



# SKY LINES

www.skywayws.org

March 2017

## 2017 Water & Sewer Rates

### Commissioner's Corner

#### Spending Wisely

Greetings again. As a customer paying a water or sewer bill, I am sure many of you wonder just what your money is getting you. One of the many things your money is spent on is clean, safe water plus removing and treating your sewer waste. All of this is through the pipes I have mentioned to you in prior articles. The District identifies which water and sewer pipes need to be replaced, have an engineering consultant prepare project plans and then request bids from contractors to install the new pipe. You also have a support staff to repair and maintain this infrastructure so that it works for your benefit consistently. This is one of the differences between us and other areas of the world. They don't have a safe healthy environment for their day to day events like you and your family does.



-Don Henry

The Board of Commissioners of Skyway Water and Sewer District is responsible for setting rates. Each year, with the aid of District staff and consultants, they work in open public meetings to analyze the District's operating, maintenance, and capital replacement requirements.

In addition to the daily cost of operating the water and sewer systems, the District must plan for the cost to repair and replace parts of the systems as they become outdated or deteriorated. This is an ongoing activity and much of our infrastructure,

particularly sewer facilities, were originally installed as much as 75 years ago. As part of the rate setting process, District staff develop a 10-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) that prioritizes repair and replacement projects based on the risks and benefits of each project. The CIP and rate schedule are reviewed by the Board of Commissioners to confirm that the construction program balances their obligation to maintain your vital water and sewer facilities against the cost to District customers.

The enclosed bill reflects a rate increase for both water and sewer. The water increase (\$2.00/month for the average single family customer) will help to fund the replacement and upsizing of old water mains and the

development and treatment of District wells/well water. The sewer increase (\$4.75/month for the average single family customer) will help fund the ongoing replacement of our aging sewer collection and transmission system.

Over the next 6 years, the District's capital improvement program to repair and/or replace aging infrastructure is anticipated to average nearly \$7.7 million dollars per year. The rate schedule is set to cover the cost of ongoing operations and the necessary CIP projects through steady measured increases, rather than large and erratic increases. The District operates **solely** on your customer rates; it **receives no tax revenue**.

SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL								
MONTHLY METER RATES			BI-MONTHLY VOLUME BLOCKS		MONTHLY SEWER RATES			
Meter Size	SF	SF Discount				SF	SF Discount	
5/8x3/4"	\$18.50	\$12.95	0-8 ccf	\$4.11	District	\$41.28	\$18.77	
1"	\$43.53	\$30.47	9-12 ccf	\$5.20	King County	\$44.22	\$44.22	
1 1/2"	\$88.30	\$59.71	13-24 ccf	\$6.56	Total	\$85.50	\$62.99	
			Over 24 ccf	\$8.36				
NON-SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL								
MONTHLY WATER RATES							MONTHLY SEWER RATES	
METER SIZE	5/8x3/4"	1"	1-1/2"	2"	3"	4"	6"	KING COUNTY DNR & DISTRICT RATE (per 100 cubic feet)
	\$27.89	\$61.33	\$132.60	\$211.15	\$420.73	\$656.18	\$1,310.64	
BI-MONTHLY VOLUME BLOCKS								
COMMERCIAL			INSTITUTIONAL		MULTI-FAMILY		IRRIGATION	
\$5.92			\$5.92		\$5.73		\$13.74	
								\$13.17

2017 SENIOR & DISABLED DISCOUNT APPLICATION



FREE Class!

### "Favorite Northwest Natives"

**Greg Rabourn**

(Educator, Radio Personality, Author)

Give your yard a Northwest flavor! This workshop will highlight native plants that would make a great addition to your landscape. Whether you want shade, privacy, pollinators, birds or a hassle-free landscape, discover plant suggestions you can take to the nursery.

Register now!

[www.favoritenatives.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.favoritenatives.brownpapertickets.com)

Thursday, March 30, 2017 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Skyway Water & Sewer District  
6723 South 124th Street



## 2016 CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE

The District has an established Customer Assistance Program that is administered by the Salvation Army for the benefit of District customers who need financial assistance with paying their water and sewer bills. During 2016, there were 15 customers who received financial assistance through this program. For more information on the Program, contact the District at 206-772-7343 or the Salvation Army at 425-255-5969.

### West Hill Community Association's Spring Community Quarterly Meeting

Special presentations (including one on Surface Water Management Fees from John Taylor, Director of DNRP's Water & Land Resources Division), community news & reports. **Annual Board Elections:** All West Hill residents 18+ eligible to be nominated/self-nominated from the floor. [MyWestHill.org/Election2017](http://MyWestHill.org/Election2017)

**Tues April 18th, 7pm** Skyway VFW, 7421 S 126th St

### West Hill Action Mob Annual Spring Cleanup

Native plant restoration work party in Skyway Park with our friends at King County Parks. Free lunch, tools & gloves provided. All welcome (minors need written permission, so bring adult to sign)!

**Sat April 29th, 9am-1pm** Skyway Park

### Skyway Outdoor Cinema 2017 Movie Poll

YOU DECIDE which movies we play for our 15th season of SOC. Polls open mid-April, be the first to be notified by Liking us on Facebook or signing up for insider emails at [MyWestHill.org/SOC](http://MyWestHill.org/SOC)

[MyWestHill.org](http://MyWestHill.org) MyWestHill

# Clean Water Begins With You

In 2012, the State of Washington Department of Health approved Skyway Water and Sewer District's "Wellhead Protection Plan". District protection of the area surrounding its well water supply is vital to the protection of our community's natural underground aquifer. This aquifer is the water source for District wells which currently provide approximately 13% of our area's drinking water.

District protection of the area surrounding its well water supply is vital to the protection of our community's natural underground aquifer. You play a critical role in our Wellhead Protection Plan! Through nature's water cycle, rainwater seeps through the ground to replenish the aquifer that feeds District wells. If rainwater carries any potential contaminants and if soils aren't fine enough to filter out pollutants, our aquifer and well water supply can become contaminated. And cleaning a contaminated water source is a very expensive, lengthy (and sometimes impossible) process. Contamination prevention is much safer and cost-effective. Clean water begins with you!

The way you take care of your yard, dispose of household chemicals and maintain your car can contribute to aquifer contamination. The following are things you can do to protect our community's drinking water supply:

- ◆ **Minimize household hazardous waste** by using less toxic, biodegradable products. If you must use hazardous chemicals, use them sparingly and dispose of them properly.
- ◆ **Dispose of motor vehicle waste properly** (oil, gasoline, antifreeze and batteries). Take your used oil and other motor wastes to a hazardous waste/recycling center.
- ◆ **Practice safe and natural gardening.** Slug bait, insect spray and fertilizers can harm the water supply.
- ◆ **Take care of your septic system.** Pump your system every three years and have it inspected periodically. Septic system failures can cause groundwater contamination and adversely impact the water supply.
- ◆ **Prevent fuel tank leakage.** Consider having fuel removed from any abandoned underground fuel tanks as slow leaks will develop and grow over time causing serious hazards to the water supply.

Protection of our community's groundwater supply is critical in keeping our water clean, uncontaminated and plentiful – both for ourselves and for future generations. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact us at 206-772-7343.



6723 S 124<sup>th</sup> St.  
Seattle, WA 98178  
206-772-7343 • 206-772-5860 FAX  
[www.skywayws.org](http://www.skywayws.org)

## 2017 LOW INCOME SENIOR CITIZEN / SOCIAL SECURITY (SSI) DISABILITY DISCOUNT FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Account #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Check the following which are true:

- I am the owner and/or tenant at the address listed above
- I am 62 years of age or older or my spouse is 62 years of age or older, OR
- My age or that of my spouse is less than 62, but I or my spouse are recipients of US Social Security (SSI) Disability payments

My gross household income from ALL SOURCES (including 100% of social security and other pension) for 2016 was less than the following:

- 1 person household: **\$32,030/year or \$2,670/month; OR**
- 2+ person household: **\$36,570/year or \$3,050/month**

### DECLARATION:

I swear under the laws of the State of Washington, under the penalty of perjury, that the foregoing statements are true and correct:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature City where signed Date

Annual renewal of this form is required for program eligibility. Please return form by 3/31/17.