



[www.skywayws.org](http://www.skywayws.org)



November 2021

## COVID-19 Customer Support and Payment Plans

On March 18, 2020, Governor Inslee issued [Proclamation 20-23](#) (as amended/extended) pertaining to Utility Ratepayer Assistance and Preservation of Essential Services. The District adopted temporary COVID-19 policies on March 24, 2020 and has not charged penalties/late fees, filed liens or discontinued service since that date. However, the District cannot “forgive” water and sewer service billings under Washington State law. The Governor’s Proclamation 20-23 (as amended/extended) which included a utility late fee/shutoff moratorium, **ended September 30, 2021** and **the District’s temporary COVID-19 policies will expire on December 31, 2021.**

Effective **January 1, 2022** the District’s standard policies for non-payment, late fees and liens are reinstated, including but not limited to, as follows:

1. Customer accounts for water and/or sewer service are considered past due if not paid by the due date (by the end of the month following the service period) and are subject to a 10% late penalty.
2. Past due amounts for water service not paid within 30 days of the due date are subject to shutoff and to the District filing a lien against the property (the homeowner is responsible for the cost of the lien).
3. Past due amounts for sewer service not paid within 30 days of the due date are subject to the District filing a lien against the property (the homeowner is responsible for the cost of the lien).
4. Service will not be re-established to a property unless the account is brought current and all charges are paid in full including late fees, penalties and liens including interest.

Skyway Water & Sewer District is committed to keeping our customers connected to essential services. If you experience hardship because of the COVID-19 pandemic, you may be eligible for support, including long-term payment arrangements or bill assistance. In addition to collaborating with federal, state and local agencies to support customers who have experienced economic hardship as a direct result of COVID-19, District **COVID-19 Payment Plans** are available to eligible customers.

From **November 15, 2021 through January 31, 2022**, customers who are unable to pay their bills for water and/or sewer service in a timely manner due to the impact of COVID-19 may apply for extended payment arrangements for a period not to exceed one (1) year. For extenuating circumstances, the District General Manager has the authority to approve longer-term payment arrangements of up to eighteen (18) months. The following conditions apply:

1. Charges accrued for services beginning January 1, 2020 will be eligible for payment terms based on customer self-certification of hardship.
2. Customers with past due accounts who do not apply for and enter into a Payment Agreement with the District by January 31, 2022, will be subject to disconnect, late penalties, liens, fees and other remedies in accordance with the District’s standard policies and RCW 57.08.081.
3. Payment arrangements where the customer consistently pays the **agreed monthly amount plus the current charges** will not have service disconnected.
4. If agreed payment arrangements are not kept, water service may be interrupted or a sewer lien filed once the arrangement becomes sixty (60) days past due.
5. A residential customer whose financial condition changes during the term of a Payment Agreement, or a customer who defaults on a Payment Agreement, and who seeks to reestablish payment arrangements, may do so one time under the same terms described above.

For the latest information, please visit [www.skywayws.org](http://www.skywayws.org). If you have any questions, please call us at 206-772-7343 or email [info@skywayws.org](mailto:info@skywayws.org).

**Phone translation services are available.**  
**Servicios de traducción telefónica disponibles.**  
**Chúng tôi có thông dịch qua điện thoại.**

## Need help?

- ◆ **Multi-Service Center LIHEAP/LIHWAP 253-517-2263 or [mschelps.org](http://mschelps.org)**
- ◆ **Skyway Water & Sewer District COVID-19 Customer Support Program:**  
[www.skywayws.org](http://www.skywayws.org)
- ◆ **Skyway Customer Assistance Program through Salvation Army: 425-255-5969 ext. 214**
- ◆ **St. Vincent DePaul: 206-767-6449**
- ◆ **Catholic Community Services: 253-854-0077**
- ◆ **DSHS Disaster Cash Assistance Program: 877-501-2233 or**  
[www.WashingtonConnection.org](http://www.WashingtonConnection.org)
- ◆ **WA State Department of Health 1-800-525-0127**
- ◆ **Utilities and Transportation Commission Consumer Hotline: 1-888-333-9882**
- ◆ **Washington 2-1-1: 1-877-211-9274 or 211**





All of us here at Skyway Water & Sewer District want to thank you for the opportunity to serve you. 2021 has been a challenging year and we wish you health, hope and happiness during this Holiday Season and the coming New Year.

## 2021 King County Districting Committee

By law, the King County Council districts must be adjusted every 10 years, using the newest U.S. Census data, to reflect changes in population distribution. The Districting Committee is responsible for redrawing the district boundaries and must follow certain legal criteria including ensuring the new districts are compact, contiguous and nearly equal in population. Town Hall meetings were recently held on October 17, 19, 20 & 21 for residents to review the draft districting maps and provide feedback. Learn more at [www.kingcounty.gov/districting](http://www.kingcounty.gov/districting). To request interpretation services, email [districting@kingcounty.gov](mailto:districting@kingcounty.gov). For more information, visit: <https://kingcounty.gov/independent/districting.aspx>

## CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

As reported in our last newsletter, bids were opened on August 3<sup>rd</sup> for the **Small Diameter Watermain Replacement** capital project located in the Bryn Mawr neighborhood. The contract has been awarded to Strickland & Sons Excavation LLC with Notice to Proceed on November 1<sup>st</sup>. This project includes replacement of ~5,900 linear feet of 2- and 4-inch water main with new 8-inch ductile iron pipe, replacement of service lines from the water mains to the meters, and installation of new fire hydrants.

Preparation of contract documents is in progress for the **Skyway Park North Sewer Replacement Phase 1** project. This Phase 1 project is located north of Renton Ave between 72nd Place So and 76th Ave So. It replaces ~5,800 lineal feet of gravity sewer main, 36 sewer manholes, and redirects/reconnects side sewers for ~123 single-family homes and two apartment buildings, and also replaces ~4,000 lineal feet of watermain. Construction is planned to begin this winter.



Design of the **Rainier Ave So/So 113<sup>th</sup> Watermain Replacement** project is also in progress. This project replaces ~1,250 linear feet of 6-inch asbestos cement pipe and 2-inch galvanized pipe with new 8-inch ductile iron pipe and replaces existing water service lines, valves and fire hydrants. The project is located on the eastside of Rainier Ave So, north of So 113<sup>th</sup> Street, and along So 113<sup>th</sup> Street east of Rainier Ave So.



In July 2021, the District submitted eight applications to the Washington State Public Works Board for low interest capital construction loans. We are excited to report that in September 2021, the District received notice that two of our projects have been awarded low interest loans: the **Skyway Park North Sewer Replacement Phase 1** and **Rainier Ave So/So 113<sup>th</sup> Watermain Replacement** projects. The loan interest rate is 0.94% with a term of 20 years for loans of \$8,317,000 and \$620,000 respectively.



Check our website at [www.skywayws.org](http://www.skywayws.org) for project updates or contact the District at [info@skywayws.org](mailto:info@skywayws.org) or 206-772-7343 if you would like more information.

## WHCA News and Updates



### Get ready. Holiday Lights Contest is BACK.

Last year, dozens of neighbors submitted their dazzling creations, we created an interactive map, and awarded three of the flashiest trophies (and gift cards!) to the very best. Spectators and competitors: stay tuned.

### Local News, Updates, and Info

**MyWestHill.org** or just point your phone camera at this fancy QR code



### Check Out Your Local Events Calendar

**MyWestHill.org/calendar** There's always something new being added to our online events calendar. Take a look!

**CONNECT WITH US ONLINE:** In these uncertain times, things change and news updates quickly. Our website, social media accounts, and newsletter are great ways to stay in the loop: [MyWestHill.org/connect](http://MyWestHill.org/connect)



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