



# King County Water District 90

Fall 2014

## News Articles

### 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

15606 SE 128th St

Renton, WA 98059

(425) 255-9600

(425) 277-4128 Fax

info@kcwd90.com

Thomas Hoffman

District Manager

Joshua Deraitus

Operations Manager

Darcey Peterson

Finance Manager

Check out our website

at:

[www.kcwd90.com](http://www.kcwd90.com)

Pay your bill online

[www.kcwd90.com](http://www.kcwd90.com) or by

phone at 1-855-560.5615

## CHANGING OF THE GUARD

### KCWD90 ANNOUNCES NEW GENERAL MANAGER



Tom Hoffman has served as the General Manager of King County Water District #90 since May of 2000. During his time at the District, Tom has made valuable contributions that have been a tremendous benefit to Commissioners, Staff and water customers.

Tom's numerous improvements, including; preventative maintenance programs, aggressive main replacements, modernization of computer systems, new facilities, emergency response programs and more, have helped keep water rates low during a time of rising costs. Tom is truly a 24/7 Manager. When he is not actively managing the District he is thinking about ways to improve it. Tom is very well known in water and sewer circles and is acknowledged as a leader in the industry.

One of the great things about Tom is his willingness to go out into the field and assist with anything, from turning a customer's water on or off to responding to a main break if necessary. Tom is a very approachable, understanding and compassionate manager. When it comes to our staff, Tom always looks for the ways to improve an individual's performance and provide more aggressive training if necessary. This has bred a culture of teamwork where the employees work hard and are willing to ask the right questions when necessary.

We are grateful to have Tom's leadership and experience in guiding the District. Commissioners and Staff would like to thank Tom for his diligence over the years. We heartily thank him for his investment in the District over the past 14 years and we wish him well in his retirement.

Darcey Peterson has been the District's Finance Manager since May of 2001. The District is proud to announce that Darcey will be replacing Tom as General Manager, effective October 1, 2014. Darcey has over 25 years of experience in management and finance.



Darcey has a Bachelor's of Science degree in Business Administration and Accounting from Western Washington University. She also has the Washington State Department of Health Water Distribution Manager 3 certification.

In the position of Finance Manager, Darcey has completed 13 successful audits (audits with zero findings or errors) with the State Auditor's office. She is always looking for ways to do things better and more efficiently. During this same time period, the District has experienced unprecedented growth (over 50%) in the number of customers. Darcey has worked with District Management and Commissioners to modernize the District's operations, computer systems, facilities, and procedures necessary to facilitate that growth.

The District's customers are fortunate we were able to have such an outstanding candidate on staff to succeed Tom Hoffman as our new District Manager. The staff and the Board are very supportive of Darcey's management and are confident that Darcey will continue to oversee the District with exceptional leadership and attention to detail.



Tom is leaving some big shoes to fill

## WINTERIZE YOUR METER

Even though memories of this summer's warm temperatures may still be fresh in our minds, the fall chill is in the air. Now is the time to think about winterizing against the possibility of broken indoor pipes and outdoor water lines. A bit of early preventive maintenance will minimize the risk of inconvenience, discomfort, and the expense of dealing with broken pipes. Here are a few suggestions for things to complete before winter sets in:

- Disconnect and drain all outdoor hoses.
- Cover all outdoor faucets and hose bibs with protective coverings. Outdoor faucet covers are inexpensive and can be purchased at most hardware stores.
- Insulate any pipes or faucets in unheated garages or crawl spaces.
- If you have an in-ground irrigation system, the water should be turned off and the system drained or blown out.
- Know where your main water shut off valve and/or water meter is located for quick shut off in the event of a water emergency.
- Identify several irrigation contractors in advance and keep their numbers handy in the event of an emergency.
- Notify the District if your meter box needs to be filled with cedar chips to keep the meter from freezing. Your meter buried in dirt will also help keep the meter from freezing.

## BACKFLOW TESTING

Approximately 16% of the District's customers currently have backflow devices. These devices protect the quality of the District's water. Customers who have backflow devices are required to have them tested annually. Here are some of the frequently asked questions related to backflow and backflow devices. Additional Information is available on our website at [www.kcwd90.com](http://www.kcwd90.com).

### *What is backflow?*

Backflow is the reversal of flow of water back to the source from which it came from. This can pose to be a major public safety concern if the water is contaminated when it returns to the source of water.

### *Why is backflow a problem?*

Backflow into a public water system can pollute or contaminate that system, potentially causing that water to become unusable or unsafe to drink. Each water supplier has the responsibility to provide water that is usable and safe to drink under the foreseeable circumstances.

### *What is backflow Prevention Assembly?*

A Backflow Prevention Assembly is a mechanical assembly that prevents contaminated water from flowing out of common systems (such as not limited to Landscape Irrigation, Fire Suppression and Boiler Systems) back into the drinking water supply.

### *Why do backflow prevention assemblies have to be tested annually?*

All backflow prevention assemblies have calibrated internal components such as the springs, seals, and various moving parts inside your backflow prevention assembly will eventually wear-out or fatigue. Annual testing is the only way to ensure that your backflow prevention device is in proper working order.

### *Why do I need a Backflow Prevention Assembly Test?*

- Backflow prevention programs are in place to protect your drinking water from contamination.
- To insure that your backflow prevention assembly is in proper working condition.
- A backflow prevention assembly is a mechanical assembly that will at some time fail.
- It's the law **WAC 246-290-490**.