



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

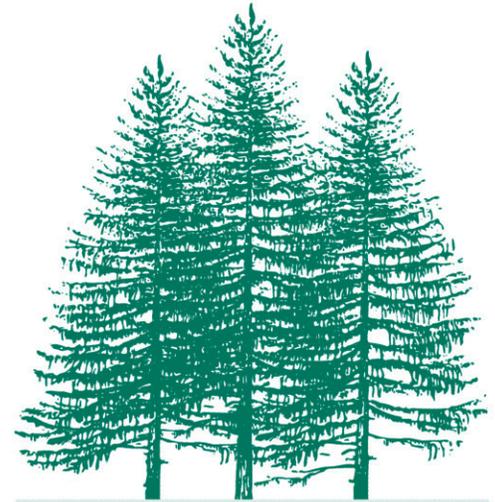


## Prevent Flooding in Your Neighborhood

You can help prevent flooding and improve water quality in your neighborhood by participating in Fall Clean 2009. Volunteer to help keep storm drains clear of leaves and other debris.

Fall Clean is a one-month event in November that supports keeping 80,000 storm drains from clogging with leaves and flooding streets with rainwater. Volunteers are supported with free cleanup supplies, as well as help with leaf disposal.

Please don't wait until you see flooding to take action. Your efforts divert pollutants from streams, creeks and other natural waterways. For more information on Fall Clean call (206) 233-7187 or visit [www.seattle.gov/util/adoptadrain](http://www.seattle.gov/util/adoptadrain).



## Save Money, Save Water During Fall Planting

Autumn is one of the best times to plant trees, shrubs and perennials. Rain and cooler temperatures help plants develop strong roots, so you won't need to water as much next summer. Spreading compost, leaves or woodchips on your garden beds this fall will also help your plants by soaking up winter rains, reducing weeds, and holding in moisture next summer.

Fall is also a great time to save money on new plants. Starting in September, visit Swansons, Sky Nursery and Molbak's for deals on plants, expert advice, and classes sponsored by Seattle Public Utilities and the Saving Water Partnership.

To see our class schedule, download the "Choosing Plants" factsheet, or subscribe to our Savvy Gardener e-newsletter, visit [www.savingwater.org](http://www.savingwater.org).

## 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 street drains in your neighborhood with a rake or broom (only if it's safe). Don't put grass clippings, leaves, or other debris into drains, ditches, creeks, culverts, gutters or ravines. If a storm drain appears blocked below the street surface, call (206) 386-1800.
- Collect fallen leaves and deposit them in your food and yard waste container or compost them.
- 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.

For more tips on how to prepare for winter storms, visit [www.takewinterbystorm.org](http://www.takewinterbystorm.org).



## Low-Interest Home Repair Loans for Eligible Homeowners

Does your plumbing leak? Is your sewer line in need of maintenance? Is your hot water heater inefficient? Do you have other overlooked repairs? The Seattle Office of Housing's Home Repair Loan program provides low-interest loans (three percent interest) to qualified low- and moderate-income homeowners in the City of Seattle. The income limit is \$44,800 for a one-person household and \$51,200 for a two-person household.

Eligible home repairs and improvements include: appliances, if existing ones are nonfunctional, inefficient, or in very poor condition (no washers or dryers); brick or masonry repair; electrical upgrades; foundation repair or replacement; furnace/boiler repair or replacement; gutter repair or replacement; hot water heater repair or replacement; insulation/weatherization; kitchen repair; plumbing repair; roof repair or replacement; sewer repair; structural repair; water line repair or replacement. Other repairs may qualify as well.

For information about program guidelines or to request an application, email [homewise@seattle.gov](mailto:homewise@seattle.gov) or call (206) 684-0244.



## Avoid the Dump and Get Paid!

Seattle City Light will pay you \$30 to get rid of your old refrigerator or freezer! You also won't have to make a trip to the transfer station.

Do you have an older, working refrigerator in the basement or garage that doesn't get much use and takes up space? Refrigerators and freezers made before 2001 can use three times as much energy as newer ones, significantly running up your electric bill and contributing to global warming. City Light will haul it away for free! All the components will be recycled and you get \$30.

Call (206) 233-COLD (2653) or visit [www.seattle.gov/light/chill](http://www.seattle.gov/light/chill) to schedule your FREE pickup.



## It's Not Garbage Anymore!

Congratulations Seattle! You've set a new city record for recycling in 2008, with 50 percent of the city's residential, commercial and self-haul waste being recycled instead of going to the landfill. This year also saw a number of curbside changes that make diverting waste from the landfill even easier. The biggest changes include:

- **Glass Goes in the Recycling Cart**  
No more separating! All glass bottles and jars can now go in your wheeled recycling cart. If you no longer want your glass recycling container, please place it inside your recycling cart on collection day, or put it upside down next to your recycling cart.
- **All Food Scraps Go in Your Food and Yard Waste Cart**  
Weekly pickups also add convenience. Make it easy! Try using paper or compostable bags, wrapping scraps in newspaper, using a reusable lidded kitchen container, and rinsing your cart to avoid odors.
- **Where Does It Go? Recycling Game**  
Test your recycling skills with our new online game. It's fun and educational!

Find out more by visiting us online at [www.seattle.gov/util](http://www.seattle.gov/util) or by calling (206) 684-3000.

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