

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

## Spring Clean

## Your Neighborhood! Starts in April!

It's time for Spring Clean — Seattle's premier community cleanup event. Seattle Public Utilities invites you and your neighbors to participate April 1 - May 31.

Help pick up litter, stencil storm drains, paint out graffiti, remove invasive plants, or join an event in your community. All Spring Clean projects are on public property. Volunteers receive free litter cleanup bags, gloves, safety vests, and waste disposal permits.

Register online at [www.seattle.gov/util/SpringClean](http://www.seattle.gov/util/SpringClean) or at 206-233-7187.

## Save Time and Money: Grasscycle!

Grasscycling means leaving your clippings on the lawn, to break down and feed the soil. Studies show that grasscycling doesn't cause thatch, but does improve lawn rooting depth, disease and drought resistance, and provides free fertilizer. You save money on water and fertilizer, and save the time it takes to bag and drag clippings to the curb.

### Grasscycling Tips

- Leave the bag off your mower and let the clippings drop — earthworms will recycle them!
- Mow when the grass is dry, and keep mower blades sharp.
- Raise mowing heights or mow more frequently during fast spring growth.
- Water and fertilize less — save when you grasscycle!

Shopping for a new mower? Choose a "mulching" mower. Learn more about mowers, grasscycling and all your lawn and garden questions by calling the Garden Hotline at 206-633-0224, emailing [help@gardenhotline.org](mailto:help@gardenhotline.org) or visiting [www.gardenhotline.org](http://www.gardenhotline.org).

## Learn to be a **savvy** gardener

Join us! Our free Savvy Gardener classes are designed to inspire you while sharing practical advice on creating and maintaining beautiful, healthy landscapes that are good for you and good for the environment.

The classes — starting mid-March throughout most of King County — cover many topics, including setting up food gardens, improving your soil, creating successful plant combinations, and installing drip irrigation.

Go to [www.savingwater.org](http://www.savingwater.org) for a complete list of our spring classes.

Sponsored by the Saving Water Partnership, Seattle Public Utilities and the Cascade Water Alliance.

Stay connected — "like" us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/SavvyGardenerNews](http://www.facebook.com/SavvyGardenerNews).

## Compost Days Starts March 15

Thanks to residents like you, Seattle diverted more than 125,000 tons of leftover food and yard waste from the landfill through composting.

Compost Days, March 15 - April 15, celebrates our composting success and kick starts spring gardening with great activities, prizes, and discounts on compost, kitchen compost kits, and compostable kitchen bags! Learn more at [cgcompost.com](http://cgcompost.com).

# Free!

## Buy 2 Bags of Cedar Grove Compost and Get a 3rd Bag Free!



Coupon valid March 15 - April 15, 2013.



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CODE: 725949



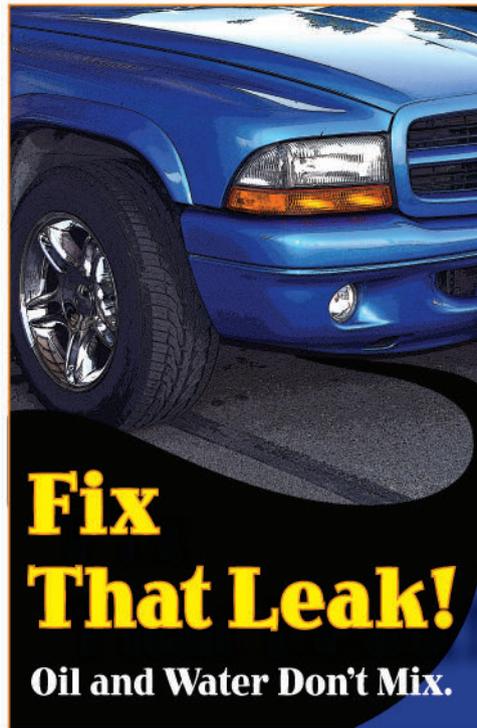
## Is Your School Green?

Did you know that 61 Seattle schools are signed up and 18 have certified as Washington Green Schools? This statewide program offers tools and resources for schools to reduce waste, recycle, compost, and save money! Seattle Public Utilities is a proud sponsor. Find out more at [www.wagreenschools.org](http://www.wagreenschools.org).

## Your Bill is Getting Greener

This spring customers will notice their utility bills getting lighter. That's because Seattle Public Utilities is transitioning to printing account and billing information on both sides of the bill paper stock. This will save nearly 1 million sheets of paper each year – when stacked that's over half the height of the Space Needle.

Want to take the next step and save even more paper? Sign up for e-billing and go paperless today at [www.seattle.gov/util](http://www.seattle.gov/util).



## 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 – a \$45 value! Watch our video and hear what past participants have to say: [www.youtube.com/FixOilLeaks](http://www.youtube.com/FixOilLeaks). If you learn you have a leak, we'll give you the confidence to talk to your mechanic about repairs. All participants get their car assessed and receive a free spill kit.

Classes are offered on March 16, April 20, and May 18 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hurry! Space is limited.

To register: call 206-684-3936 or email [joel.banslaben@seattle.gov](mailto:joel.banslaben@seattle.gov).

## Automated Phone Calls to Customers

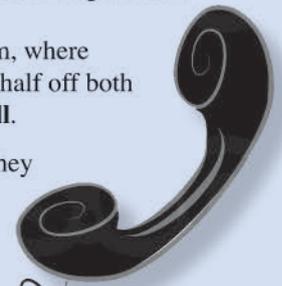
To better serve our customers, Seattle Public Utilities will periodically use automated phone calls to contact you. Customers can expect the calls to be infrequent and only during times where there is a need to communicate critical information that may impact the health and safety of your community. Examples of when you can expect to receive calls include:

- Interruptions or delays to solid waste pickups due to bad weather, labor disputes, or major holidays.
- Interruptions and loss of water service that impact large portions of the city or that require a boil-water notice.

Beginning this year, Seattle Public Utilities and Seattle City Light will also begin automated calls to residential and commercial customers who are late in paying their bills. Customers will receive these courtesy reminders for the following reasons:

- Helping customers avoid late payment penalties.
- Making customers aware of our utility discount program, where qualifying households can get assistance in the form of half off both their utility bills. Learn more at [www.seattle.gov/mybill](http://www.seattle.gov/mybill).

The most important point to remember about the calls is that they are automated and no personal account information is exchanged or requested. Never provide personal information to anyone calling your residence that you do not know.



Get connected with us at Seattle Public Utilities. Follow impacts to your service, learn about volunteer opportunities, and find coupons and other money-saving advice.

@ Your Service is published bimonthly by the Seattle Public Utilities Customer Service Branch, 700 5th Ave., Suite 2777; PO Box 34027; Seattle, WA 98124-4027. @ Your Service is also available at: [www.seattle.gov/util](http://www.seattle.gov/util)  
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