



www.skywayws.org

SKY LINES

March 2022

2022 Water and Sewer Rates

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. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, this year's rate setting analysis and decision making is again very challenging.

In order to account for the full effect of unpaid water and sewer bills (arrearages) related to COVID-19 and to consider the needs of our customers, the District's overall financial health and stability, and the Board's responsibility to provide for the proper operation and maintenance of the water and sewer systems, the 2022 Rate Study is still in progress. Once the study is complete, District rate adjustments for 2022 will become effective March 1st and will be reflected in your May bill (for March and April service).

The enclosed bill does reflect a 4.0% increase in the pass-through sewer charges for King County sewage treatment.

What Is Flushable??

Some things **do** belong in drains and sewers, and some things **do not**.

"Do Not Put Down the Drain" items include **grease from cooking, wipes for babies or adults, hair, diapers, and cotton swabs. These things all belong in the trash.** Only human waste and toilet paper should be flushed down the toilet.

The label might say "flushable" but keeping things out of the sewer system that don't belong there helps keep your sewer system running smoothly. Putting the wrong things down sinks and toilets might also cause expensive plumbing problems in your home or business. Wipes, trash and debris are also a costly problem for local sewer agencies and cities.

Last year, King County's Wastewater Treatment Division spent **over \$120,000** just to take the wipes, tampons, and other trash that came into their treatment plants to a landfill. That's enough trash to fill two semi-trucks every week! Plus, there's the increased cost for system operation and maintenance.



So what "To Do":

- ◆ Use screens to keep hair, fruit stickers and other stuff out of drains and pipes.
- ◆ Scrape out and wipe off greasy bowls, pots, and pans before washing.
- ◆ Keep fatty foods and meats out of the garbage disposal and put cooled, solidified grease in the trash can.

Please share this information with your family, friends and neighbors and help us keep your sewer system running smoothly and clog free!

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION UPDATE
Construction on the Small Diameter Watermain Replacement capital project in the Bryn Mawr neighborhood is progressing well. The contractor, Strickland & Sons Excavation LLC, is replacing water mains, service lines, and meter boxes and installing fire hydrants as part of the project. Altogether ~5,900 linear feet of old water main will be replaced with new 8-inch ductile iron pipe.

Check our website at www.skywayws.org for project updates or contact the District at info@skywayws.org or 206-772-7343 if you would like more information.



Cascade Gardener

2022 CLASSES

Cascade Water Alliance offers an annual series of free gardening classes to help you have beautiful, healthy landscapes while using water efficiently.

The 2022 Cascade Gardener classes will be held through Zoom. Visit the link below to register.

<https://cascadewater.org/water-efficiency/cascade-gardener/>

King County Sewage Treatment Rates

King County provides wastewater (sewage) treatment service to 34 local agencies, including Skyway, and the preliminary 2023 Sewer Rate-Setting process is currently underway. The County's goals in this process include increased reliability at West Point Treatment Plant and elsewhere; regulatory compliance; growth-related demand response; critical asset management project execution; protect water quality; address climate change impacts; and equitable service delivery.

The adopted 2022 Rate Plan had forecast a **4% annual rate increase through 2025**. Preliminary sensitivity forecasts at this time show a **5.5% annual rate increase through 2027** followed by higher rate increases. These are not proposed rates, but early information to inform policy decision makers. More information on rates and finance is available at <https://kingcounty.gov/depts/dnr/wtd/about/finances.aspx>

WHCA News and Updates



♥ 4/2 Park Cleanup, 4/19 Community Meeting

Want to help clean up the headwaters of Taylor Creek during Earth Month or stream our quarterly live, relevant updates from local officials and organizations? Mark your calendars and more details on our website.

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**



WEST HILL
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

MyWestHill.org **f MyWestHill**
MyWestHill **WestHillTweets**



6723 S 124th St.
Seattle, WA 98178
206-772-7343 S 206-772-5860 FAX
www.skywayws.org

2022 LOW INCOME SENIOR CITIZEN / SOCIAL SECURITY (SSI) DISABILITY DISCOUNT FORM

Name: _____

Account #: _____

Property Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Birth Date: _____

I am the **OWNER** or **TENANT** (circle one) at the address listed above.

Check the following which are true:

☐ 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 **2021** was less than the following:

☐ 1 person household: **\$40,500/year or \$3,375/month**

OR

☐ 2+ person household: **\$46,300/year or \$3,858/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. **Return form by 3/31/2022.**