



Information about your water, drainage, wastewater and solid waste utility services.



Holiday Collection Schedule

Customers will have regular garbage, recycling, and food and yard waste collections on **Veterans Day, Thursday, November 11**. If your collection is on or after **Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 25**, your collection will be one day later that week.

Snow/Ice Collections

Garbage, recycling, and food and yard waste pickups can be delayed during snowy and icy weather. If your container is not picked up during a storm, leave it out to be collected the following day. If weather still prevents collection, put all of your items out the next week on your regular collection day.

Stay Green This Holiday Season

Recycle holiday trees and greens for FREE this year! Residents can drop off up to three trees per vehicle for free at the city's recycling and disposal stations from **December 26, 2010** through **January 2011**. Trees should not be more than eight feet tall.

If you have food and yard waste service, just put trees and greens out on your regular collection day. Cut trees into sections, six feet long or shorter, with branches trimmed to less than four feet. Trunks should not exceed four inches in diameter. Bundle each section with sisal string or twine (not plastic).

Remember: Decorated or flocked trees are not recyclable.

Find recycling and disposal station hours and locations at www.seattle.gov/util/Services/Garbage or by calling **206-684-3000**.



Get Help with Your Bill

During these hard economic times we know that many families are feeling a pinch. Did you know that there is a program that can help you pay your utility bills? Households that qualify could get 50 percent off their Seattle City Light and Seattle Public Utilities bills for 18 months. For example, a family of three making less than \$3845 a month could qualify.

Go to www.seattle.gov/MyBill or call **206-684-0268** to learn more about eligibility requirements. You can also get signed up with one of our community partners at events around the city. Contact them for details.

- **November 12-14, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**
El Centro de la Raza
2524 16th Avenue South
Contact: 206-957-4634
- **November 19-21, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**
International District Housing Alliance
Off-site location: International District/
Chinatown Community Center
719 8th Avenue South
Contact: 206-623-5132
- **December 10-12, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**
Central Area Motivation Program
722 18th Avenue
Contact: 206-812-4940
- **December 17-19, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**
Asian Counseling and Referral Service
3639 Martin Luther King Jr. Way South
Contact: 206-695-7600
- **January 14-16, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**
Southwest Youth and Family Services
4555 Delridge Way SW
Contact: 206-937-7680

Customers living in federally subsidized housing, including SHA (Seattle Housing Authority), Section 8, and KCHA (King County Housing Authority) are not eligible.



Keep the Chill Out!

Each winter, homes are damaged due to water pipes that freeze and burst. By taking a few simple precautions, you can help save yourself from the mess, money and headaches of burst frozen pipes.

Before the Cold Hits

- Insulate pipes in your home's crawl spaces, basement and attic. Exposed pipes are more susceptible to freezing. The more insulation you use, the better the protection.
- Heat tape can be used to wrap pipes. Closely follow the manufacturer's installation and operation instructions.
- Seal leaks and close foundation vents to minimize cold air entering your house and freezing pipes. Open vents again in the spring to prevent dry rot.
- Drain and disconnect garden hoses and insulate hose bibs.
- Know where your water shut-off valve is located.

How to Fix a Leaky Faucet

Faucet leaks are one of the most common household leaks and one of the easiest to fix. Follow these steps to fix a leaky faucet:

- **Turn off the water:** The shut-off valves are located under the sink. Turn them clockwise and drain the water from the faucet.
- **Plug your drain:** You don't want to lose any parts down the sink.
- **Remove the handle:** If your faucet has a decorative cap, it can be removed by either unscrewing it or using a flat head screw driver or sharp knife. Undo the screw that holds the handle in place and remove the handle.
- **Remove the valve stem:** Using a wrench, remove the packing nut by turning it counter clockwise and remove the valve stem.
- **Undo the screw:** At the base of the valve stem, unscrew the brass screw that holds the washer in place. Remove the old washer and replace it with a new one, making sure you replace it with the correct one
- **Reverse the steps:** Now that your new washer is secured, put the valve stem back into the housing unit, tighten the packing nut, screw the handle back on, replace the decorative cap back on and turn the water back on.
- **Your leak is fixed!**

For more information on fixing leaks and step-by-step videos, visit www.savingwater.org or call 206-684-SAVE.



Keep Your Sewer Fat-Free

Homeowners and building owners are responsible for repairing and maintaining their side sewer connections to the city's sewer system. Sewer clogs often peak during the holiday season when turkeys, trimmings, and other holiday fare are prepared for friends and family.

Sewer Clogs Can Be Costly

When a sewer backup is caused by a side sewer failure, you may be faced with digging up your yard, removing the adjoining sidewalk, and/or opening up the street, potentially costing tens of thousands of dollars. Repairs are NOT typically covered by homeowners insurance.

An Ounce of Prevention...

You can prevent grease from clogging your side sewer by pouring used dairy products, fats, oil, grease or greasy foods into a lidded container and placing it in the trash – NOT down the sink drain.

Free Landslide Awareness Meetings

Learn how to protect yourself and your property at one of two free landslide awareness meetings this fall on **November 20** at the Northgate Community Center and **December 4** at South Seattle Community College. The presentations, both **10 a.m. to noon**, will include a discussion of the causes of landslides, proper drainage and vegetation for sloping sites, followed by a question and answer session and one-on-one discussions. For more information visit www.seattle.gov/dpd and search "Landslide Preparedness."

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