

Operating Board - Website

WATER SUPPLY OPERATING BOARD

WOB mission/tagline goes here

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Vestibulum pharetra bibendum augue. In nec orci. Duis hendrerit, pede non interdum tincidunt, nulla dolor feugiat ipsum, a consectetur mauris leo ut sapien. Nullam congue, odio non egestas molestie, ipsum augue mollis eros.

Sed fringilla diam incidunt ac, consectetur sit amet, tellus. Vestibulum molestie condimentum nulla. In hac habitasse platea.



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- [Soos Creek Water & Sewer District](#)
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The Operating Board Members consist of Cities and Districts that have signed a 60 year contract with the City of Seattle for either a full or partial supply of water from the City of Seattle to their specific District or City. [More information >](#)

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The Seattle Water Supply System Operating Board (OB) is a consortium of thirteen (13) municipalities and water districts that are dedicated to working together to ***bring the purest and best tasting water*** to the greater Seattle metropolitan region of King County and a small portion of Snohomish County.

Today the members of this OB supplies water to over 1.45 million commercial and residential customers in the greater area of Seattle and King County.

Twelve of the thirteen [Operating Board members](#) are governed by either a [full or partial requirements contracts](#) or a [block contract](#) signed with a 60-year term with the City of Seattle.

The purpose of the Operating Board is to provide a certain limited authority to a board of representatives elected by the Wholesale members to serve over policy and operational matters as they affect the Seattle Water Supply System.

All of the OB members are also members of the [Saving Water Partnership](#). The Saving Water Partnership is a consortium of 18 water utilities that have implemented the 1% Water Conservation Initiative. This initiative is a water conservation goal to reduce personal and business water consumption 1% every year for the next ten years beginning in 2001 and the OB agreed in 2006 to reduce consumption 15mgd between 2011-2030.



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Operating Board Members

The Operating Board consists of Cities and Districts who have signed a 60 year contract with the City of Seattle for either a full or partial supply of water from the City of Seattle to their particular City or District. One member (*) has signed a block contract for a fixed amount of water which they may receive on a monthly basis.

[Cedar River Water & Sewer District](#)

CRWSD formed in 1960 provides service to 14.5 square miles in the Fairwood and Maple Valley communities and serves approximately 24,400 customers.

[City of Mercer Island](#)

The City of Mercer Island incorporated in 1960 serves approximately 6.2 square miles, has a population of 22,650 and an average daily demand of 2.23mgd.

[City of Seattle](#)

Seattle owns and operates the water supply system that serves approximately 1.3 million customers in both King and a small portion of Snohomish County.

[Coal Creek Utility District](#)

CCUD serves approximately 7 square miles, 10,000 customers and 3,500 water connections.

[Highline Water District](#)

Highline WD incorporated in 1946 serves approximately 68,000 people living and working in Des Moines, Normandy Park, as well as portions of Tukwila, Burien, SeaTac, Federal Way, Kent, and unincorporated King County. The total district area is about 18 square miles.

[King County Water District No. 20](#)

KC Water District No. 20 established in November 1925 serves approximately 7 square miles and 9,100 customers.

King County No. 45

KC Water District No.45 established in 1931 serves approximately 1 square mile and 1145 customers. A new development called Greenbridge will increase their customer base dramatically over the next few years.

[King County No. 125](#)

KC Water District No. 125 serves approximately 15,000 customers and is made up of portions of several cities including Tukwila, SeaTac, Burien, Skyway and unincorporated King County.

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Seattle Water Supply System Operating Board 2009

Chair

Walt Canter, Commissioner - Cedar River Water & Sewer District

Vice-Chair

Matt Everett – General Manager – Highline Water District

Utility Representatives*

Large Utilities (Northshore, Highline, Soos Creek, Woodinville) / (2008-2012)

- Prime – Matt Everett, General Manager – Highline Water District
- Alternate – Ron Speer, District Manager – Soos Creek Water & Sewer District

Medium Utilities (WD 20, Mercer Island, Cedar River, Shoreline) / (2009-2013)

- Prime – Walt Canter, Commissioner – Cedar River Water & Sewer District
- Alternate – Terry Smith, Utility Manager – City of Mercer Island

Small Utilities (WD 125, Coal Creek, Olympic View, WD 45) / (2005-2009)

- Prime – Roger Eberhart, General Manager – Olympic View Water & Sewer District
- Alternate – John Thompson, Commissioner – King County Water District #125

Independent Member

- John Bjork

Seattle Public Utilities

- Ray Hoffman (2008-2012) – Acting Director
- Nancy Ahern (2009-2013) - Deputy Director Utility Systems Management Branch
- Dave Hillmoe (2005-2009) – Drinking Water Director

SPU Staff Support



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[Generic Full Requirement Contract](#)

[Generic Partial Requirement Contract](#)

[Generic Fixed Block Contract](#)

[**Generic Declining Block Contract](#)

[***Generic 1982 Water Purveyor Contract](#)



Full Requirement	Partial Requirement	Fixed Block	**Declining Block	***1982 Water Purveyor Contracts
Cedar River Water & Sewer District	Highline Water District	Northshore	Cascade Water Alliance	City of Bothell
City of Mercer Island	Olympic View Water & Sewer District			City of Duvall
King County Water District #20	* City of North Bend			City of Edmonds
King County Water District #45				City of Renton
King County Water District #125				Lake Forest Park Water District
Shoreline Water District				King County Water District #49
Soos Creek Water & Sewer District				King County Water District #90
Woodinville Water District				King County Water District #119

Others who have contracts with the City of Seattle but are not a Water Supply Operating Board Member:

*City of North Bend - Partial Requirement Water Supply Contract for 1.1 mgd of untreated mitigation water

** Cascade Water Alliance

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Water System History

From 1854 until 1890, Seattle's water was provided by wells, springs and private water companies. In 1888, prompted by a tenfold population increase during the previous decade, Seattle's mayor and city council called for an election to decide if the city should own and operate its own water system.

Shortly before the election, the "Great Seattle Fire" of June 6, 1889, destroyed the entire 64-acre business district. A major contributor to the widespread destruction was the lack of water available from the patchwork of private water suppliers. The vote on establishing a municipal water system was approved by a resounding 1,875 to 51 margin.

Seattle buys water systems in 1890

In 1890, a U.S. Supreme Court decision allowed municipalities to issue bonds secured by future revenues. Shortly thereafter, Seattle issued \$845,000 in bonds and purchased two private water companies--the Spring Hill Water Company and the Union Water Company -- both of which pumped water from Lake Union and Lake Washington.

Water from the Cedar River

In 1895, Seattle residents again voted to approve revenue bonds, this time to construct the Cedar River water system.

Water first flowed from the Cedar River into Seattle's system on January 10, 1901. Water was diverted by a dam at Landsburg, and then was channeled into a newly-completed 28.57 mile pipeline. This pipeline carried water to the Volunteer Park and Lincoln reservoirs on Capitol Hill in Seattle, which were also built at the time.

This new system had a capacity of 23.5 million gallons per day. In 1909, a second pipeline was added, providing an additional 45 million gallon per day capacity to meet the water needs of a fast-growing Seattle. [Learn more about the Cedar River Watershed >](#)

More recent water sources

The next water supply source was not added until 1964, when the South Fork of the Tolt River began supplying north Seattle and the Eastside.

In 1987, the first ground water source was added to the system when two wells in the Highline Well Field began operation. A third well was added in 1990.

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Terri Gregg

Wholesale Contracts Analyst (206-684-7975) terri.gregg@seattle.gov

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Operating Board Meetings

The Operating Board meets on the 1st Thursday of every month at the Mercer Island Council Chambers from 2:30 – 4:30 pm.

View [driving directions and map](#) (pdf)

All documents are in PDF format

Meeting Schedule

January 1, 2009
February 3, 2009
March 5, 2009
April 2, 2009
May 7, 2009
June 4, 2009
July 2, 2009
August 6, 2009
September 3, 2009
October 1, 2009
November 5, 2009
December 3, 2009

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Work Plan

At the beginning of each year the Operating Board develops a work plan for the year. This plan includes presentations for OB approval, voting requirements, recommendations and information on activities in relationship to water supply, planning, construction, water quality, finance, conservation and other various topics.

[2009 Work Plan](#)

[Water Supply Operating Board By-Laws](#) - The purpose of the Operating Board is to provide certain limited authority to a representative board over policy and operational matters that affect the Seattle Regional Water Supply System.

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Technical Forums

The following are Wholesale Water Technical Forums that are held on a monthly or quarterly basis.

These forums give more in depth technical information during each meeting. All Wholesale members are encouraged to attend.



[Water Quality Technical Forum](#)

The Water Quality Forum meets on the Seattle Public Utilities Supply Operation report, Emergency preparedness, Water Quality and updates from individual Wholesale Utilities.

[Planning & Engineering Technical Forum](#)

The Planning & Engineering Technical Forum meets on various topics such as Annual Survey's, Water supply conditions, Capital Facility projects, to Seattle Wholesale members.

[Emergency Coordination Technical Forum](#)

The Emergency Coordination Technical Forum consists of regional participants who are work on Mutual Aid, Resource typing of Tier I and II, Communication coordination and other emergency coordination activities

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Water Quality Technical Forum

The WQ Technical Forum meets to discuss the SPU Water Supply Operations Report, WQ Report, SPU Emergency Preparedness Report and each Wholesale Members Water Quality and Supply Report.

Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of every month at the following location:
Seattle Public Utilities Water Quality Lab
800 South Stacy Street
Seattle, WA 98134
Phone: (206) 684-7834

View [driving directions and map](#) (pdf)

All documents are in PDF format

Meeting Schedule

January 14, 2009
February 11, 2009
March 11, 2009
April 8, 2009
May 13, 2009
June 10, 2009
July 8, 2009
August 12, 2009
September 9, 2009
October 14, 2009
November 11, 2009
December 9, 2009

Active Members

City of Bothell
King County WD #90
Cedar River Water & Sewer District
City of Mercer Island
Coal Creek Utility District
Soos Creek Water & Sewer District
Woodinville Water District

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Olympic View Water District
City of Tukwila
City of Redmond
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Northshore Utility District

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Planning & Engineering Technical Forum

The Planning & Engineering Technical Forum meets on a quarterly basis to present water supply, planning and engineering information outside the monthly Operating Board meetings. All Seattle Wholesale members are welcome.

Meetings are held once a quarter at the following location:

Coal Creek Utility District

6801 132nd Pl SE

Newcastle, WA 98059

Time: 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM

View [driving directions and map](#) (pdf)

Meeting Schedule

January 28, 2009

March 25, 2009

June 25, 2009

September 30, 2009

December 16, 2009

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Active Members

King County WD #90

City of Redmond

City of Mercer Island

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Emergency Response Forums

A SUB-REGIONAL "WARN" NETWORK

This forum consists of Seattle Public Utilities, Wholesale members, other regional water utilities and governmental agencies who are working together on mutual aid agreements, resource typing and common emergency planning related topics in effort to respond more effectively to a regional water utility disaster or emergency.

This forum meets on a monthly basis at the following location:

Mercer Island Council Chambers

9611 SE 36th St

Mercer Island, WA 98040

Phone: (206) 236-5300

Time: 12:45 – 2:15 PM

View [driving directions and map](#) (pdf)

All documents are in PDF format

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LEAK Newsletter

The LEAK Newsletter is distributed to a number of Wholesale customers at least 10 times per year.

These issues contain upcoming:

- Seminars
- Conservation saving programs and tips
- Landscaping ideas
- Current water supply conditions
- Water quality updates

[Learn more >](#)

If you would like to be included in the monthly distribution of this LEAK newsletter please send an e-mail to: TBD@seattle.gov

2008 Annual Survey of Wholesale Customers

[2008 Survey Summary](#) (pdf)

[Previous surveys >](#)



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[Department of Health](#)

Proposed regulations

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Wholesale Customer Annual Survey

Each year, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) asks its wholesale customers to provide information on their current and forecast water demand (both retail and wholesale), sources of supply (in addition to SPU), and their water and sewer rates. A complete set of this data by wholesale customer and by year is of critical in Seattle Public Utilities' efforts to better forecast wholesale demand.

Wholesale customers often find the current and historical information provided in this report useful in their own analysis and planning. It also allows them to see how they compare to other wholesale customers and Seattle in a number of areas.

The survey reports summarize the data collected from wholesale customer surveys. The 2007 Annual Survey of Wholesale Customers: Summary of Results is the fourteenth year the report has appeared in this format. Seattle Public Utilities appreciates the time and effort each wholesale customer has taken in completing and returning the survey. Comparative information is presented on water rates, bills and consumptive patterns. Questions about this report or the survey data should be directed to [Bruce Flory](#) at (206) 684-5859. Other general questions can be directed to [Dan Swenson](#) at (206) 733-9815.

Annual Wholesale Customer Survey Results

[2009 Survey forms](#)

[2008 Summary](#) (pdf)

[2007 Summary](#) (pdf)

[2006 Summary](#) (pdf)

[2005 Summary](#) (pdf)

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Seattle Public Utilities Water System Plan Overview

The Water System Plan (WSP) provides direction for managing and operating the water system that serves both Seattle and a number of nearby cities and water districts. This plan describes how Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) meets current and future water demands, maintains the system and meets water quality regulations.

Seattle Public Utilities prepares the WSP under regulations adopted by the Washington Department of Health for public drinking water suppliers. The plan must also be compatible and consistent with local and regional land use plans and meet the capital facility planning requirements of the Growth Management Act.

The *2007 Water System Plan* articulates SPU's commitment to:

- Ensuring a long-term, high-quality water supply while protecting the environment and fishery resources.
- Using asset management principles in business decisions to provide the highest value to ratepayers over the long-term.
- Continuing to be a leader in water conservation.
- Being customer-driven.
- Working together with other water providers and regional jurisdictions to address water issues.

Learn more [about SPU's Water System Plan](#) >

[Official Yield Estimate and Long-Range Water Demand Forecast - May 2006](#) (pdf)

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Wholesale Water Customer Rates

Seattle Public Utilities sells water to its wholesale water customers under the terms of wholesale contracts. Seattle and its water customers first signed contracts in 1982 ("Old Contracts"). In 2001, a new wholesale contract ("New Contracts") was negotiated and many wholesale customers have switched to it. Because the contract terms and conditions are different, the rates under the new contracts are different than the rates under the old contracts.

Water Customer Commodity Charge per CCF (100 cubic feet) (Effective: January 1, 2009)

	Old Contracts	New Contracts
Off-Peak Usage (Sept. 16 - May 15th)	\$1.19	\$1.14
Peak Usage (May 16th - Sept. 15th)	\$1.83	\$1.77
Growth Charge (for usage over base allowance)	\$0.31	\$0.60
Demand Charge (per 1000 gallons of deficient storage)	\$22.00	\$22.00

[Annual Rates Summary 2008 – 2011](#) (pdf)

Water Bond Sales

Periodically, the Seattle Public Utilities issues long term debt through competitive or negotiated bond sales. The proceeds from these bonds are used primarily to help finance our Capital Improvement Program.

[2006 Water Bonds](#)

[2004 Water Bonds](#)

Financial Statements

[2007 Water Fund Financial Statement](#) – Independent Auditor's Report

[2006 Water Fund Financial Statement](#) – Independent Auditors Report

[2007 Water Fund Purveyor Statements](#) – Independent Auditor's Report

[2007 Water Fund Wholesale Statements](#) (2001 Contract Types) – Independent Auditor's Report

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Current Water Supply Conditions

Seattle Public Utilities supplies water to 1.3 million people and businesses in the King and a portion of Snohomish County region. Nearly all this water is from the 90,000-acre Cedar River Watershed and the 13,300-acre South Fork Tolt River Watershed in eastern King County. SPU must be protective of the environment, particularly the fish and wildlife resources of the Cedar and Tolt River watersheds, while providing a reliable source of high quality drinking water to all of our customers.

Use these links to view SPU's latest information on water supply conditions.

[Current Water Supply Conditions and Outlook](#)

[Current Water Supply Graphs](#)

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Water Shortage Contingency Plan

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) has a Water Shortage Contingency Plan which provides guidelines for SPU to manage water supply and demand in the event of a supply disruption. This plan addresses both progressive situations, such as those that are weather-related, and more drastic and immediate situations such as facility emergencies (for example, a major pipeline break).

According to the Water Shortage Contingency Plan, the department would respond to a potential or actual shortage using a phased approach:

- Phase I: Advisory Stage
- Phase II: Voluntary Stage
- Phase III: Mandatory Stage
- Phase IV: Emergency Curtailment Stage

The Water Shortage Contingency Plan was designed with the involvement of many, including wholesale customers, customer groups, resource agencies, tribes, and stakeholders such as the landscape industry. A revised and updated version of the plan was developed for the 2007 Water System Plan. The plan is designed to be flexibly applied -- according to the specific situation -- and includes communications actions, demand management actions, and supply alternatives.

Seattle Public Utilities [Water Shortage Contingency Plan July 2006](#) (pdf)

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The Saving Water Partnership is a group of local utilities that fund water conservation programs in Seattle and King County. This partnership is a consortium of 18 water utilities implementing the 1% Water Conservation Initiative. This Initiative is a water conservation goal to reduce personal and business water consumption 1% every year for the next 10 years until the end of 2010.

If each person and business in the region became 10% more efficient in using water over the next ten years, it would save approximately 14.5 million gallons of drinking water per day. This amount of water would meet the needs of the estimated level of growth within King County over the next ten years. In essence, the 1% Conservation Initiative can hold water demand constant - with the region using no more drinking water in ten years than it uses today.

In 2006 the Operating Board adopted a new conservation service level to reduce consumption a total of 15 mgd from 2011-2030.

Leveling out the impact of growth on the region's water supplies will reduce diversions and keep more water in our mountain rivers for salmon and other aquatic resources. Conserving water is an integral part of our commitment to wise management of natural resources.

For more information and tips for conserving water visit the [Saving Water](#) website.

Learn more about the [10-year conservation plan](#).

The LEAK Newsletter

Each month an issue of the LEAK Newsletter is distributed to a number of Wholesale customers. These issues contain upcoming seminars, conservation saving programs, landscaping ideas, current water supply conditions and water quality updates. [Learn more >](#)

If you would like to be included in the monthly distribution of this LEAK newsletter please send an e-mail to: TBD@seattle.gov



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Cedar River Habitat Conservation Plan

Overview

The Cedar River Watershed Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) is a 50-year, ecosystem-based plan that was prepared to address the declining populations of salmon, steelhead and other species of fish and wildlife in the Cedar River basin.

Prepared under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the plan is designed both to provide certainty for the City of Seattle's drinking water supply and to protect and restore habitats of 83 species of fish and wildlife that may be affected by the City of Seattle's water supply and hydroelectric operations on the Cedar River.

Components of the plan

There are 3 major components of the HCP.

1. [Landsburg Mitigation](#) & Cedar River Sockeye Hatchery: Mitigation for the blockage to salmon and steelhead trout at the Landsburg Diversion Dam.
2. [Instream Flow Management](#): A stream-flow regime to provide habitat for salmon and steelhead in the mainstream of the Cedar River.
3. [Watershed Management](#): Watershed forest and land management related to habitat for a wide variety of fish and wildlife species in the municipal watershed.

Learn more about the [HCP and related documentation](#) >

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Instream Flow Management

Under the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), the City of Seattle has committed to an [instream flow management](#) regime that provides beneficial flows for fish and includes a rigorous research and monitoring program. The flow regime establishes improved habitat conditions for all 4 species of anadromous fish found in the Cedar River: Chinook, Coho and Sockeye salmon and steelhead trout.

It includes commitments to guaranteed flows in the river that the City will meet or exceed at any given time, including supplemental flows at specified seasons and frequencies over the long term, as needed for habitat and as hydrologic conditions permit. The management regime also includes limits on future diversions to ensure sufficient water to further adapt management practices in the future.

The City has committed to guaranteed river flows in the Cedar River that include binding minimum (base) and supplemental flows to provide beneficial conditions for salmon and steelhead.

Under the Instream Flow component of the HCP, the City has agreed to:

- Implement a new guaranteed flow regime based on more than 10-years of collaborative study and analysis.
- Provide guaranteed flows in the "bypass reach" between the Masonry Dam and the Cedar Falls Hydroelectric Plant.
- Allocate an additional 1/3 of its water claim to the river.
- Create the Cedar River Instream Flow Commission, comprised of agencies signatory to the Instream Flow Agreement, which will assist the City in managing the Cedar River for fish and people.

The [Instream Flow Commission](#) (IFC) serves as a forum for communication among the Parties to the Instream Flow Agreement (IFA) of technical information on hydrologic conditions, facility and system operations, fish biology and ecology; coordination among the Parties on matters related to implementation of the IFA; and sharing of information and discussion concerning potential use of unallocated non-firm Cedar River water. Members of the IFC include representatives from the National Marine Fisheries Service, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington

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