



King County Water District 90

WATER NOTES & DRIPS

Winter 2011

Calendar

Board of
Commissioner
Meetings (4:45pm)
First and Third
Tuesdays
At the District Office

Commissioners

Byron Murgatroyd
President
Sam Amira
Vice President
Dick Gidner
Secretary

Contact Us

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Thomas Hoffman
District Manager
Joshua Deraitus
Superintendent
Darcey Peterson
Accounting Manager
Check out our website
at:
www.kcwd90.com

Rate Increase - 7%

The long-term contract under which KCWD90 purchases water from Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) recently expired. The District has agreed to a new contract, which covers the next 50 years and will ensure a long term supply of water. But even with the new contract, the cost of water is increasing sharply. We will have an increase of 28% on average for the water we buy from Seattle. This increase would have been even larger under the old contract.

To cover these increases, the District has decided we must raise the base water rate from \$40 bi-monthly to \$45 bi-monthly, to take effect in the January 2012 billings. That is an increase of 7% on the average bill. This will take care of approximately two-thirds of the increased cost, so it is likely that rates will have to be further adjusted in 2013, but we will see how this works out. There are a few other very minor changes to the rate schedule, but everything else is pretty much unchanged. The \$20 bi-monthly rate for qualified low income and disabled customers remains the same.

The Commissioners and staff diligently review all our operations to keep down costs while maintaining high water quality and great service. Since 2000, while inflation has been over 30%, our rates have increased by only 20%, 10% less than inflation. This is despite a 90% increase in the cost of water from Seattle since 2000. The District's two wells produce about 30% of our water, and that has helped control our overall cost picture.

For a copy of the new rate sheet please contact the office or visit our website at www.kcwd90.com.

KCWD90 will be collecting TOYS FOR TOTS



**December
1st - 20th**



**We Heard
You**

Credit Card Payments Coming Soon

The Board of Commissioners recently approved the addition of two new payment methods for District customers. Beginning in the first quarter of 2012 customers will be able to pay their bills over the phone and on-line. Customers will be able to use credit, debit and echecks to pay their water bill. In addition the new bill pay features will allow customers to review their accounts on-line, reprint bills as needed, check to see if payments have posted, request paperless billing and get answers to frequently asked questions. The service will be available to our customers 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There will be a convenience fee paid by the customer for each payment in the amount of \$3.55. However, information on-line or over the phone is still free.

Furthermore, the updated systems will allow the District to call customers in the event of service interruptions, such as a “shut down” for construction, and to notify customers in extreme emergency situations. Delinquent customers will start receiving automated phone calls providing the amount due, the due date and an option to “press 2 now” to pay your bill directly.

More information will be provided over the next few months as we get closer to launching the new bill payment methods. Check our website (KCWD90.com) for more details.

New District Superintendent Joshua Deraitus

We would like to introduce you to Joshua Deraitus our new District Superintendent. He joined King County Water District 90 in February, 2000 as a meter reader. Joshua was promoted quickly over his 11 years with the District he has continued to move up in the organization.

From the beginning Joshua demonstrated a unique and rare combination of skills and character vital to protecting the public health and serving our customers. He is a conscientious person who always strives for excellence. He has strong mechanical abilities, a solid understanding of computer programs and electronics, easily authors standard operating procedures and enthusiastically responds to customer inquiries.

Joshua has increasingly taken on a leadership role while training new employees, writing emergency response procedures and adapting District Water Quality Policies to complex State and Federal regulations. He is certified with the Washington State Department of Health as a Cross Connection Control Specialist, Water Distribution Manager III, Backflow Assembly Tester, Basic Treatment Operator and Water Treatment Plant Operator-in-Training.

During his off hours Joshua attends local and professional sporting events with his father, enjoys large family barbeques and lifting weights. Most of all he loves being with his son and watching him grow.

