

Northeast Sammamish Sewer and Water District

3600 Sahalee Way Northeast
Sammamish, Washington 98074

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Northeast Sammamish Sewer and Water District

An Update from Your Commissioners



Board of Commissioners

Wayne DeMeester • *President*

Paul Sentena • *Secretary*

Paul Robinett

We are honored to serve as commissioners for **YOUR** local water district. And we are committed to providing our customers with the region's best tasting drinking water as well as making certain that you receive the highest level of value and customer service.

We are providing this newsletter to update you on news from the District as well as to inform you of our work to maintain and improve your community water system.

cutting-edge technology — which we were among the first on the West Coast to install — will protect your family's drinking water in the event of a major regional earthquake.

It is our goal to be open, accountable & accessible to our customers.

We do that by keeping you informed of district construction projects, informing you on the results of our annual audit and inviting you to attend our meetings for further information.

Please call us at (425) 868-1144 or visit our website — nesswd.org — for the latest information, tips on how to conserve water and contact details for Commissioners and District staff.

Northeast Sammamish Sewer and Water District COMMUNITY UPDATE • FALL 2019



The Northeast Sammamish Sewer and Water District Board meets on the **first and third Wednesday at 7:30 AM** in the District office. We invite you to attend and learn more about your district and our effort to provide superior service.

Northeast Sammamish Sewer and Water District

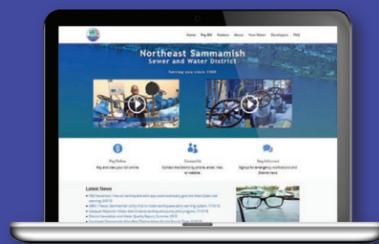
Open Monday to Friday • 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM

3600 Sahalee Way Northeast, Sammamish, Washington 98074

(425) 868-1144



Want to Pay Online?
Please go to our
website and register.



Visit our website
for answers to your
questions @
nesswd.org



NESSWD General Manager Laura Keough demonstrates how a warning from the ShakeAlert system will reduce any damage to our drinking water and sewer infrastructure.

In addition, we are continuing our community connection and, most recently, took part in the *Sammamish Citizen Corps Disaster Preparedness Fair* where we provided extensive information on the District's new **ShakeAlert** system. This

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Time to Winterize

Protect Your Home From Costly Frozen Pipes

A FEW SIMPLE STEPS can help prevent frozen pipes and the expensive repair cost from a water leak. While NESSWD is responsible for water from the source to the meter, you're responsible for protecting the pipes from the meter to and throughout your home. A small break in a plastic or copper supply pipe can spray hundreds of gallons of water per day — flooding your home and causing thousands of dollars in damage to floors, walls, furniture and home items.

Winterize Your Irrigation System.

Have a professional winterize your home watering system by properly blowing it out or draining it.

Disconnect Garden Hoses.

Remove garden hoses from exterior hose bibs and protect them with inexpensive covers.

Insulate Exposed Pipes.

Use pipe wrap to insulate pipes in an unheated garage or crawl space. Allowing a faucet to drip warm water during cold weather can provide protection, but never leave water running in a vacant home. Opening cabinet doors can allow heat to get to uninsulated pipes under the sink and behind appliances near exterior walls.

Locate Your Water Shut-Off Valve.

Don't wait for an emergency to know the location of your main water shut off and how to correctly operate it.

Protect Vacant Homes.

If you leave your house for several days, please take steps to protect pipes from freezing:

- * Turn off the water at the main shut off.
- * Open indoor & outdoor faucets to drain pipes.
- * Flush your toilet(s) once to drain the tank but not the bowl.
- * Leave your home heat on at a minimum setting — especially at night if you have a timed controller — to keep pipes from freezing in interior walls.

If Your Pipes Freeze Act Fast and Be Safe.

If you turn on your faucet and no water comes out, leave the faucet open and call a plumber right away. If you realize that a pipe has burst in a wall and water is flowing, turn off the water at your main shut off valve and leave your faucets open. Show everyone in your family the location of the water shut off and teach them how to safely close it.

NEVER thaw a pipe with a torch or open flame. It may be possible to thaw a pipe with a hair dryer. Start by warming the pipe as close to the faucet as possible and move toward the coldest section of the pipe. If the pipe is damaged, it may be smarter to allow ice to block it rather than risk a flood.

NEVER RISK ELECTROCUTION by using an electrical appliance in an area of standing water.

If you need help turning off your water please call us. The staff at NESSWD is here to help.

24-hour Emergency Number
(425) 868-1144



2020 Sewer and Water Rates

The Northeast Sammamish Sewer and Water District collects and pipes sewage to King County which provides treatment. The County sets sewer rates for all utility districts. The total sewer charge is increasing by \$1.66 per two-month bill or 1.11%.

SEWER RATES

Below are the new bi-monthly sewer rates.

	2019	2020
King County	\$90.66	\$90.66
NESSWD	\$55.40	\$57.06
	\$146.06	\$147.72

To ensure proper maintenance and improvement in vital facilities, the District has adopted new water and sewer rates for 2020. As a result, District water rates will increase 3% next year. We are committed to providing the highest quality service at the most reasonable cost to our customers.

WATER RATES

The new bi-monthly rates for a ¾" meter will be:

	2019	2020
Base Rate	\$40.80	\$42.04

Consumption cost per hundred cubic feet:

	2019	2020
0 to 1300 cf	\$2.84	\$2.93
1301-1700 cf	\$4.52	\$4.66
1701- 2600 cf	\$6.55	\$6.75
Over 2600 cf	\$8.58	\$8.84

Below is an example of a bi-monthly water bill for a ¾" meter under different usage scenarios.

	2019	2020
1700 cf (avg use)	\$95.80	\$98.77
2600 cf (avg summer use)	\$154.75	\$159.52

STREET LIGHTS

Will also increase by 3% to \$5.93 every two months.

UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS

SEWER PIPE LINING

The District is in the design phase of a \$1.1 million project to replace 6100 feet of 44-year old concrete pipe. The pipe is fast deteriorating and the interior needs to be lined. This is a complex project, but when complete it is estimated we will gain 45 years of additional pipe life. Construction will be done over two years beginning in the spring of 2020.



SCADA REPLACEMENT

SCADA stands for "Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition." The SCADA system is a distributed computer system that is used by operations and management for monitoring and automation. The District's current system is obsolete and repair parts are becoming difficult to find.

The Master Control Center allows operators to view our system and perform control actions. This was upgraded and replaced in 2018.

Remote terminal units (RTUs) are used at off site locations (e.g., reservoirs, sewer lift stations & wells) and communicate with the Master Control Center. The District awarded a contract to replace the RTUs in our wells and this project is underway. It should be complete by spring at a cost of \$428,000. In 2020, we will begin replacing RTUs at the booster stations and reservoirs at an estimated cost of \$268,000. In 2021, we will begin replacing RTUs at the lift stations for an estimated cost of \$429,000.

EMERGENCY GENERATORS

In 2020, emergency generators will be installed on some of our facilities that lack generators or where the generators are nearing the end of their useful lives. The estimated cost of this work is \$626,000.