

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



Utility Rates Support a Better Seattle



New South Recycling and Disposal Station under construction.

Seattle Public Utilities provides high-quality drinking water, recycling, garbage pickup, sewer and stormwater drainage services that protect public health and promote city livability. Our purpose is simple—we meet essential community needs while taking into account financial, environmental and social costs.

Projects Your Rate Dollars Support

- Capping the city's drinking water reservoirs, continuing our reputation as having some of the best tasting and safest water – www.seattle.gov/annualreportcard.
- Sewage overflow prevention projects to help the city meet federal and state pollution standards. Requirements demand that overflows happen no more than once per outfall per year.
- Rebuilding the city's aging recycling and disposal stations, which will help us reach our 60 percent recycling goal by 2012.

For more information on rates, please visit www.seattle.gov/util and click on "Billing."

Typical Residential Bill per Month

Service	2011	2012
Water ¹	\$ 31.70	\$ 33.95
Sewer ²	\$ 44.20	\$ 45.92
Drainage ³	\$ 19.58	\$ 21.81
Solid Waste ⁴	\$ 34.75	\$ 37.00
Total	\$130.23	\$138.68

¹ Typical residential bills assume monthly water usage of 5.5 ccf (hundred cubic feet) for peak period water usage and 4.7 ccf for off-peak period water usage.

² About 65 percent of Seattle's sewer rate goes to pay King County for sewer treatment. Typical residential bills assume monthly sewer usage of 4.3 ccf.

³ Drainage fees are billed for SPU as a separate line item on King County's annual property tax statements. The typical bill is a median bill.

⁴ Typical residential garbage service is a 32-gallon garbage container and 96-gallon food and yard waste service.

Cold Weather burst your pipes?

Below-freezing temperatures can burst water pipes around your home, potentially causing serious property damage and wasting large amounts of water.

While burst pipes are usually easy to spot, smaller breaks often go unnoticed, so regularly check these areas for leaks:

- Make sure outdoor faucets aren't dripping and if you can access the pipe that feeds the faucet, inspect it for any leaks.
- Check sprinkler heads for leaks, and look for unusually damp sections in your garden, which may point to an underground leak.
- Pipes in your basement, crawl space or garage are often subjected to freezing temperatures so look for wet spots or puddles on the ground.
- Inspect the pipes for tankless water heaters that run along the exterior of your house for leaks.
- Check any indoor sink pipes that are against exterior walls.

For more information on preparing water pipes for winter weather, visit www.takewinterbystorm.org.

Winter Collections

Garbage, recycling, and food and yard waste pickups can be delayed during snowy and icy weather. Check your local news or www.seattle.gov/util to see if there are any delays in your collection.

Collections will be on normal schedule for Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, January 16, and Presidents Day, Monday, February 20. Customers should place their containers out by 7 a.m. to ensure collection.

You can report a missed garbage, food and yard waste or recycling collection after 5 p.m. on the day it was missed online at www.seattle.gov/util or by calling 206-684-3000.





Fix That Leak!

Oil and Water Don't Mix.






Free class!

Keep oil and other fluid leaks from your car from harming our local waterways and wildlife. Join the experts at South Seattle Community College's Automotive Technology Program for a FREE auto leaks class. Learn where most leaks occur and how to fix them. All participants get their car assessed and receive a free spill kit.

Classes are offered on Saturday's from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on January 14, February 11 and March 10.

Email idris.beauregard@seattle.gov or call **206-684-3056** to register.

Check out our www.seattle.gov/util/cartips for more information on properly maintaining your automobile to protect our waterways.



The Gift That Keeps on Giving

Still fuming about all those catalogs and junk mail that filled your mailbox before the holidays?

Thanks to you, most of that wasted paper got recycled. But that's only half the battle. Imagine stopping it in the first place.... Well, now's the time to do that. Just go to www.seattle.gov/stopjunkmail and sign up for the city's stop junk mail and phone books opt-out service.

Enter the company names whose ads and catalogs you don't want and there will be a lot less waste paper in your mailbox next holiday season – and year-round!

Resolve to Compost in 2012

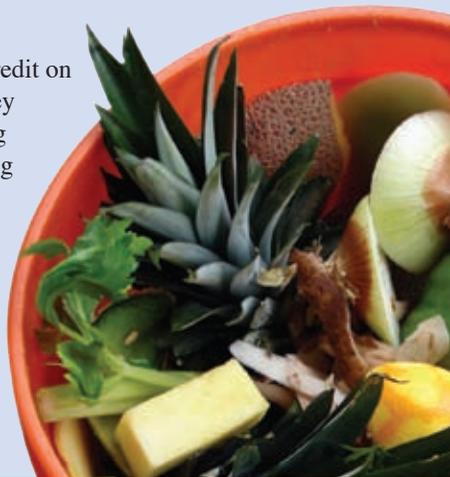
Did you know since last year by city law all apartment and condo properties must subscribe to food waste service? If you are a resident at a property that does not yet have a green food and yard waste cart available, contact your manager to ask about this service. If the manager is not willing to provide this service, call **206-684-7665** for assistance.

The good news is that during 2011 many buildings signed up for the service. Here is a quick recap:

- More than 3,500 new properties signed up.
- More than 700 properties received a \$100 credit on their utility bill. They received this when they joined Friends of Recycling and Composting and educated residents on correct composting and monitored building containers.
- On an average, 35 residential units create about one ton of food waste per year.

That's a lot of food waste diverted from the landfill. Way to go, Seattle!

To learn more, call **206-684-7665** or visit www.seattle.gov/util/apartmentfoodwaste.



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