



King County Water District 90

Fall 2024

Newsletter

Calendar

Board of Commissioner
Meetings (1:00pm)
First and Third
Tuesdays at the
District Office

Commissioners

Pete Eberle
President

Sam Amira
Vice President

Alvin Materi
Secretary

Contact Us

15606 SE 128th St
Renton, WA 98059
(425) 255-9600
info@kcwd90.com
www.kcwd90.com

Darcey J. Peterson
District Manager

Joshua Drummond
Operations Manager

Michelle Hall
Finance Manager

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday
7:30am to 5pm

Check out our website at:
www.kcwd90.com

Pay your bill online or
by phone at:
www.kcwd90.com
1-855-984-1191

2025 RATE INCREASE ANNOUNCEMENT

As of January 1, 2025, the District plans a 2.8% increase on the annual average residential water bill. As a reminder, residential customers had no rate increase in 2024. The new base rate for a single-family residence with a 5/8" meter will be \$74.50 bimonthly. Additionally, the Summer Surcharge, in effect between June and September each summer, has increased from \$1.25 per CCF to \$1.35 per CCF. Since 2022, the Summer Surcharge fee has been charged on every CCF from June through September. The rates for all categories of users have increased, and the 2025 Schedule of Charges is available at the District office or on our website, www.kcwd90.com.

The District sets water rates to ensure we can pay our employees, meet our obligations, and have enough funding to complete our planned capital projects.

The District has a **Low-Income Assistance Program** for those over 55 or who are permanently disabled. You may qualify if your income is below \$40,000 for a single person and \$50,000 for a family. (This threshold has been increased from \$35,000 & \$45,000 respectively.) Please visit our website at www.kcwd90.com for more information. The Reduced-Rate Application is located under Customers, Online Forms. Low-Income water rates have not been increased since 2022.

Annual Report on Senior Citizen & Permanently Disabled Discount Rate

KCWD90 had **90** customers participating in our "Low-Income Rate for Senior Citizens or Permanently Disabled" Discount Rate Program. The total cost to the District for the 12th year of this program (July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024) was **\$24,420**. Customers who qualify for the discount program pay a base rate of \$26.25 rather than the 2024 full base rate of \$70.90. Consumption charges and the Summer Surcharge after the first 5 Ccfs are charged in addition to the base rate.

The application for Reduction in Water Rates form can be found on our website at www.kcwd90.com under Customers/Online Forms. For more information, call the District office at 425-255-9600.

Do you qualify? Here are the requirements that **all** must be met:

- You or your spouse is 55 years of age or older OR permanently disabled.
- You are living in the residence and paying the water bill.
- Your gross income from all sources in the household is under \$40,000 if single and \$50,000 if married.

KCWD90 Water Loss Success Story

In 2021, the District recorded Water Loss in the system at 22.5%. That means we didn't know where 22.5% of our water was going, which cost the District an extra \$270,000 in water purchases from SPU that year. Along with leaking water mains, it was determined that the leading cause was customer meters past their use-by date. Old meters slow down and tend to undercalculate the water being used by homeowners. Since then, the District has replaced 90% of our water meters with the new Ultrasonic meter that more accurately records water usage.

As of August 2024, the three-year average water loss was below 5.5%. (Water Loss between 3% and 6% is considered "normal.") Since 2022, the District has saved \$450,000 in water purchases by replacing old meters and 4 miles of leaking steel water mains. The District plans to replace the remaining meters next year and will continue to replace water mains over time.

How to Winterize Your Home

- ❑ Insulate exterior pipes with newspaper, rags, or insulating material, then cover with plastic and secure with string or wire.
- ❑ Insulate exterior faucets with an outdoor faucet cover.
- ❑ Insulate interior pipes and faucets located in cold areas of your home (unheated attics, basements, garages and crawl spaces) the same way as Step 1.
- ❑ Locate your home's main water shut-off valve and test it prior to an emergency, so you can stop water loss and flooding if a pipe breaks. For round valves, use a wrench to turn it firmly but gently in a clockwise direction. For newer lever-type valves, gently push it all the way to the right.
- ❑ Alternatively, you can turn off your water at the water meter box by using a "Water Meter Valve Key" tool (shown at right, available at most hardware stores).
- ❑ Disconnect and drain all garden hoses, and drain and blow out yard sprinkler systems (if applicable).
- ❑ On extra cold nights, open the doors of closets or cabinets that are located near water pipes on your home's exterior walls.
- ❑ If you don't mind a slightly higher water bill, let one indoor faucet slowly drip warm water overnight during below-freezing weather. Just don't do this in a house that will be vacant for an extended time.
- ❑ For maximum protection, apply caulk around incoming pipes, and close or block your home's foundation vents during the coldest months (open them up once the threat of freezing has passed to prevent dry rot).



Participatory Budgeting:

It's time to **VOTE**
to improve your community

East Renton

You have two ways to vote - online or in person at voting event.

Vote online



<https://pbstanford.org/2024-king-county-wa-east-renton>

Vote in person

Check website for in-person voting dates/times

MORE INFO



Online

PublicInput.com/
YourVoiceYourChoice

Email

ukcpb@kingcounty.gov

Phone

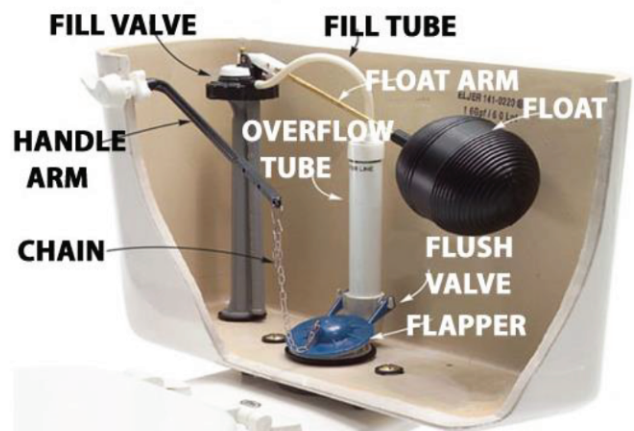
206-477-3800

Questions?

AskLocalServices@
kingcounty.gov
or 206-477-3800



King County
Local Services



FINDING AND FIXING TOILET LEAKS

A running or leaky toilet wastes a lot of water and can add hundreds of dollars to your water bill. For many homeowners, fixing a leaking toilet is a do-it-yourself project. It requires no special tools and usually costs less than \$20. If you are a renter, report the leak to your landlord right away.

Signs of a Running Toilet

- You hear your toilet tank refilling constantly or between flushes.
- You see water flow or dribble into the bowl even when you haven't flushed it.
- You have to jiggle the handle to get the toilet to stop running.

Repair a Running Toilet

- If the water level is set above the top of the overflow tube, your toilet will run continuously.
- Most running toilets are caused by worn-out flappers.
- Find detailed information on fixing your toilet here: <https://www.savingwater.org/indoors/toilets/toilet/>
- Rebates for new toilets may be available. Find info here: <https://www.savingwater.org/rebates/>