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SKY LINES

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SIDE SEWER PERMITS



When is a permit needed? Who gets it? Why? If you plan to do repair or replacement work on any part of the side sewer that extends from the sewer main in the street to your house or business, then you or your contractor are required to get a permit from the District.

Permits can be obtained at the District office during normal business hours Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM. Permits protect our customers by requiring that work be performed to District standards so that the side sewer will be able to function as intended. The permit provides District staff the opportunity to inspect the side sewer repair or replacement and maintain a record drawing of the work performed.

Be Prepared for Winter!

It's been a beautiful Summer and Fall in the Northwest! But the seasons change and, by the time you read this newsletter, we may have already had freezing temperatures and other signs of winter. You might have already pulled out winter boots, heavy jackets, and gloves. As the season changes, remember your home and yard and try these tips to help prevent weather related problems.

To Help Prevent Flooding

- * Rake and properly dispose of fallen leaves.
- * Keep storm drains clear.
- * Clean gutters and downspouts.
- * Disconnect any downspouts connected to the sanitary sewer system.
- * Direct downspout flows away from your home's foundation without directing those flows to adjacent properties.

To Help Prevent Frozen Pipes

- * Disconnect and drain outdoor hoses.
- * Drain, wrap, or cover outside faucets and hose bibs.
- * Shut off and drain in-ground sprinkler systems.
- * Insulate pipes in unheated areas (attics, basements, crawl spaces, garages).
- * Caulk around pipes where they enter the house.
- * Close foundation vents to reduce cold drafts. Use wood or Styrofoam to block openings during winter; remove them in spring to prevent dry rot.

Before It Drops Below Freezing

- * Open under-sink cabinet doors to allow warm air to circulate.
- * Know where your main water shut-off valve is located. If a pipe breaks, turn off the main valve immediately. If you can't find it, call Skyway Water & Sewer District at (206) 772-7343, and a technician can shut off water at the meter.
- * Identify reliable plumbers in advance and keep their contact information handy.
- * Keep your thermostat set to at least 55°F, even if you're away during winter months.

Stay Safe and Warm This Winter

Be as prepared as you can before winter comes to town! A little preparation now can prevent costly damage later.



Season's Greetings from Skyway Water & Sewer District

As the year comes to a close, we wish you and your family a joyful holiday season and a New Year filled with good health, hope, and peace.

All of us at **Skyway Water & Sewer District** sincerely thank you for the opportunity to serve our community and appreciate your continued trust and partnership.

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Design of the **Rainier Ave S/S 113th Watermain Replacement** project progresses as 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/summer 2026. The project is funded in part by a 20-year low-interest Public Works Assistance Account (PWAA) loan from the Department of Commerce.



King County Climate Equity Pool, administered by the Public Health Equitable Wastewater Futures program. For more information, visit: [Equitable Wastewater Futures Program - King County, Washington](#).

Construction of the **First Cities Pump Station Pump Replacement** project by Gary Harper Construction, Inc. began on February 18th and is complete, and project closeout is in progress. The project is located in the Martin Luther King Jr Way S right-of-way and the work primarily included replacement of two existing sewer pumps and associated pipes and valves; temporary by-pass pump installation; installation of temporary and permanent fencing; and restoration.

Contact the District at info@skywayws.org or 206-772-7343 if you would like more information.

WATER & SEWER SERVICE LINE INSURANCE MAILINGS

You may have recently received a mailing that promotes insurance coverage for private property water and sewer lines. We recommend that you thoroughly research any offer and familiarize yourself with the terms and conditions of the coverage. As you evaluate any offer, please be aware of what you are responsible for. Please note Skyway Water & Sewer District is not affiliated with these companies and did not send these mailings.

The water service line that runs from the District-owned water meter to a home or business is private property and is the responsibility of the property owner. The sewer line (stub and lateral) that runs from the sewer mainline in the street (or the backyard in some cases) to a home or business is also private property and is the responsibility of the owner. The same would be true if a hot water tank leaked or if a toilet malfunctioned. Repair or replacement of these water and sewer lines and the associated restoration are the responsibility of the property owner.



Everything works like it is supposed to until it doesn't! Repairing a broken or underperforming water service line or side sewer can be expensive. And it can be especially costly if the repair is unexpected. Likewise, a sewer backup can be a horribly messy and expensive problem for owners.

We encourage you to contact your own insurance agent/carrier and discuss the matter and possible emergency events with them. They should be able to give you professional advice as to your own specific policy coverage and any recommended changes or additional coverage.

WHCA News and Updates

- **2025 Holiday Lights Contest:** Snap a photo of your lights and you could win a local gift card and flashy trophy! See our website for details: MyWestHill.org
- **Winter Quarterly Community Meeting:** Save the date for Tuesday, January 20 at 6:30 p.m. to learn all about what's new in the community. *In person and on Facebook Live.*
- **Support community events and advocacy:** Join us! Volunteers & donors power this work: MyWestHill.org/join



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

MyWestHill.org/connect



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