



"Providing safe, clean water to South King County residents since 1946"

Highline Water District

The WaterLine

Spring / Summer 2011

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Hours: Monday - Friday
7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Board of Commissioners

Gerald R. Guite, President
Vince Koester, Secretary
Daniel Johnson
George Landon
Kathleen Quong-Vermeire

Board meetings held the 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month
1st Wednesday at 9:00 am
3rd Wednesday at 4:00 pm
Highline Water District Office

Commissioner's Corner



George Landon

McMicken Heights Well & Treatment Plant

The design phase for the McMicken Heights Well and Treatment Plant project, which started in April, 2008 is now complete. The new treatment plant will be capable of producing approximately 500 gpm (gallons of water per minute) on a continuous basis, with the possible future expansion to 650 gpm upon approval by the Department of Health and Department of Ecology.



McMicken Heights Well Site

Highline Water District currently purchases approximately 75% of its water from the City of Seattle regional water system. The remainder is obtained from the District's three existing ground water wells.

Completion and operation of the McMicken Heights Well and Treatment Plant will help reduce dependency on the regional water system. Highline Water District is one of the few purveyors in the Seattle area that is in a position to reduce its demand on the regional system due to existing water rights and a service area large enough to justify development of additional independent sources of supply.

The District plans to obtain building permits and bid the project this spring. Construction will start this summer and will take about one year. This project provides a third treatment plant to our system and will be operated as a primary water source for the District. The well and treatment plant will meet the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act and Washington State Department of Health regulations governing the delivery of clean and safe drinking water to residents of Highline Water District.

Save Money - Use Water Wisely!

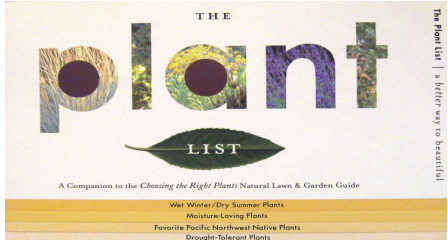
You can save money and help protect our environment by learning ways to conserve and use water wisely. Finding and fixing water leaks is an easy way to save money on your utility bill. Leaky toilets, faucets, and outdoor watering systems can add up to hundreds of dollars and waste thousands of gallons of water each year. Installing high-efficiency clothes washers, water efficient toilets and low-flow showerheads are effective ways for you to save water inside your home. Watering landscape by hand or with a properly adjusted irrigation system can dramatically improve water efficiency outside. Using simple water-saving techniques can save you hundreds of dollars per year and you will help reduce the amount of pollutants entering rivers, lakes, and streams. For more information on saving water, educational resources, and rebate opportunities, go to www.highlinewater.org or www.savingwater.org.



Savvy Gardener's

Despite our rainy winters, we get less rainfall than Tucson, AZ during the summer months. Unfortunately, that's when our reservoirs are lowest, and demand for irrigation water is highest. By choosing drought-tolerant plants, building rich soil, and making the most of the water you will use in the summer, you can improve an existing garden and save money.

- Build healthy soil with compost and mulch for plants with deeper roots, fewer pest and weed problems, and lower water needs.



Choose the right plant for your area

highlinewater.org for Irrigation/Sprinkler System Rebates.

- Think twice before using pesticides. Keep your plants healthy by creating a garden that prevents problems before they start.
- Practice natural lawn care and enjoy a healthy lawn that needs less water, fertilizer, and pesticides.
- Aerate lawns in spring to better absorb water.

- Choose the right plants that are pest-resistant, require less water, and match the sun, shade, and soil in your yard. Use "The Plant List" to select the right plants for your garden.

- Practice smart watering to prevent plant disease. If you have an automatic watering system, check www.highlinewater.org for Irrigation/Sprinkler System Rebates.



Mulch builds healthy soil

For more information on how you can become a *Savvy Gardener*, go to www.savingwater.org or call the Garden Hotline at (206)-633-0224. Pick up a copy of "The Plant List" at our District office located at 23828 30th Ave. S., Kent, WA.

Summer Water Rates Go Into Effect June 1st

Summer water rates go into effect June 1 and remain in effect through September 30. Summer rates are billed in two tiers: \$3.28 per CCF for up to five CCF of water used, and \$3.88 per CCF for six plus CCF. *NOTE:* each CCF = 748 gallons of water.



Check irrigation systems for leaks at the beginning of the season.

The purpose of our tiered system is to reduce the impact of the higher summer rates on those whose water consumption remains relatively the same throughout the year. This especially pertains to our elderly customers who no longer wash cars, maintain landscape or water lawns. Winter rates, \$3.28 per CCF, are in effect October 1 through May 31.

Hidden Hydrants



This hydrant would be hard to find in an emergency.

As landscape encroaches into the public right-of-way, our fire hydrants can become hidden from view. During summer months, Highline Water District staff work on our hydrant maintenance program, which includes exercising the valves, painting, and clearing vegetation away from the hydrants. If you live by or know of a hydrant that needs to be uncovered or painted, please leave a message in our customer service email box, customerservice@highlinewater.org. If you do not have an email account, please phone in your request to our main number, 206-824-0375 ext 116. Hydrant visibility is extremely important during emergency events. Help us keep you and our community safe!



Brightly painted and cleared of debris makes this hydrant easy to find.