



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

Use Your Water Meter to Check for Leaks

Your water meter doesn't just track the amount of water that flows into your home—it's also a great tool for finding leaks in and around your home.

Follow these easy steps to determine if you have a leak in your home or yard:

Determine if you have a leak

1. Turn off all water-using appliances and fixtures in your home and yard

2. Locate your water meter

Water meters are housed in meter boxes, usually in the parking strip or sidewalk near your house. They are covered with a metal lid marked with the initials *CWM* (City Water Meter).



water meter cover

3. Find the low flow indicator

Remove the meter box cover to reveal a round meter dial. Locate the low flow indicator, usually shaped like a small star, triangle, or gear. If the low flow indicator is moving, you have a leak.



low flow indicator

water meter

Locate the leak

1. Close the main water shut-off valve for your home

The shut-off valve can usually be found in a basement, crawlspace, or garage.

2. Check the low flow indicator

If the low flow indicator stops moving, your leak is indoors. (If not, see step 3.)

For helpful step-by-step videos on finding and fixing common household leaks, go to www.seattle.gov/util/fixaleak.

3. Outdoor leaks

- **If you do not have an irrigation system**, your leak is on the water service line between your meter and the house.
- **If you have an irrigation system**, shut off the water to the system and check your meter. If the low flow indicator stops moving, your leak is in your irrigation system. If not, your leak is on your water service line.

For all outdoor leaks, SPU suggests you contact a professional plumber.



Find a how-to video on using your water meter to detect leaks at bit.ly/SPUFindALeak.

Don't Flush Trash

Toilet paper is the only product, besides human waste, that breaks down when flushed. Everything else—even products that claim to be “flushable”—can cause expensive backups and clogs in your home and the city sewer system, leading to sewage overflows in our local waters.

Here are a few common items that should not be flushed:

- Wipes (even if labeled “flushable”)
- Paper Towels
- Tampons
- Facial tissues
- Diapers
- Floss



Don't flush these common items.



Watch what happens when you flush garbage and other items at bit.ly/SPUflush.



Make Sure Your Street Drain is Ready for Rain

When leaves and other debris collect in gutters and street drains, water can back up, flooding our roads and sidewalks.

Here are a few tips for keeping leaves and debris out of your local drains:

- Avoid piling yard waste like fallen leaves near the street, where they can wash into drains. Instead, collect leaves in your yard waste bin.
- Use a rake or broom to clear leaves and debris away from storm drains and prevent them from getting clogged.
- Watch for traffic when clearing drains. Work from the curb, not in the street and make sure an adult supervises any children who want to help.
- Report clogged drains and flooding to SPU at **206-386-1800**.

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



Grab a rake! You can help prevent localized flooding by keeping leaves out of street drains.

Auto Leaks Aren't Just Bad For Your Car

When it rains, oil and other products that leak from our cars can end up in rivers, streams, lakes and Puget Sound, harming wildlife and habitat.

Join Seattle Public Utilities this fall for a **FREE** Auto Leaks Workshop. You'll have your car inspected by a certified mechanic, learn how to find and fix auto leaks, and take home a free vehicle maintenance check kit!

Upcoming Auto Leaks Workshops

Saturdays: Sept. 23, Oct. 21, Nov. 18

Learn more and register: www.seattle.gov/util/autoleaks.



Leaked oil and other auto fluids end up in out local waters.

Reporting Missed Collections

Garbage, recycling, and food and yard waste bins should be placed outside for pickup (approximately three feet from the curb) by 7am on your collection day.

If you placed your bins outside on time but they were not emptied, report the missed collection online at www.seattle.gov/util/missedcollection.



The Salmon are Coming!

Hundreds of chum salmon return to Carkeek Park in late fall. Join our Salmon Stewards to see the salmon and learn what you can do to keep their habitat healthy.

Salmon Stewards:

Saturdays and Sundays
Nov. 4–Dec. 3, 11am–2pm

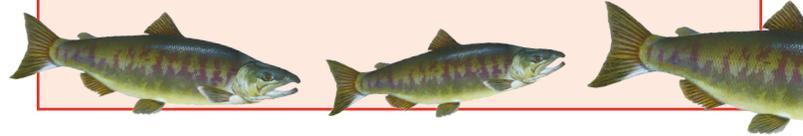
Piper's Creek

Salmon Celebration:

Sunday, Nov. 19, 11am– 2pm

Want to be a Salmon Steward?

Email Bill.Malatinsky@seattle.gov, call **206-684-5999** or find us on facebook: **Carkeek Park Salmon Stewards**



\$100 Toilet Rebate

Seattle Public Utilities customers who replace their old toilet with a new, more efficient model (1.1 gallons per flush or less) are eligible for a \$100 rebate.

For more information go to: www.savingwater.org/rebates or call **206-615-1282**.



Where Does It Go?

Not sure if something is garbage, recycling, or compost? Use our look-up tool at www.seattle.gov/util/wheredoesitgo or tweet us @SeattleSPU with #WhereDoesItGo.



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