

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



Compost Food It's Not Garbage Anymore! New Requirements Start Now

Every year, Seattle spends more than \$13 million dollars to send its trash to a landfill in eastern Oregon. More than one-third of that material is made up of table scraps, coffee grounds, banana peels, chicken bones, and other food waste.

It's not garbage anymore! The City of Seattle no longer allows food and compostable paper, including paper napkins and paper towels, in the garbage. After July 1, 2015 fines will be issued to businesses and residents whose garbage containers contain too much food or recyclables.

Today, more than 300,000 single-family, multi-family and commercial establishments participate in Seattle's food and yard waste program – diverting nearly 400,000 tons of food from the landfill through curbside food collection since 2005.

Call **206-684-3000** or go to www.seattle.gov/util/foodwaste to learn more and receive tips and advice on how to get started composting today.



Utility Rates Support Quality of Life

Seattle Public Utilities provides high-quality drinking water, recycling, garbage pickup, sewer and stormwater drainage services that sustain and improve your quality of life. Our purpose is simple—we provide efficient and forward-looking utility services that keep Seattle the best place to live.

What Your Rate Dollars Support

- Delivery of some of the best tasting and safest water – www.seattle.gov/util/waterquality.
- Waterways that are free from raw sewage and polluted stormwater runoff.
- Protection of your safety and health by preventing flooding and sewer backups.
- Rebuilding the city's aging recycling and disposal stations, helping us reach our 60 percent recycling goal by 2015.

Typical Residential Bill for Two Months of Service

Service	2014	2015
Water ¹	\$ 77.86	\$ 77.86
Sewer ²	\$101.06	\$101.82
Drainage ³	\$ 53.16	\$ 58.40
Solid Waste ⁴	\$ 81.90	\$ 85.40
Total	\$313.98	\$323.48

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 New solid waste rates take effect April 1, 2015. Typical residential garbage service is a 32-gallon garbage container and 96-gallon food and yard waste service.



Winter Collections

Garbage, recycling, and food and yard waste pickups can be delayed during snowy and icy weather. Check for delays in your collection:

www.seattle.gov/util

[www.twitter.com/SeattleSPU](https://twitter.com/SeattleSPU)

AtYourService.seattle.gov

www.facebook.com/SeattlePublicUtilities

Collections will be on normal schedule for Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, January 19, and Presidents Day, Monday, February 16. Customers should place their containers out by 7 a.m. to ensure collection. Report a missed collection on these days by calling **206-684-3000** during regular business hours on Tuesday, from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by visiting the online Missed Collection form at www.seattle.gov/util.

Free Class!

Don't
Drip & Drive



Attend a FREE Auto Leaks Workshop – a \$125 value! Get your car inspected by a certified mechanic. Find out if you have any leaks and identify the source of the leaks. A leaky car isn't reliable, and it's harmful to the Puget Sound. Learn more at www.seattle.gov/util/AutoLeaks.

Choose from these dates at South Seattle College in West Seattle: **January 17** and **February 21**. New classes in Spanish are on **March 21** and **April 18**. Classes are from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Register: SPU_EPTResources@seattle.gov or **206-615-1222**



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, crawlspace 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.



Save with Two Toilet Programs!

Free Toilets

(Income-qualified only)

Seattle Public Utilities, in partnership with Minor Home Repair, is providing free toilets and installation for income-qualified homeowners. For example, a family of four earning less than \$4,941 per month may qualify. Homes must be located in Seattle and have existing toilets installed before 2004. For more information, go to www.seattle.gov/util/freetoilets or call **206-448-5751**.

\$75 Toilet Rebates

For a limited time, customers replacing pre-2004 water-guzzling toilets with the latest 1.06 gallons per flush models will receive a \$75 rebate per toilet replaced (limit 2 per household). Learn more by calling **206-684-SAVE (7283)** or go to www.savingwater.org/rebates for a list of eligible models and where you can find them.



Get Help with Your Bill

Do you know that you can get 50 percent off your Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) bill through the Utility Discount Program? Income-qualified homeowners and renters are eligible. For example, if you're a family of four making less than \$4,941 per month you may qualify. Program participants also get a 60 percent discount on their Seattle City Light bills, and may qualify for a further credit if they don't pay an SPU bill. Call **206-684-0268** or go to www.seattle.gov/mybill to get started.

Some residents of federally subsidized housing, including Section 8 are not eligible.

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www.youtube.com/SeattleUtilities

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