

STRAIGHT FROM THE TAP

Revised Rates and Fees

King County Water District 54 has reviewed and revised its rates and fees. Due to recent and future system upgrades, this increase is necessary.

These rate changes will be reflected in the bill beginning January 1, 2017.

Revenue from rates goes towards providing you water, sustaining your service and replacing and improving District facilities.

What this means to you as a consumer of water is that the rate for water will remain the same at \$3.80 per hundred cubic feet in

summer and \$3.50 per hundred cubic feet in winter. A hundred cubic feet is 748 gallons.

This District, like others, charges a different rate for summer usage to encourage conservation when water demand typically is at its highest.

Base rates will change. The District tried to make the increase as small as possible while still trying to cover the increasing cost of running the District.

Residential base rates were increased by \$1.00 per month per unit. For

example, most single family residential homes base rate will increase from \$11.15 to \$12.15 per month. If you have an 18 unit condo or apartment unit your base rate will increase by \$1.00 per unit per month.

Base rates are assessed for each home or equivalent residential unit to the District for water service. The rates are based upon your meter size and type of service. Base rates for the most frequently sought service types and meter sizes are captured in the

table below. For others, contact the District.

For a typical single family residence, the increase to your water bill will be \$2.00 for a 2-month bill.

The District has not increased rates in two years. We have increased our monthly sampling significantly in order to go back to unchlorinated water.

The average person uses 80 gallons of water per day. One gallon of water weighs 8.34 pounds and contains 7.48 cubic feet

Unchanged Water Usage Rates*

Time of Year	Months	Rate / ccf
Winter	November—April	\$ 3.50
Summer	May—October	\$3.80

New Base (Connection) Rates

Service Type	Criteria	Rate / Month
Residential, Single Family	3/4" meter and under	\$12.15
	1" meter	\$12.65
Residential, Multi-Family	Each residence unit served (ERU)	\$12.15
Non-Residential	3/4" meter and under	\$31.66
	1"	\$37.96
	1 1/2"	\$53.71
	2"	\$94.66

*For a complete list, contact the District office.

Our Business is Safe Water. *Make it Your Business, Too*

Connections between our water supply and sources of possible contamination are potentially dangerous, and connections between drinking water lines and commercial and industrial plumbing systems can be deadly. Connections that allow dangerous and objectionable material to enter water supply lines are called

cross connections. Because the Water District is responsible for ensuring the water is safe for everyone to drink, it has established a cross-connection control program to protect the water system from backflow. Backflow is the reverse flow of undesirable and dangerous material into water mains.

As a business owner or manager, your cooperation and involvement are needed to make this program work. Cross connections are generally unintentional. No one deliberately makes plumbing connections to the potable water system that could cause injury or damage. However, sometimes in the course of

providing water to industrial or commercial operations or installing new plumbing fixtures, cross connections are inadvertently built into the plumbing system. Cross connections can be controlled with proper *back-flow-prevention* techniques.



Turning off the Chlorine

King County Water District No. 54 has requested from The Department of Health to revert back to an unchlorinated Water system. They have recently notified us that we may turn the chlorinator off.

Since we have received this notice we have slowly been turning the chlorinator down and will continue to do so until December 31, 2017, at which time we will revert back to being an unchlorinated system. King County Water District No. 54 has increased the water sample testing in order to receive the permission to return to the unchlorinated water we previously delivered to you.

We are required to perform 6 Bacteriological water samples a month throughout the water system. We have added an additional 20 bacteriological sample with 6 of those testing the wells twice a month. In addition we perform manganese tests for the reservoirs, wells and test sites twice a month.

If you have any questions about this transition feel free to contact the District.



Only 1% of the earth's water is available for drinking water. Two percent is currently frozen.

CodeRED Sign Up

To insure that you are included in the emergency "CodeRED" call system we are asking that you go to the website and add your contact information.

Fill out the form and submit it. There is no charge for this service. If you do not have a computer with internet service, we are including a signup sheet in this newsletter, please fill it out and return it to us, we will also

have forms available at the District office. Our office manager will input the information for you. The District office has a drop box in the door so you can return your form at your convenience.

This is very important to complete if you wish to be included in the robo-call system in the case of an emergency.



Water District No. 54 Facts

The District has 3 operational wells.
11 miles of water main.
2 reservoirs 250,000 and a 660,000 gallons, equaling a total of 910,000 gallons of storage.

The reservoir is 100' tall.
The District pumped 16 million cubic feet of water last year.
1 cubic foot of water = 7.48 gallons, or 100 cubic feet = 748 gallons.

Water Conservation Tips

For Every Room in the House with Plumbing

Repair leaky faucets, indoors and out.

Consider replacing old equipment (like toilets, dishwashers and laundry machines).

In the Kitchen

When cooking, peel and clean vegetables in a large bowl of water instead of under the running water.

Fill your sink or basin when washing and rinsing dishes.

Only run dishwasher when it's full.

When buying a dishwasher, select one with a "light-wash" option.

Only use the garbage disposal when necessary (composting is a great alternative).

Install faucet aerators.

In the Bathroom

Take short showers instead of baths.

Turn off the water to brush teeth, shave and soap up in the shower. Fill the sink to shave.

Repair leaky toilets. Add

12 drops of food coloring into the tank, and if color appears in the bowl one hour later, your toilet is leaking.

Install low-flow shower heads.

Laundry

Run full loads of laundry.

When purchasing a new washing machine, buy a water saving model that can be adjusted to load size.

Outdoors

Maximize the use of natural vegetation and establish smaller lawns. For portions of your lot where a lawn and landscaping are desired, ask your local nursery for tips about plants and grasses with low water demand. Consider planting more trees, shrubs, ground cover, and less grass. Shrubs and ground cover provide greenery for much of the year. Use native plants in flower beds. Native plants have adapted to local rainfall conditions. Cluster plants that require extra care together to minimize time and save water.

When mowing your

lawns, set the mower blade to 2-3 inches high. Longer grass shades the soil improving moisture retention, has more leaf surface to take in sunlight, allowing it to grow thicker and develop a deeper root system. This helps grass survive drought.

Only water the lawn when necessary. If you water your lawn and garden, only do it once a week, if rainfall isn't sufficient. Avoid watering on windy and hot days. Water the lawn and garden in the morning or late in the evening to maximize the amount water which reaches the plant roots (otherwise most of the water will evaporate). Use soaker hoses to water gardens and flower beds. If sprinklers are used, take care to be sure they don't water walkways and buildings. When you water, put down no more than 1 inch (set out a empty cans to determine how long it takes to water 1 inch) each week. This watering pattern will encourage healthier, deep grass roots. Over-

watering is wasteful, encourages fungal growth and disease, and results in the growth of shallow, compacted root systems that are more susceptible to drought and foot traffic. If an automatic lawn watering system is used, be sure it has been properly installed, is programmed to deliver the appropriate amount and rate of water, and has rain shut-off capability.

Apply mulch around shrubs and flower beds to reduce evaporation, promote plant growth and control weeds.

Add compost or organic matter to soil as necessary, to improve soil conditions and water retention.

Collect rainfall for irrigation in screened container (to prevent mosquito larvae growth).

When washing a car, wet it quickly, then use a bucket of water to wash the car. Turn on the hose to final rinse (or let Mother Nature wash your car when it rains).



KING COUNTY WATER DISTRICT NO. 54

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Website:

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Seattle, WA
Permit No. 4136

Water District 54

Hours

Office: M-F 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Answering Service: Available 24 hours a day, 7 day a week.

Board of Commissioner Meetings held 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 4:00 pm at the District offices.

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Winterize your Pipes

Don't let this seasons cold weather catch you unprepared. To prevent your plumbing from freezing here are a few things you can do.

1. Insulate exposed pipes and outdoor faucets. Wrap the faucet with rags and duct tape or buy a Styrofoam cover for exposed faucets.
2. Disconnect all garden hoses from faucets.
3. Know where your inside shut-off and your meter is located. Ensure that your shut-off valve is operational. If you can't shut-off the water know where the meter is to save time for a plumber or for water district personnel in the event they are called.
4. List all utilities, have quick access to these phone numbers. Keeping essential numbers posted on the refrigerator or in a convenient location makes for a less stressful emergency.
5. If on an outside wall, leaving cupboard doors underneath kitchen sinks open in very cold weather will help keep pipe from freezing.
6. You are responsible for all lines beyond the meter.

Doing these few things will ensure that you have a safe winter season.



KEEPING CITIZENS INFORMED



Please print all information clearly

Name: _____

Location type: _____ Home _____ Business

Address: _____

Phone numbers you want associated with this address:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Would you like an email contact also?: _____

I authorize personnel of King County Water District #54 to submit this information electronically

X _____ Please print name: _____

Turn this form in to the District office or go online and sign up at <https://public.coderedweb.com/cne/en-US/BF0D5C5CC09C>