

# SOUTHWEST SUBURBAN SEWER DISTRICT

FEBRUARY 2008

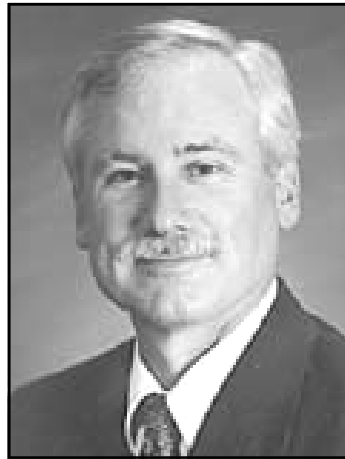


## Ratepayer News

### DISTRICT GENERAL MANAGER STEVE SANDELIUS RETIRING

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When Steve Sandelius first took a summer job with SW Suburban Sewer as a part time groundskeeper, he had no idea it was the beginning of a journey through the “ranks”

that would conclude forty years later with his retirement. After working in various positions, going to school and becoming a CPA, Steve became District General Manager in 1985.

In addition to his leadership of the District through numerous challenges, Steve has also been a leader in the industry. He has served as President of the Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts, and was named “Commissioner of the Year” in 1998 for his service as a commissioner at Soos Creek Water & Sewer.

Steve cites among his proudest accomplishments with the District the implementation of secondary treatment at the Miller Creek and Salmon Creek Plants and establishing a continuing line rehabilitation program while keeping our rates among the lowest in the region.

Steve and his wife Barbara are retiring to Clovis, California to be near family. He will remain at the District through May. The Board and staff encourage you to come by the District office to say goodbye and best wishes to Steve. He will be greatly missed.

### NEW RATES TO TAKE EFFECT MARCH 1ST

After a thorough budget review, the Board of Commissioners approved a rate increase of \$2.00 per month effective March 1, 2008 representing a 10.25% increase since the last increase which occurred January 1, 2006. We still retain the second lowest rates among King County sewer agencies.

The District has been hit hard by inflation in oil prices, which caused dramatic increases in fuel, asphalt and pipe prices. The District has also been impacted by emergency repairs such as the helicopter work near the Miller Creek Treatment Plant, emergency pipe repairs and a pump station on Three Tree Point.

The two treatment plants, updated in the 1980's to provide secondary treatment, are now over twenty years old and need updating of computerized controls and equipment.

The Board of Commissioners is very concerned about rate impacts on low-income households and is continuing the policy of passing only 50% of the rate increase through to households qualifying for the low-income discounted rate. Be sure and contact the District if you think you may qualify for the low-income rate.

We have provided a Rate Comparison chart on page two for your information.

#### District Office:

431 SW Ambaum Boulevard  
Burien, Washington 98166  
Phone: 206-244-9575  
Fax: 206-433-8546

Forms can be downloaded from the District website to apply for the low income rate discount or to set up electronic bill-payer service:  
[www.swssd.com](http://www.swssd.com)

You are invited to attend the monthly Board of Commissioners meetings at the District Office on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 6:00 p.m.

#### Board of Commissioners:

Scott Hilsen, President  
William Tracy, Vice-President  
Tony Genzale, Secretary

## SEWER RATE COMPARISONS:

AGENCY:	2006 RATE	2007 RATE	2008 RATE
SEATTLE	\$ 50.70	\$ 55.88	\$ 58.13
MERCER ISLAND	\$ 44.28	\$ 52.14	\$ 54.55
KIRKLAND	\$ 46.75	\$ 50.22	\$ 51.17
SKYWAY	\$ 47.64	\$ 50.65	\$ 50.65
WOODINVILLE	\$ 44.45	\$ 48.31	\$ 49.33
VASHON SEWER	\$ 47.50	\$ 49.00	\$ 49.00
NE SAMMAMISH	\$ 45.05	\$ 47.98	\$ 47.98
BLACK DIAMOND	\$ 44.10	\$ 44.23	\$ 46.83
ISSAQUAH	\$ 43.61	\$ 45.96	\$ 45.96
CEDAR RIVER W & S	\$ 42.00	\$ 44.85	\$ 45.35
BELLEVUE	\$ 35.70	\$ 43.25	\$ 44.30
SAMMAMISH PLATEAU	\$ 44.15	\$ 44.15	\$ 44.15
RENTON	\$ 39.57	\$ 43.18	\$ 44.06
SOOS CREEK	\$ 40.40	\$ 42.75	\$ 42.75
KENT	\$ 36.14	\$ 38.85	\$ 41.76
LAKE FOREST PARK	\$ 36.66	\$ 40.01	\$ 41.09
COAL CREEK	\$ 38.51	\$ 40.86	\$ 40.86
ALDERWOOD	\$ 32.21	\$ 35.86	\$ 39.94
REDMOND	\$ 34.79	\$ 38.89	\$ 39.54
RONALD W/W MGMT. (Shoreline)	\$ 35.70	\$ 38.84	\$ 39.14
TUKWILA	\$ 33.60	\$ 36.75	\$ 38.07
NORTHSHORE	\$ 35.00	\$ 38.00	\$ 38.00
AUBURN	\$ 34.85	\$ 37.76	\$ 37.76
ALGONA	\$ 34.72	\$ 37.07	\$ 37.07
VALLEY VIEW SEWER DISTRICT	\$ 32.60	\$ 34.95	\$ 34.95
LAKEHAVEN *	\$ 22.46	\$ 22.46	\$ 23.81
<b>SW SUBURBAN *</b>	<b>\$ 19.50</b>	<b>\$ 19.50</b>	<b>\$ 21.50</b>
MIDWAY *	\$ 18.00	\$ 18.00	\$ 18.00
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>\$ 38.62</b>	<b>\$ 41.57</b>	<b>\$ 42.51</b>

\*Own their own Treatment Plants