

# Bellevue Utilities News

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



## TAKE WINTER BY STORM

September - October 2019

**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** [utilities.bellevuewa.gov](http://utilities.bellevuewa.gov)  
**Non-city phone numbers** Republic Services (solid waste service)  
425-452-4762

## Is Your Home Ready for Fall and Winter Storms?

Here's a checklist of important steps to help you prepare. Have you:

- ☐ Cleaned gutters and downspouts twice a year? This helps protect your home from damage when it rains.
- ☐ Checked your property's drainage system? A clogged system can cause property flooding. This is especially important on commercial properties with multiple catch basins or other drainage structures that need regular maintenance.
- ☐ Tested sump pumps?
- ☐ Updated your family emergency kit? You need enough water, food and other supplies to support your home for at least three days. [Takewinterbystorm.org](http://Takewinterbystorm.org) has a full list of recommended emergency supplies.
- ☐ Prepared (and practiced) a family communications plan during emergencies? See plan templates and ideas at [ready.gov](http://ready.gov).
- ☐ Checked your home insurance policy for flood or storm-related damage coverage?
- ☐ Protected your water pipes from freezing by wrapping with tape and insulation in exposed or unheated areas (outdoors, attic, basement, or garage)?

Visit [takewinterbystorm.org](http://takewinterbystorm.org) and [ready.gov](http://ready.gov) for more tips to help you protect your home and your loved ones during extreme weather events.



## Protect Our Streams


A little oil leak can travel a long way—and turn into big trouble for our local waterways. Rain washes leaked oil, power steering, transmission and brake fluids, and gasoline from driveways, parking lots, and roadways into our storm drains. These drains flow directly to the nearest body of water, where the contaminated water can harm fish and other wildlife.



Fixing leaks immediately helps prolongs the life of your vehicle. It protects your investment as well as our waterways.

If you can't repair the leak right away, place cardboard, drip pans or newspaper under your car while it is parked until you can get it fixed.

To absorb spills and avoid runoff, sprinkle sand or kitty litter over the spill, then sweep up into a bag and put it in the trash.

 Thank you for helping us keep our streams clean and healthy.



**CASCADE**  
WATER ALLIANCE



**PUGET SOUND ENERGY**

## Rebates Save You Money on Water and Energy Bills

Heating water is the second-highest use of energy in your home. Puget Sound Energy and Cascade Water Alliance are working together to bring you rebates on appliances and other water-saving products that help control the flow of water in your home—and save money on your bills.

Upgrade an old, inefficient clothes washer with a qualified ENERGY STAR® model, and receive \$25, plus an Energy Savings kit that includes two LEDs and two faucet aerators. With these, you'll use less water and save more on your energy bill. Go to [pse.com/appliances](http://pse.com/appliances) for more information on qualifying models.

You can also get an instant discount of up to \$10 on select WaterSense® products, including aerators or showerheads from ShopPSE or participating retailers. Learn more at [pse.com/showerheads](http://pse.com/showerheads).



BELLEVUE UTILITIES:  
**SMARTER  
CHOICES**  
FOR YOUR HOME

## Be Greener with Our FREE Community Workshops

Attend one of Bellevue Utilities' popular hands-on workshops to learn tips and tools for a healthier, more sustainable life (and planet).

**Green Cleaning Workshops** teach you how to choose and make your own products that protect the environment and your health.  
**Bonus: Free green cleaning kit!**

**Zero Waste Hero Workshops** help you learn how to:

- Save money by reducing food waste, and composting basics (with a free composting kit)
- Sort recycling, organics and garbage right to send less to landfill
- Recycle unusual items like batteries

Registration is required for all classes.\* Spots fill fast, so sign up early—first come, first served. To register, call **425-452-6932** or email [recycle@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:recycle@bellevuewa.gov). Adults and kids over seven are welcome.

\*Some classes may have already finished by the time of this mailing.

## Workshop Dates & Locations

### Green Cleaning

- Tuesday, September 10th, 7pm – 8pm  
Lake Hills Library, 15590 Lake Hills Blvd
- Thursday, October 3rd, 7pm – 8pm  
Bellevue Downtown Library, 1111 110th Ave NE
- Tuesday, October 15th, 7pm – 8pm  
Newport Way Library, 14250 SE Newport Way
- Wednesday, October 23rd, 12pm – 1pm  
Lake Hills Library, 15590 Lake Hills Blvd

### Zero Waste Hero

- Wednesday, September 18th, 1pm – 2pm  
Newport Way Library, 14250 SE Newport Way
- Monday, September 30th, 7pm – 8pm  
Newport Way Library, 14250 SE Newport Way
- Wednesday, October 9th, 12pm – 1pm  
Lake Hills Library, 15590 Lake Hills Blvd
- Monday, October 21st, 7pm – 8pm  
Bellevue Downtown Library, 1111 110th Ave NE



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BellevueWashington](http://www.youtube.com/BellevueWashington)



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bellevuewa](http://www.twitter.com/bellevuewa)

## Save Your Sewer: Dispose of Fats, Oils and Grease Properly



When F.O.G. products (fats, oils and grease) go down your drain, they stick to pipes. This can lead to costly, messy sewer backups in your home—even your neighborhood!

**Follow these simple steps to keep greasy food waste out of your pipes:**

- 1. Scrape and wipe dishes** before washing. This keeps greasy scraps out of the dishwasher and garbage disposal, where they head straight to the sewer. Recycle food scraps in your organics container.
- 2. Use sink strainers to catch food waste** in your sink before it enters the drain.
- 3. For heavy oils and grease: cool it, can it, trash it.** Pour fats and grease that turn solid when cooled into a disposable container and put in your garbage. You can recycle used liquid oil in clear, screw-top plastic sealed containers labeled with your name and address. Leave next to your recycling cart and call **425-452-4762** to schedule a pickup.\*

See [bellevuewa.gov/PreventSewerBackups](http://bellevuewa.gov/PreventSewerBackups) for more information on protecting your pipes.

\*Limit 3 gallons per pick-up or 10 gallons a year.

## Prevent Flooding: Adopt a Drain

Every fall, Bellevue Utilities faces a big job keeping storm drains clear—there are over 20,000 around the city!

You can help prevent flooding on your street by keeping your local storm drain clear of leaves and other debris.

Only clear your drain if it is safe to do so—work from a sidewalk if possible, and stay out of the street. Put all leaves and compostable debris in your organics cart. And please do not dispose of your grass clippings, leaves, or any other debris into drains, ditches, creeks, culverts, gutters, or ravines.

If a storm drain appears blocked below the street surface, please call us at **425-452-7840**.

Bellevue Utilities News is available online and in other languages at [utilities.bellevuewa.gov](http://utilities.bellevuewa.gov).

可在以下網站用中文查看《貝爾維尤市公用事業新聞》(Bellevue Utilities News): [utilities.bellevuewa.gov](http://utilities.bellevuewa.gov).

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Tin Tức Về Tiện Ích của Bellevue (Bellevue Utilities News) có bằng tiếng Việt trong [utilities.bellevuewa.gov](http://utilities.bellevuewa.gov).

