

# In This Issue

Commissioner's Corner
Help Us Contact You
2014 Rate Increase
Rate Reduction Policy
How to Shut Off Your Meter

### Contact Information

Matt Everett, General Manager 206-592-8902 Debbie Prior, Administrative Manager 206-592-8906 Jeremy DelMar, P.E., Engineering/Operations Manager 206-592-8904

### Water District Office

23828 30th Ave S Kent, WA 98032 www.highlinewater.org 206-824-0375 Hours: Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

#### **Board of Commissioners**

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

# **Board Meeting Schedule**

1st Wednesday at 9:00 am 3rd Wednesday at 4:00 pm 4th Tuesday at 9:00 am

# **Highline Water District**

# The WaterLine

Winter 2013 / 2014

## **Commissioner's Corner**



Dan Johnson, Board President

Highline Water District's capital improvement program (CIP) is an on-going effort to improve the District's aging infrastructure with modern, more reliable technology and materials. The life blood of the District's infrastructure is its 292 miles of water mains located under roadways and easements. Replacing aging and/or undersized mains ensure a reliable water distribution system, improve fire flow, and preserve water quality.

The District is wrapping up an aggressive year of water main replacements. In 2013 the District will have replaced about 8,200 lineal feet or 1.6 miles of aging water mains in the following locations:

- S. 216<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Ave S to 24<sup>th</sup> Ave S (Des Moines); and
- S. 188th International Blvd S. to 46th Ave S (SeaTac); and
- S. 178th St. I-5 Overpass to Southcenter Pkwy (Tukwila); and
- S. 168<sup>th</sup> 34<sup>th</sup> Ave S to 40<sup>th</sup> Ave S. (SeaTac)

The District plans to continue aggressively replacing water mains in 2014. In total, approximately 19,000 lineal feet or 3.6 miles of water mains will be replaced throughout the year in the following locations:

- 24<sup>th</sup> Ave S S 208<sup>th</sup> St to S 216<sup>th</sup> St, in conjunction with the City of Des Moines road project; and
- Military Road S S 176th St to S 166th St, as part of the City of SeaTac road widening project; and
- S 179<sup>th</sup> 42<sup>nd</sup> Ave S to Military Rd S, as part of the City of SeaTac sidewalk and road project; and
- Angle Lake Water Main Replacement around the lake under easements and along Military Road S from 46th Ave S to S 198th Street.

For more complete CIP information, please see the District's website at:

www.highlinewater.org

# **Help Us Contact You**

Please help us by keeping your contact information current. In the event of an emergency, we may need to contact you quickly. Please fill out the information form on the back of your water bill and send it in with your payment. It will go straight to our customer service staff who will update our billing information. This information will only be used for contacting you regarding District business matters.

### 2014 Rate Increase

Effective January 1, 2014, the District will raise water rates by approximately 2.2%.

Average single family residential customers using 600 cubic feet (6 ccf) of water per winter month and 850 cubic feet (8.5 ccf) of water per summer month will see their monthly bill increase by approximately \$0.85 or \$1.71 for a two month bill.

The primary reason for the rate increase is to pay for needed capital improvement projects and to keep up with inflationary expenses.

Meter Size Single-family Residential	2014 Monthly Base Rate	2014 Winter Rate	2014 Summer (0 – 5 ccf)	2014 Summer (6+ ccf)
		10/1 – 5/31	6/1 - 9/30	6/1 – 9/30
Low Income - Sr / Disabled	\$9.36	\$3.55	\$3.55	\$4.20
5/8" or 3/4"	\$14.40	\$3.55	\$3.55	\$4.20
1"	\$25.61	\$3.55	\$3.55	\$4.20
1.5"	\$43.47	\$3.55	\$3.55	\$4.20
2"	\$66.72	\$3.55	\$3.55	\$4.20

# Senior/Disabled Low Income Water Rate Reduction

The Senior/Disabled Low Income Rate Reduction Program has changed. The meter base rate will be reduced by 35% for those ratepayers who qualify.

For owner occupied accounts, you must be receiving the low-income Senior or Disabled persons property tax discount from King County in order to have a rate reduction on your water bill. If you are not receiving the property tax discount, please contact the King County Assessor's Office at 206-296-3920 or visit their website at:

http://www.kingcounty.gov/Assessor/TaxpayerAssistance/TaxRelief.aspx

# **How to Shut Off Your Water Meter**

Most newer homes (1990 and newer) have shut off valves located inside the home where the waterline enters the house from the meter. However, if you live in an older home, this isn't always the case. Most of the time either there is no shut off valve or you have one that is buried or inoperable. In these cases, the only other option is to use the meter stop. According to the Highline Water District policy, the meter stop belongs to the District. However, customers may use them in an emergency. To shut off your meter, follow these easy steps:

- First, you must know where your meter is located (typically at the property line near the road). You will need a crescent wrench and a screwdriver.
- Next, remove the lid, both the small inspection lid and the main body lid. Locate
  the meter stop: you'll find it between the meter and the street. Now adjust your
  crescent wrench to fit and place it on the meter stop.
- Stand it up and insert your screwdriver through the hole in the end of your wrench to form a tee and turn it clockwise 180 degrees to the off position. When the ears line up the meter is off.
- To turn your meter back on just reverse the process. You will see an arrow on the top of the meter stop. When it points to the meter, the meter is turned on.



Caution must be taken when operating the meter stop! If you cause damage, you are responsible. If it is too difficult to turn, as some are, do not hesitate to call the District office at 206-824-0375.