



SKYWAY LINES

www.skywayws.org

May 2024

Spring is in the Air!!

The Cascade Gardener virtual Spring series is kicking off soon. You don't want to miss these great opportunities to learn about sprucing up your garden and yard!

Best Plants for Dirt Cheap Gardens
Marianne Binetti 5/7/24

Walk and Talk at Pine Lake Park in Sammamish
Jessi Bloom 5/10/24

Growing Vegetables When Water is Scarce
Lisa Taylor 5/14/24

Gardening for Pollinators
Lisa Taylor 5/17/24

Rainwater Harvesting
Jack Guthrie 5/21/24



Go to: <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/browse.htm> and search for "Cascade Gardener" to register for these FREE classes.

2024 Consumer Confidence Report

Our annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) or "Water Quality Report" is available online! This report will provide you with detailed information on the quality of our drinking water in 2023. It will also relay how Skyway customers have been doing in their efforts to conserve water. As always, our goal is to provide a report that meets State and Federal requirements, and is also informative and easy to understand. Take a few minutes to go online and read it at skywayws.org/ccr2024. There's a lot to know and learn about this precious resource! Copies of the report are available from the District upon request.



2024 Water and Sewer Rates

SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (SFR)								
MONTHLY METER RATES			BI-MONTHLY VOLUME BLOCKS		MONTHLY SEWER RATES			
Meter Size	SFR	SFR Discount	0-8 ccf	5.82		SFR	SFR Discount	
5/8x3/4"	26.21	18.34	9-12 ccf	7.38	District	63.87	29.05	
1"	61.66	43.16	13-24 ccf	9.29	King County	55.11	55.11	
1 1/2"	120.83	84.57	Over 24 ccf	11.85	Total	118.98	84.16	
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 <i>(per 100 cubic feet)</i>
	39.51	86.86	187.83	299.09	595.95	929.48	1856.50	
BI-MONTHLY VOLUME BLOCKS				IRRIGATION				
COMMERCIAL		INSTITUTIONAL		MULTI-FAMILY		IRRIGATION		18.60
8.39		8.39		8.13		28.35		

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. The 2024 Rates Study, which was still in progress when the March newsletter went to print, has been completed and takes into account the needs of our customers, the District's overall financial health and stability, and the Board's fiduciary responsibility to provide for the proper operation and maintenance of the water and sewer systems.

In addition to the daily cost of operating the water and sewer systems, the Commissioners must plan for the cost to repair and replace parts of the systems as they become obsolete or deteriorated. This is an ongoing activity and much of our infrastructure was originally installed as much as 80 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 individual project. The CIP and rate schedule are reviewed by the Board of Commissioners to confirm that the CIP program balances their obligation to maintain your vital water and sewer facilities against the cost to District customers.

The enclosed May bill (for March and April service) reflects a rate increase for both water and sewer. The water increase (\$5.30/month for the average single-family customer) will help to fund the replacement and upsizing of old water mains. The sewer increase (\$3.47/month for the average single-family customer) will help fund the ongoing replacement of your aging sewer collection and transmission system. As noted in the last newsletter there was a 5.75% increase in the pass-through sewer charges for King County sewage treatment effective January 1, 2024.

Over the next 6 years, the District's capital improvement program to repair and/or replace aging infrastructure is anticipated to average \$11.6 million dollars per year. The 2024 rate schedule, at a cost of \$4.27 per day for District water and sewer service for the average single-family customer, pays for ALL ongoing system operations and CIP projects. The District operates solely on your customer rates; it receives no tax revenue.

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Design of the **Rainier Ave S/S 113th Watermain Replacement** project continues. The 60% design plans to replace the existing watermain have been completed. Easements needed for the project are in the final draft stage. 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 Summer 2024. The project is funded in part by a 20-year low-interest Public Works Assistance Account (PWAA) loan from the Department of Commerce.



Design of the **80th Ave S Sewer Extension** project continues to proceed as planned with 90 percent design review scheduled for May. This project is funded by a King County \$1 million Equitable Wastewater Futures grant and will make public sewer available to residents currently on septic systems in the project area. The project includes construction of ~850 linear feet of new sewer main north along 80th Ave S from the 12800 block, across Renton Ave S, and continuing north to the intersection at S 126th St. Construction is planned for completion by December 2024.



As reported in the March 2024 issue, the District signed contracts with the Department of Commerce in February 2024 for loans totaling \$3.755 million for three planned projects: **Skyway Water Tank No. 2 Exterior Coating Replacement, Small Works Watermain Upgrades, and South Sunnycrest Road Watermain Replacement**. That same month, the District received notice of a conditional offer for a 20-year, low interest loan of \$977,000 for the **Skyway Water Tank Nos. 3 & 4 Coating Replacement** project and accepted the offer. This project includes a condition assessment and design for the rehabilitation of exterior and interior tank coatings of the two water storage tanks.



STROKE

IT'S ALWAYS AN EMERGENCY

1 Sudden Symptoms

Someone who is having a stroke may have some or all of these symptoms and they could be mild or severe. Don't wait to call 911 -- stroke is always an emergency.

- Numbness or weakness on one side of the body
- Confusion, trouble speaking, or understanding
- Trouble seeing
- Trouble walking or loss of balance
- Severe headache with no known cause

2 Test F.A.S.T.

Do the following test if you see stroke symptoms in another person:

F ACE DROOPING

Ask the person to smile. Does one side of the face droop?

A RM WEAKNESS

Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift down or not rise?

S PEECH DIFFICULTY

Ask the person to say, "The sky is blue." Is the person's speech slurred, garbled, or very slow?

T IME TO CALL 911

Whether one symptom or many, or if these are mild or go away, call right away.



3 Call 911

Minutes count!
Medical care begins with 911.



WHCA News and Updates

Skyway Outdoor Cinema will be in Skyway Park on Friday, August 16 and Friday, August 23. We'll have 23 acres of park to stretch out under the stars and fill up with food vendors, preshow entertainment, and fun activities.

Follow us on social media or jump on our email list for updates! See which movies your neighbors picked for both nights and learn more at MyWestHill.org/soc



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

MyWestHill.org/connect



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