



# King County Water District 90

Fall 2019

## Newsletter

### Calendar

Board of Commissioner  
Meetings (4:30pm)  
First and Third  
Tuesdays at the  
District Office

### Commissioners

Sam Amira  
President  
Byron Murgatroyd  
Vice President  
Dick Gidner  
Secretary

### Contact Us

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Darcey J. Peterson  
District Manager  
Joshua Drummond  
Operations Manager  
Doug Swanson  
Finance Manager

Check out our website at:  
[www.kcwd90.com](http://www.kcwd90.com)

Pay your bill online  
or by phone at:  
[www.kcwd90.com](http://www.kcwd90.com)  
1-855-984-1191

## Are you ready for an emergency?

Following a disaster, clean drinking water may not be available. The District's water sources could be cut-off or compromised through contamination. Prepare yourself by building a supply of water that will meet your family's needs during an emergency.

**Determining water needs:** Store at least one gallon of water per person per day for seven days, drinking and sanitation. Typically, an active person needs about 3/4 of a gallon of fluid daily, from water and other beverages. However, individuals' needs may vary, depending on age, health, physical condition, activity, diet, and climate. The District currently recommends at least a seven-day supply of drinking water, since, in some emergencies such as an earthquake, a 3-day supply may be inadequate.

### Take the following into account:

- Children, nursing mothers, and sick people may need more water.
- A medical emergency might require additional water.
- If the event happens in the summer, more water may be necessary. In very hot temperatures, water needs can double.



**Build an emergency kit:** Being prepared for any emergency is as simple as planning. This begins with thinking about your daily activities, the people you care for or who rely on you, and how a disaster would change the way you get things done. Your family may not be together when a disaster strikes so it's essential, before an emergency happens, to have a family discussion to determine: how you will get to a safe place; how you will contact one another; how you will get back together; and what you will do in different situations.



Find more information on building an emergency kit and preparing your home and family for an emergency by visiting [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) or [www.kingcounty.gov](http://www.kingcounty.gov)

### Annual Report on Senior Citizen & Permanently Disabled Discount Rate

In the eighth year of the program, KCWD90 has 56 customers participating in our "Low Income Rate for Senior Citizens and Permanently Disabled" Discount Rate Program. The total cost to the District for the seventh year of this program (July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019) was \$10,806. Customers who qualify for the discount program pay a base rate of \$23.40 rather than the full base rate of \$55.85. Consumption charges and the Summer Surcharge are at the regular rate.

The *Application for Reduction in Water Rates* form can be found on our website at [www.kcwd90.com](http://www.kcwd90.com) under Applications, or for more information, call the District office at 425 255-9600.

### Do you qualify? Here are the requirements that all need to be met:

- You or your spouse are 55-years of age or older, or permanently disabled.
- You are living in the residence and pay the water bill.
- Your gross income from all sources is under \$22,000 if single & \$27,000 if married.

# What have your neighbors done to prepare for an emergency?

Recently, KCWD90 sent out surveys to customers asking them about their emergency preparedness plans. We received over 200 responses, and this is what we found out:

- 29% of respondents believed they are “adequately” or “well prepared” to handle a disaster.
- The majority of households have prepared by storing food, water, flashlights, and medical kits.
- Over 50% have taken a CPR/First Aid class.
- 50% have learned how to turn off their utilities (water, power, gas).
- The hazards that customers are most concerned about include earthquakes and the effects of climate change. There is also a growing concern regarding wildfires.
- 50% of respondents expect to be without water for four to 14 days after a major (8.0) earthquake, and 30% think it will be longer. *The District presumes water will be out for 7 to 21 days after a major earthquake.*
- 84% believe that 1 to 4 gallons of water per person will be needed after an event. *Emergency management professionals suggest 1 gallon per person per day.*
- 35% believe their home is in an earthquake or landslide zone, but only 15% have purchased flood insurance.
- Customers felt that the District should prepare for emergencies by focusing on projects that add safety and to reinforce essential water infrastructure. Secondly, customers thought that the District should provide better information about existing hazards in the area.
- 72% feel that it is the government’s job to educate and offer programs to help citizens reduce their risk to exposures.
- 45% of respondents believe that help after a major event will come from their neighbors and/or local governments.

**It’s not too late!** If you would like to participate in our Hazard Mitigation Survey, email us at [info@kcwd90.com](mailto:info@kcwd90.com) or contact the office at 425-255-9600.



up to \$100

## SPRINKLER TIMER REBATE

rebate ends October 31st

 Saving Water Partnership  
Seattle and Participating Local Water Utilities

Learn more: [savingwater.org/rebates](http://savingwater.org/rebates)

### Update on KCWD90 vs. King County Proposed Right-of-Way Tax.

- King County passed Ordinance 18403 in December 2016 that proposed to add an estimated \$5.00 per month tax on water, sewer, and power services to households in unincorporated areas of King County.
- This tax could impact customers by about \$180 per year (for all 3 utilities) and is anticipated to raise revenue for King County of \$10 million, annually.
- In August 2018, the District prevailed in King County Superior Court in their initial fight against King County’s new tax scheme.
- The Washington State Supreme Court has agreed to hear the appeal of this case in September 2019.
- We will report the outcome of the appeal at the end of 2019 or early in 2020.

**Do we have your phone number and/or email address?** KCWD90 uses this information for emergency or shut off notifications, and we do not share or sell your information. To update your contact information, email the District office at [info@kcwd90.com](mailto:info@kcwd90.com) or call us at 425-255-9600.