

# Bellevue Utilities News

Information about your water, drainage, wastewater and solid waste utility services.

General Information 425-452-6932

Customer Service/Billing 425-452-6973

Drinking Water Quality 425-452-6192

Utilities Maintenance & 24 Hour Emergencies 425-452-7840

(flooding/water main breaks/no water/sewer overflows/ pollutant spills)

Email: [Utilities@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:Utilities@bellevuewa.gov)

Web: [www.bellevuewa.gov/utilities.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/utilities.htm)

Non-city phone numbers: Republic Services (solid waste service) 425-452-4762

July - August 2016

## Grease Down the Kitchen Sink Is Bad News

### Cool it, Can it, Trash it (or Recycle it)



Fats, oil and grease from food preparation and cleanup can result in a sewage backup into your home. When you wash or dump that gooey stuff down the kitchen sink drain, it can build up in your private side sewer or the public sewer main and block it.

To prevent blockages in sewer pipes from fats, oil and grease ("FOG" for short) Bellevue Utilities recommends doing the following when you're washing your dishes:

- Pour fats, oils and grease into a disposable container, such as a jar or can. Put it in the freezer and throw it in the trash after the FOG has hardened.
- Use paper towels or napkins from meals to wipe greasy dishes before washing. Put them in your food and yard waste cart.
- Use sink strainers to catch food waste and put scraps in your food and yard waste cart.
- Recycling any unwanted leftovers in your food and yard waste cart instead of using garbage disposals reduces unwanted FOG.
- Residents of single-family homes, apartments and condos can recycle their cooking oil with Republic Services.

Call 425-452-4762 for details.

Bellevue Utilities also encourages residents to check their homeowners insurance to make sure they have coverage for repairs or damages caused by sewer backups.



## Water Quality and Safety: Your Water Rates at Work

You might think that when you pay your water bill you are just purchasing the water you use. In fact you are purchasing peace of mind every time you turn on the tap when it comes to your water quality.

Water quality specialists at Bellevue Utilities are monitoring the safety of your drinking water throughout the year. At 28 sampling stations – increasing to 34 in 2016 – utilities staff are collecting monthly samples to see:

- If any unsafe bacteria are present
- Proper levels of chlorination are maintained

There are also 16 online analyzers located at reservoirs and other locations in the city water system, continuously monitoring for chlorine and acidity. Proper chlorine levels protect you from any unsafe bacteria or other microorganisms. Monitoring and maintaining acidity of water reduces risk to exposure to lead and copper from home plumbing leaching into your drinking water.



## Have a Problem? There's an App for That!

**MyBellevue** is a mobile app that will allow you to report issues, request services and stay connected to the city using your smartphone or other mobile device. You can still call or go online for help, but the app makes access to city services more convenient.

In addition to all things related to city services, use the app to report important – but not emergency – problems with water, drainage, wastewater and solid waste services. In case of utility emergencies call 425-452-7840.

Download the app through the App Store, Google Play or the Windows Store so you can solve problems and be aware when problems arise.

## MyUtilityBill Just Got Better

If you haven't made the switch to e-billing you might consider it. Besides being greener by being paperless, Bellevue Utilities e-billing service – MyUtilityBill – has several new features, including:

- E-mail notification of payments: get that extra assurance your payment has cleared.
- Set up autopay online from your checking or savings account.
- View tenant accounts: landlords can see past due balances, current balances, and pending payments.

Get started today at <http://myutilitybill.bellevuewa.gov>. Have your customer and account numbers handy to complete the registration process.



## Why Aren't You Composting? Get Your Free Kitchen Composter!

Are you dumping your food scraps in the garbage, or worse, putting them down the garbage disposal in your sink and increasing your risk of a sewage backup?

Get your FREE kitchen composter from Republic Services. You can line it with a compostable bag and put all your food scraps in it. Once it's full, place the compostable bag with food scraps in your food and yard waste cart. It's that easy and mess free. Plus you're recycling a valuable resource that will become rich compost that will feed gardens around Bellevue instead of sitting in a landfill forever. All single-family residents are eligible. Just call Republic Services at 425-452-4762.



## Bellevue Businesses, Apartments, and Condominium Properties

Did you know these services are included for FREE as part of your garbage service?

### Getting Started Is FREE & Easy

**STEP 1: SET-UP/INCREASE SERVICE** – call Republic Services to add or increase recycling service or to request your free outside organics cart(s). Call 425-646-2492 or visit [www.RepublicBellevue.com](http://www.RepublicBellevue.com) and click on “Request Services.”

**STEP 2: REQUEST FREE RESOURCES** – call the City of Bellevue for free resources, including program design and start-up assistance. Call 425-452-6932 or email [recycle@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:recycle@bellevuewa.gov).

UP TO TWO 96-GALLON  
**ORGANICS CARTS**  
(PER GARBAGE DUMPSTER)



**SET-UP/ INCREASE SERVICE**

- Organics carts for collecting food scraps and yard debris
- Picked up weekly

**FREE RESOURCES**

- Organics posters
- Kitchen caddies for collecting food scraps to carry outside and empty into the organics cart
- Two sizes available: small with compostable bags for residents and large Slim Jims® for businesses






## UNLIMITED RECYCLING



### SET-UP/ INCREASE SERVICE

- Recycling dumpsters or carts
- Picked up weekly or more

### FREE RESOURCES

- Recycling posters
- Recycling containers for businesses
- Recycling tote bags for apartment and condo residents to use to collect materials and carry them outside to dump into the recycling carts or dumpsters



Save money and resources by reducing your garbage. It's good for our community and the environment.



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可在以下网站用中文查看《贝尔维尤市公用事业新闻》(Bellevue Utilities News): [www.bellevuewa.gov/utilities.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/utilities.htm).

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