



23828 30th Avenue South, Kent, Washington  
(206) 824-0375

Winter 2022-2023

# The *WaterLine* Newsletter

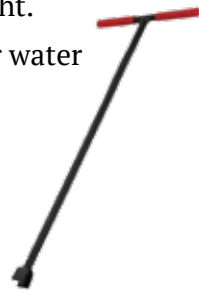
Water-Related News and Information from Highline Water District

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## 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).



## Discounts Available for Seniors and Disabled Persons

*Senior low income/disabled property owners who own and reside in the same home and are responsible for the water bill may be eligible for a discount on their water bill.*

The reduction is available for residential water meters of 1" or smaller in size. Homeowners must be receiving the King County property tax reduction to be eligible for the water bill discount.

If you are not receiving the property tax reduction you may consider contacting King County for eligibility. The King County tax assessor's office may be reached at 206-296-3920 or on their website at:

[www.kingcounty.gov/Assessor/TaxpayerAssistance/TaxRelief.aspx](http://www.kingcounty.gov/Assessor/TaxpayerAssistance/TaxRelief.aspx)

### Discount Eligibility for Tenants:

Senior low income/disabled tenants that are being billed directly from Highline Water District may be eligible for the discount. The reduction is available for residential water meters of 1" or smaller in size. You must be 61 years of age or older or permanently disabled, with a combined household income of less than \$58,423 (2022) per year.

### How to Request the Discount:

If you meet the above eligibility requirements you may contact our office to apply for the discount. We can be reached at 206-824-0375. Approved applicants will receive a 50% reduction in the base rate portion of your water bill.

# New Water Rates for 2023

Effective January 1, 2023, water rates will increase by 4%.

The average single-family residential customer who uses 600 cubic feet (6 CCF) of water per winter month and 800 cubic feet (8 CCF) per summer month will see their water bill increase by about \$1.63 per month, or \$3.26 for a two-month billing cycle. The primary reason for the adjustment is to meet the increasing costs of operations and capital investments.

## 2023 Water Commodity Rates

All Customer Types	Oct–May Winter	0 - 5 CCF Summer	6+ CCF Summer	Irrigation Water
	\$4.12	\$4.12	\$4.88	\$4.88

## 2023 Meter Base Charges

Meter Size	Available Gallons per Minute	Single Family Residence	Low Income Senior or Disabled	Commercial or Multi-Family	Fire	Irrigation
5/8" or 3/4"	20/25	\$16.72	\$8.36	\$25.43	–	\$25.43
1"	50	\$29.75	\$14.87	\$51.39	–	\$51.39
1.5"	100	\$50.49	–	\$93.69	\$10.78	\$93.69
2"	160	\$77.49	–	\$146.65	\$14.29	\$146.65
2.5"	300	–	–	–	\$20.97	–
3"	450	–	–	\$305.78	\$40.02	–
4"	600	–	–	\$463.59	\$49.59	–
6"	1,350	–	–	\$897.19	\$71.84	–
8"	1,600	–	–	\$1,416.11	\$97.27	–
10"	–	–	–	–	\$125.82	–

As we approach spring, please take a moment to check your water meters and fire hydrants:

- Trim away shrubs/ground covers.
- Don't plant something that will grow over a meter or hydrant.
- Don't install landscape bricks, rocks, or retaining walls that block access to meters or hydrants.



If you are experiencing financial hardship, financial assistance may be available to you from the resources below:

## King County 2-1-1 1-800-621-4636

This number connects people to the help they need most—from housing assistance and help with financial needs, to the nearest food bank—with the most comprehensive information on health and human services in King County.

## Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) 1-253-517-2263

This program is administered by the Multi-Service Center on behalf of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Learn more here: <https://msc.itfrontdesk.com>



Winston, our office mascot

The WaterLine Newsletter is brought to you by Highline Water District and its Board of Commissioners:

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Contact us Monday through Friday from 7:00 am through 4:00 pm at (206) 824-0375 or [customerservice@highlinewater.org](mailto:customerservice@highlinewater.org)

Visit us at 23828 30th Avenue South, Kent, Washington 98032 • [www.highlinewater.org](http://www.highlinewater.org)