



## Meet MudHoney, SPU's New Tunnel Boring Machine

Early this spring, more than 35,000 people cast their votes to name the tunnel boring machine that will dig a giant tunnel for Seattle Public Utilities' (SPU) Ship Canal Water Quality Project. MudHoney, inspired by the legendary Seattle rock band, was the clear winner among the top five finalists, which also included Daphne, Molly the Mole, Boris the Plunger (for the JP Patches fans), and another name inspired by the Seattle music scene, Sir Digs-a-Lot.

Mudhoney, the band, has been an influential part of the Seattle music scene since the late 1980s. Iconic record label SubPop describes them as a group whose "muck-crustured version of rock" is a "high-pH tonic against the ludicrous and the insipid."

MudHoney, the machine, is sure to be as muck-crustured and influential as its namesake. Beginning this summer, it will dig a 2.7 mile, 18-foot diameter tunnel from Wallingford to Ballard to prevent an average of 75 million gallons of polluted stormwater and sewage from entering our waterways each year.

The band, pictured here with SPU General Manager Mami Hara, joined SPU and King County Wastewater Treatment Division partners in early April for the name reveal and unveiling of artwork by muralist Devin Finley.

To learn more about how the Ship Canal Water Quality Project will reduce the amount of polluted stormwater and sewage that flows into the Lake Washington Ship Canal, Salmon Bay, and Lake Union, go to [seattle.gov/util/ShipCanalProject](http://seattle.gov/util/ShipCanalProject).



Scan this QR code to see a video from the unveiling!

## Improving How You Manage Your Accounts Online

Moving and need to start or stop your utility service? Curious how much water you're using? Want to schedule a pickup for an old couch or mattress? You can do all these things and more on the City of Seattle's new and improved Utility Services Website.

New self-service features include:

- Start or stop service
- Enroll in autopay
- Request a payment plan
- View water usage over time
- Turn paperless billing on or off
- Report missed garbage, recycling, or food/yard waste collections
- Schedule a special item pickup
- Change your container size

Log in or set up your profile today at [myutilities.seattle.gov](http://myutilities.seattle.gov).



## Peak Water Rates

Peak residential water rates are in effect from May 16 – September 15 each year. Peak rates use a three-tiered structure in which rates go up as water consumption increases. Since we have less rain in the summer, Seattle depends on water stored in our mountain reservoirs to meet demand while leaving enough water in the rivers for fish.

Water Usage	Inside Seattle	Outside Seattle	Shoreline & Lake Forest Park
First Tier (up to 10 CCF in 60 days)	\$5.55	\$6.33	\$6.73
Second Tier (next 26 CCF in 60 days)	\$6.86	\$7.82	\$8.32
Third Tier (over 36 CCF in 60 days)	\$11.80	\$13.45	\$14.31

All charges per CCF. (1 CCF = about 750 gallons of water, enough to fill about 10 bathtubs to the brim.)

Higher summer water rates encourage us to use water wisely. For water conservation tips and rebates, visit [www.savingwater.org](http://www.savingwater.org).

## Salmon Need Our Help!

Salmon are a vital part of our Pacific Northwest ecosystem. (Orca whales, for example, rely on Chinook Salmon for their diet.)

Do your part to protect salmon and their freshwater habitat by using water wisely, especially in summer and fall, when the weather is dry and stream flows are naturally low.



# Climate Resilience: Protecting Our Watersheds from Wildland Fires

You probably wouldn't be surprised to learn that engineering, sampling, testing, and pipe repair are all involved in delivering safe, clean drinking water to your tap. But what about firefighting?

Seattle's drinking water comes from two protected mountain watersheds on the slopes of the Cascade Mountains—the Cedar River and the South Fork Tolt River Watersheds.

These watersheds, which together make up about 100,000 acres, supply 1.5 million people in our region with safe, clean drinking water. But that's not all—they're also home to a rich ecosystem of diverse plants, animals, fish, and habitats.

The consequences of a large wildfire in either watershed could significantly impact Seattle Public Utilities' (SPU) ability to supply water to our region and severely affect habitat that supports threatened and endangered fish and wildlife in the watersheds.



*Our watersheds are home to a rich ecosystem of diverse plants, animals, fish, and habitats.*



*Wildland Fire Team members Kevin Johnson and Mark Hopf, McClellan Butte Fire, August 2020*

to water supply; analyze the suitability of various mitigation methods; and ultimately outline a set of actions to ensure that SPU can continue to provide some of the nation's best drinking water for future generations.

**Climate resilience series:** *Wildland fire risk analysis is just one of many SPU projects focused on climate resilience. Check out future issues of At Your Service to learn more, or visit our blog at [atyoursevice.seattle.gov](http://atyoursevice.seattle.gov).*

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## Utility Discount Program Online Enrollment

We know that COVID-19 has made it harder for some of our customers to afford essential utility services. We're here to help.

It's now easier than ever to apply for the City of Seattle's Utility Discount Program. Income-eligible residential customers can access 60% off their Seattle City Light bill and 50% off their Seattle Public Utilities bill by filling out a short online form.

Go to [seattle.gov/UDP](http://seattle.gov/UDP) and click "Apply Online."

## Help Shape Our Water

How can drainage and wastewater system investments make our city more resilient to population growth and climate change?

We know our infrastructure can do more for our community. We just need your help to make it happen. Get involved today in *Shape Our Water*, SPU's community centered project to plan the next 50 years of Seattle's water future. Visit [shapeourwater.org](http://shapeourwater.org) to:

- explore community members' stories about how water shapes their lives;
- watch our Fireside event series on topics like centering equity in big infrastructure projects; and
- use our walking tour maps to explore infrastructure projects in your neighborhood.

Then, let us know what you think! What should we prioritize when planning water system investments? What kinds of change could make life better? Share your thoughts on [shapeourwater.org](http://shapeourwater.org), or talk to us on social media with [#shapeourwater](https://twitter.com/shapeourwater).

