



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

# SKY LINES

November 2024

## About Our Newsletter

You open your Skyway billing envelope and find a slick glossy newsletter included with your statement and you might wonder “why is the newsletter printed on such expensive looking paper?”. The fact is glossy paper is less expensive. More of it is produced and available in bulk quantities which drives the cost down. Also, because presses are more often printing on glossy paper and do not have to switch papers, it reduces the cost of print production. The “dull” paper, due to its lower usage volume, runs on different equipment that costs more to operate.



District staff continuously look for ways to run our operations more efficiently and cost effectively – and that includes the newsletter. You can help us reduce costs and be a good steward by signing up for electronic billing and receiving both your bill and newsletter electronically.

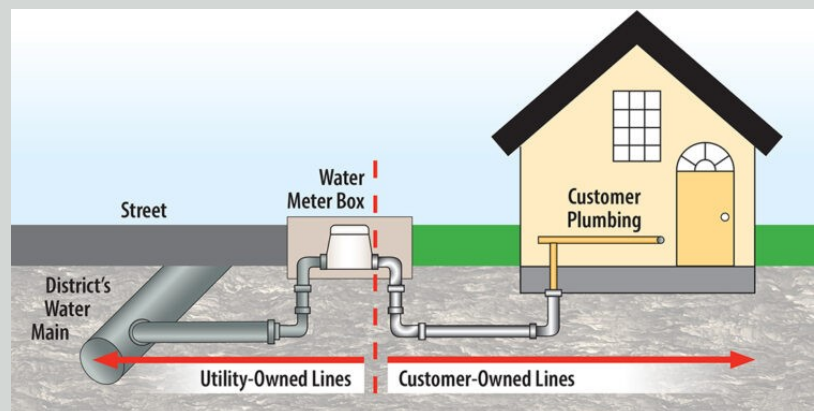


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[skywaywater.epayub.com](http://skywaywater.epayub.com)

## LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

In 1986, Congress amended the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) to prohibit the use of pipes, solder, or flux that are not “lead free” in public water systems or plumbing in facilities providing water for human consumption. In 1996, Congress further amended the SDWA to prohibit the use of pipe and plumbing fittings and fixtures that are not lead free in the installation and repair of any public water system or plumbing in a facility providing water for human consumption. The 1996 amendments also required lead-free plumbing fittings and fixtures (endpoint devices) to comply with a lead leaching standard.

In 2021, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) adopted Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) that public water systems must comply with. In accordance with the 2021 LCRR, the District is required to conduct an inventory of water service lines serving each District customer and submit our findings to the Washington State Department of Health by October 16, 2024.



As shown in the above diagram, two sections of the water service line need to be inventoried:

**Utility (District) Owned:** The line that runs from the water main to the water meter.

**Customer Owned:** The line that runs from the water meter to your home.

The District is compiling a database of properties in our service area (approximately 3,400 service connections). The District has not used lead in our service lines from the main to the meter and King County banned the use of lead service lines in 1968. However, if your home was built before 1968, it could have lead pipe in the customer-owned section of line between the water meter (typically located at the property line) and your home.

The District has not found and does not expect to find any District-owned lead service lines. However, if we do discover lead service lines at your property, you will be directly notified. For more information, please refer to our [LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY MAP](https://shorturl.at/N4IBT). ([HTTPS://SHORTURL.AT/N4IBT](https://shorturl.at/N4IBT))



Scan Me

## CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Design of the **Rainier Ave S/S 113th Watermain Replacement** project continues. Easements needed for the project are being obtained from residents.



This project, located east of Rainier Ave S near S 113th St 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. Construction is planned for Spring 2025. The project is funded in part by a 20-year low-interest Public Works Assistance Account (PWAA) loan from the Department of Commerce.



A construction contract has been awarded to R.L. Alia for the **80th Avenue South Sewer Extension** project. The project includes construction of ~850 linear feet of new sewer main along 80th Avenue South north from the 12800 block, across Renton Avenue South, and continuing further north to the intersection at South 126th Street. This extension will make public sewer available to residents currently on septic systems in the project area. Construction is planned for completion by January 2025. This current project is funded by the King County Climate Equity Pool and administered by the Public Health Equitable Wastewater Futures program. For more information, visit:

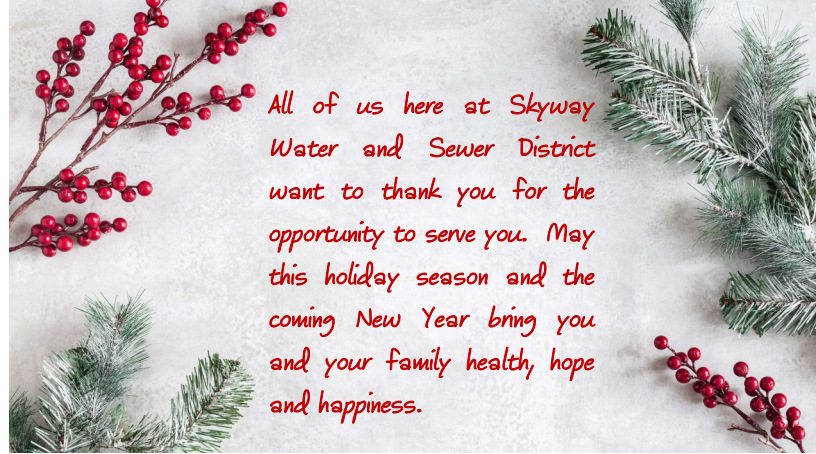
Equitable Wastewater Futures Program - King County, Washington. This project will also provide the opportunity for sewer service to be expanded to adjacent areas.

As reported in the September 2024 issue, a construction contract for the **First Cities Pump Station Pump Replacement** project was

awarded to Gary Harper Construction, Inc. The project is located in the Martin Luther King Jr Way S right-of-way and the work includes replacement of two existing sewer pumps and associated pipes and valves; traffic control; removal and disposal of existing pumps, pipes, and valves; installation of new pumps, piping and valves; temporary by-pass pumps installation; installation of temporary and permanent fencing; and restoration. Currently, submittals are being reviewed and materials procured. Construction work is expected to take about a month to complete.

As part of its capital project planning and financing, the District applies for Public Works Board (PWB) low interest loans. In addition to the project mentioned above, the District has PWB loan contracts for the following planned projects: Skyway Park North Phase 1 Sewer Replacement, Forest Ave S & Garden Pl S Watermain Replacement, South Sunnycrest Rd Watermain Replacement, Skyway Water Tank No. 2 Exterior Coating Replacement, Small Works Watermain Upgrades, and Tank Nos. 3 & 4 Coating Replacement. We are also awaiting confirmation from the PWB on a conditional loan offer for our Sewer Force Main Replacement - Sunset Station project.

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.



*All of us here at Skyway Water and Sewer District want to thank you for the opportunity to serve you. May this holiday season and the coming New Year bring you and your family health, hope and happiness.*

## Water Heater Expansion Tank

For safety and water supply reasons, we want to make sure everyone saw the article in our July & September 2024 issues. If you missed them, please visit our website at [www.skywayws.org](http://www.skywayws.org) to read the past issues. A water heater expansion tank (or thermal expansion tank) is a small secondary tank that acts as a safety device to minimize the risk of pressure damage, pipe bursts, and leaks in a home's plumbing system.

Expansion tank surging can impact/increase water meter readings (measured consumption) and it is the homeowner's responsibility to ensure the tank is properly maintained. Water meter consumption reads impacted by expansion tank surging are **not eligible for a water leak adjustment**.



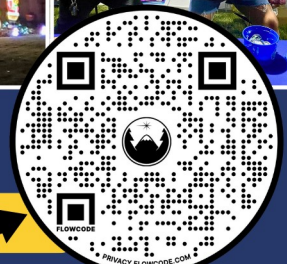
## WHCA News and Updates

- **Skyway Park Volunteer Planting Event** with WHCA and King County Parks is on November 16. Register at [parksvolunteer.kingcounty.gov](http://parksvolunteer.kingcounty.gov)
- **The 2024 Holiday Lights Contest** is launching soon. Learn more at [MyWestHill.org](http://MyWestHill.org)
- **Want to support community events and advocacy?** Join us! Volunteers and donors power this work. Learn more at [MyWestHill.org/join](http://MyWestHill.org/join)



Our website, socials, & newsletter are great ways to stay in the loop!

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



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