



23828 30th Avenue South, Kent, Washington
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Spring/Summer 2022

The *WaterLine* Newsletter

Water-Related News and Information from Highline Water District

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New George Landon Pump Station

Highline's newest pump station will use modern technology and equipment to increase the resiliency of our overall water system, and improve our ability to serve customers in the event of a natural disaster.

In 2016, Highline Water District identified the need for a new booster pump station serving the 560 Pressure Zone, our largest water service area. The new station will supplement our existing pumping facilities that convey source water purchased from Seattle Public Utilities.

The District began by purchasing property located at 16032 42nd Avenue South in Tukwila. Given its location between two single-family residences, the District desired a building that blended in with the surrounding neighborhood, while still addressing the necessary security and stringent permitting requirements. The 5,000 gallon per minute pump station, designed by RH2 Engineering and Page & Beard Architects, featured a wood-framed structure that resembled a house. Pumps were installed below ground, and equipped with a backup power generator inside the building to reduce noise and visual impacts for the community. In 2020, Highline retained McClure and Sons, Inc. to construct the project, which was substantially completed in December 2021.

Our Board of Commissioners chose to name this facility "The George Landon Pump Station," in honor of former Commissioner George Landon, who retired from the District in 2019 after 24 years of service. On December 14, 2021, we held a commissioning ceremony and invited Mr. Landon and his family to join the celebration.



Highline Water District's Board of Commissioners, with former Commissioner George Landon, in front of our new pump station



Fix that Leaky Toilet (or clever cat)

We recently had a customer contact us about increased water usage, due to her (very clever) cat Maggie, who figured out how to turn the faucet on when mom was away at work. The solution? An inexpensive tie around the faucet handle.



For most of us however, the #1 cause of increased water usage is a worn rubber toilet flapper. Over time, the rubber wears out and won't seal enough to stop the flow of water. We've seen water bills jump hundreds of dollars due to an old toilet flapper. Luckily they're inexpensive and easy to replace yourself:

Step 1: Turn off the water to the toilet.

Step 2: Flush the toilet and hold the flush handle down to drain it.

Step 3: Disconnect the chain from the inside of the toilet handle rod.

Step 4: Unhook the old flapper's "ears" from the two hooks at the base of the overflow tube. If there's any debris where the flapper was sitting, wipe it off with a rag.

Step 5: Hook the new flapper's "ears" back onto the flush valve.

Step 6: Reconnect the chain onto the toilet handle rod, making sure it's long enough to allow the flapper to sit firmly in place, but not too long to get caught under the flapper during a flush.

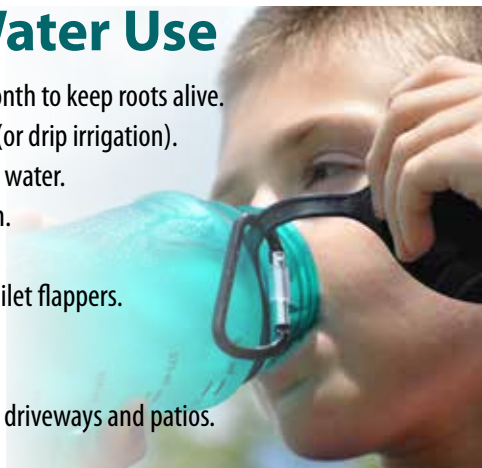
Step 7: Turn the water back on and test by flushing a couple of times.

*If you find it necessary to hire a plumber, get 3 estimates!
Plumbing repair costs vary drastically from one business to another.*



10 Ways to Reduce Water Use

1. Let your lawn go dormant: water deeply once a month to keep roots alive.
2. Water plants twice a week; apply directly by hand (or drip irrigation).
3. Apply a layer of mulch around plants to help retain water.
4. Water early or late in the day to reduce evaporation.
5. Take shorter showers: every minute is 2.5 gallons!
6. Fix leaky faucets, hose bibs, sprinkler heads, and toilet flappers.
7. Wash cars less; choose locations that recycle water.
8. Wash large loads of laundry and full dishwashers.
9. Use a broom rather than a hose to clean sidewalks, driveways and patios.
10. Turn off the tap while shaving or brushing teeth.



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

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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

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