over on the "day-use" side, work on the revised water system got underway, again with the help of Jackson County Corrections public service crews, they had to hand trench new lines in between a maze of existing pipes and conduits so that a new control system and a new variable speed pump could be installed and a new control building built. Given the temperamental nature of the old collection of vintage control boxes and pressure switches, the new system should much improve reliability for the interim needed. Funding will be needed to complete the



new system that is needed for the final campground improvement. Quinn's Well Drilling did a great job on all of it and generously donated part of their costs back to the park.

With water and power we were ready for the delivery of the new CXT, Inc. prefab concrete bathroom/shower building for the campground. This building comes completely plumbed and wired with all fixtures in place and ready to be connected to previously installed piping and conduits underground. Built in three sections, the building is placed on the prepared pad by a huge 147,000-pound crane, then the sections are cabled together and the cable tightened with hydraulic jacks to hold it all tight. It is so complete it even comes with three rolls of toilet paper in each toilet stall!

(Photos above)

The trucks rolled into Ruch very early on October 30, and the work began that morning. Unfortunately, the delivery suffered a series of significant snags, the story of which is best reserved for another time, and the first piece was not on site till early that evening. The next day was a bit more successful, though still behind schedule with the last piece finally hitting the ground around 2 pm. The CXT contractor and his crew were then able to kick into high gear and got the new shower unit tied together by 4 pm. The following day was spent by his crew making the plumbing connections between sections and tying together the parts of the electrical system. After that a final grouting and a touchup of the paint completed the job and Cantrall-Buckley



## Wise Words from Forrest Gump's Mama #33

with Bob Quinn

*Was it Forrest Gump's mother who used to say that during the dreary winter doldrums you have to work hard to use your brain. Otherwise it can clog up and might not be there when you need it...*

If so, she might just as well have been talking about a ground water source well. Wintertime is usually a time of year when water demand drops to a level that is only what's needed for normal domestic consumption. Such reduced demand is likely to only drop the static water level by just a few feet. This can cause the water in your well to stagnate—an ideal condition to encourage the growth of iron. Over a period of time this buildup of iron can clog the walls of the well and may eventually seal your well off. The best advice is to run your well pump hard at least twice during the winter season. This practice will help flush out the iron and is good preventive care for your investment. Personally, I think Forrest Gump's mom was a lot smarter than some of the politicians in Washington, but that's a whole other story...

Bob Quinn is a member of the Oregon Ground Water Association and owner of **Quinn's Well Drilling and Pump Service** at 6811 Williams Hwy., Grants Pass. As part of a tradition of information and service that began more than 50 years ago, these columns are provided by the firm to help take the mystery out of well drilling and ground water. If you have a question about your well or one you are planning, please call Bob or his helpful staff for advice, estimates, or helpful information at no obligation or cost.

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Park had a new bathroom!

The last item on the job was the inspection by Jackson County building department, which covered the far-flung electrical system and its myriad of panels and related pumps. The Thanksgiving week inspection went very well also. The last piece of the project that had started last January 23, 2008 was completed.

Extraordinary from conception to completion, the Cantrall-Buckley improvement project stands as a monument to foresight, dedication and perseverance in the face of improbable odds by the small group of volunteers who serve on the Cantrall-Buckley Park advisory board and who worked together to see the job taken to completion.

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