

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

TAKE WINTER BY STORM

Did you know that during intense rain, flooding may occur without warning? Here are a few steps you can take to keep your family and property safe.

- Clear leaves and debris away from storm drains in your neighborhood (only if it's safe). Leaves can go in your food and yard waste container. Consider participating in Fall Clean (below). If a storm drain appears blocked below the street surface, call **206-386-1800**.
- Clean gutters and downspouts twice a year.
- Have a family disaster plan.
- Build a family emergency kit. Keep enough water, food and other supplies (flashlights, crank or battery-operated radio, blankets) in your home to meet your needs for at least three days.
- Stay out of flooding basements.
- Protect water pipes from freezing in exposed or unheated areas (attics, basements and garages) by wrapping with tape and insulating materials.

For more tips on how to prepare for winter storms, visit www.takewinterbystorm.org.



Prevent Flooding Adopt a Drain

Don't let fall rainstorms flood your street. Help clear your local storm drain of leaves and other debris by participating in Fall Clean – part of our year-round Adopt-A-Drain Program.

Every autumn Seattle Public Utilities faces a big job keeping storm drains clear. As a way to involve citizens and keep the water flowing, the utility sponsors Fall Clean – a one-month event in November that supports volunteers with free gloves, bags, brooms, rakes, and safety vests, as well as help with leaf disposal.

Go to www.seattle.gov/util/adoptadrain or call **206-233-7187** to get signed up today!



Get Help with Your Bill

Did you know that you could get 50 percent off your Seattle Public Utilities bills for the next 18 months? Only income-qualified customers are eligible. For example, if you're a family of four, making less than \$4,813 a month, you may qualify. Call **206-684-0355** or go to www.seattle.gov/mybill to get started.

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

Free!

Get Water-saving Toilets

Save even more on your utility bill. The same income guidelines for our utility assistance program apply. To qualify for free toilets, participants must live in the home they own, be located within Seattle Public Utilities' service area, and have existing toilets installed before 1994. Installation and recycling of your old toilets are also provided free of charge.

For more information, visit www.seattle.gov/util and search "low income toilet" or call **206-448-5751**.

Apartments/Condos: Food Waste Collection Service Required

By Seattle ordinance, all apartment and condo properties must subscribe to food waste collection service by September 1, 2011.

A one-time \$100 rebate is still available for properties that sign up for food waste collection and a Friend of Recycling and Composting (FORC) steward. A FORC monitors the collection bins and educates residents about sorting materials into the right containers. This rebate is only available to Seattle properties of five or more units.

The bill payer for the property can sign up for service and a FORC steward in ONE of three ways:

1. Online at www.seattle.gov/util/apartmentfoodwaste -OR-
2. Call **206-684-7665**, and speak with a customer representative -OR-
3. Call **206-684-8717** to request by voice menu a paper information packet and application

Free kitchen scrap collection buckets will be distributed to FORCs who participate in a 2011 FORC training. For information and a list of available trainings, call **206-684-5223** or visit www.seattle.gov/util/apartmentfoodwaste.

If you are a resident at a property that does not yet have a green food and yard waste cart available, contact your manager to ask about this service. If the manager is not willing to provide this service, call **206-684-7665** for assistance.

Stormwater: Life in the Gutter **Free!**

Discover the work of Seattle Public Utilities employees in this 40-minute performance that uncovers the world of urban rainfall and the people who live, work and play in it. The one-man show is written and performed by Stokley Towles. Learn more about show dates and times at www.seattle.gov/arts/publicart/temporary_projects.asp.

Healthy Autumn Yard Care Tips

Taking care of your yard doesn't have to take a toll on our environment – there is a better way to beautiful.

Use Less Water - Due to the shorter days of fall, most plants need less water even when the weather is still warm. Using water wisely is healthier for your plants, keeps more water available for people, fish, and other wildlife – and saves you money.

Mulch - Mulching your beds after fall cleanup helps keep weeds out, protects soil from erosion by winter rains, and feeds your soil.

Natural Lawn Care - If you feel the need to fertilize, fall is the best time. An organic or slow-release fertilizer keeps feeding your lawn year-round. It is also a great time to dethatch or aerate your lawn, and to top dress it with a fine layer of compost.

For answers to your gardening questions, contact the Garden Hotline at **206-633-0224**, or email help@gardenhotline.org.

Wash Smart and Protect Puget Sound

Washing your car on the street or driveway sends soap and grime into the nearest storm drain. That pollution goes into a local creek, lake or Puget Sound, and harms fish and wildlife. Instead, take your car to a commercial car wash like Brown Bear Car Wash that reclaims the wash water several times before sending it to the sewer system for treatment.

Also try one of Bert's free auto leaks classes. Everyone gets their car checked and a spill cleanup kit. Call **206-386-9746** or go to www.seattle.gov/util/cartips for class times and to register.



Free!

Bert's Car Wash Coupon

Car Wash

Thank you for choosing the salmon-friendly way to clean your car.

VOID

As recognition, this coupon is good for one free tunnel car wash at any Brown Bear location.

Brown Bear Car Wash
BROWNBEAR.COM

RESTORE OUR WATERS

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