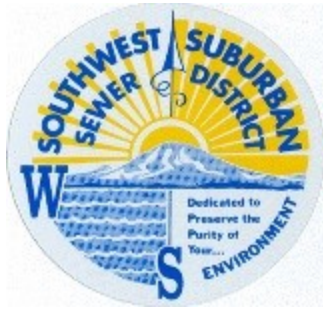


SOUTHWEST SUBURBAN SEWER DISTRICT

February 2021



Ratepayer News

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District Office:

17840 Des Moines Memorial Dr S
Burien, Washington 98148
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. You may also pay your bill via the website: www.swssd.com.

You are invited to attend the monthly Board of Commissioners meetings at the District Office on the first Tuesday and the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Board of Commissioners:

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

CITY OF BURIEN UTILITY TAX

Effective January 1st, 2021, all Southwest Suburban Sewer District customers that reside within the Burien City limits, will have to pay an additional 8.00% Utility Tax on their sewer service bill.

The Burien City Council approved Ordinance No. 744 that imposes an 8.00% Utility Tax on all gross revenue from Burien residents and businesses for water and sewer service. The new Burien Utility Tax will add an additional \$6.52 (*plus applicable State utility taxes and B&O taxes*) to your bi-monthly residential/apartment/ADU sewer service bill, and depending on your water consumption, a minimum of \$6.52 (*plus applicable State utility taxes and B&O taxes*) to your bi-monthly commercial sewer service bill. In addition, the City of Burien has also imposed the same 8.00% Utility Tax onto your water service bill. These additional imposed taxes will be deposited into the City of Burien's General Fund.

Southwest Suburban Sewer District, Board of Commissioners clearly understands that this new imposed Utility Tax on both sewer and water service bill by the City of Burien, comes at a very difficult and unprecedented time and shares your expressed concerns.

Please direct any questions or comments to the City of Burien @ (206) 241-4647, or
City Manager - Brian Wilson brianw@burienwa.gov
All Council Members council@burienwa.gov

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the District is taking every effort and is committed to the health and well-being of our rate payers and District staff and continues to suspend all non-essential face-to-face contact with the public until it's safe to do so.

The Board of Commissioners passed a resolution, suspending all sewer service late charges for delinquent accounts during this COVID-19 pandemic.

If you are having difficulty paying your sewer service bill and need to make payment arrangements, or, have any other questions, please call the District office at (206) 244-9575.

SALMON CREEK WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATE

The much needed construction improvement project at the Salmon Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant is almost complete. The 1955 undersized solids handling digesters have been replaced. There is a new operations building with an improved laboratory. There are major electrical and SCADA upgrades, a new emergency generator and more efficient dewatering devices. The remaining building has had seismic improvements, and a large concrete retention wall was installed at the base of the steep hill to protect the wastewater treatment plant in the event of an earthquake.



2021 SEWER SERVICE RATES

Due to the cost of the necessary Salmon Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant construction improvements project, effective January 1, 2021, our base residential and commercial sewer service monthly rate will increase from \$38.75 to \$40.75. In addition, the commercial rate is increasing from \$4.00 per 100 cf to \$5.00 per 100 cf. The District focuses on providing quality sewer service at an affordable rate. With the new sewer service rate, the District still has the 2nd lowest sewer service rate in all of King County, and is about half of the average sewer service rate in all of King County.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

In order to prevent damage to underground utilities, please call and request a free underground utility locate at least two business days before you start digging. You can make that request by either dialing **811** or by going to www.callbeforeyoudig.org. You will need to provide the location where you are planning to dig, and what type of work you will be doing.

The Washington Utility Notification Center will then notify local utilities, who will mark any utilities in the designated area with colored paint (green for sewers). The Center requests that you outline your dig area with white paint to help the utilities identify your dig area quickly and accurately. Failure to call before digging may result in fines or charges for damages.

RATE REDUCTION PROGRAM

The District has developed a Rate Reduction Program for customers who have income below the standard guidelines set forth by King County. Total annual household income from all sources is considered when qualifying for this discount, currently a \$20.75 reduction per month.

In order to qualify, you must meet residency and income requirements. The applicant must reside at the residence and be able to prove ownership. The reduced rate is offered to owners only, and is not applicable on rental properties.

To apply you can call the District office for a copy of the application at 206-244-9575 or print one from our website at www.swssd.com.