

Remember: Every Day is Earth Day!

April may be over, but every day is Earth Day in Bellevue! Let's work together to create a Zero Waste "new normal." Together we can make a difference! Simple everyday actions you can take to protect our planet include:

Bring Your Own (BYO)...Everything!

Single-use plastic and paper items fill our landfills, pollute waterways and impact precious natural resources — and they are also often avoidable.



Water Bottle: Refill instead of landfill! Bring your own refillable water bottle to school, work, sports games and beyond!



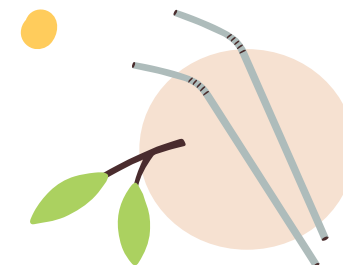
Tote Bag: Going shopping? Eliminate the need for all paper and plastic bags, avoid fees and protect natural resources by remembering to bring your own reusable bag!

Tip: Think before you shop! Can you purchase materials that can be reused or are made of recycled content? Do you already own something that would meet your needs?



Utensils: Grabbing takeout? Plan ahead to refuse single-use plastic utensils when eating out. Keep durable utensils in your backpack, purse, car, etc.

Tip: When buying lunch, grab only what you need. Too often extra ketchup packets and napkins go to waste!



Straw: Thirsty? Skip the straw or bring your own washable straw for your favorite beverage.



Your Stream Starts Here

Bellevue streams are home and highway to a variety of fish and wildlife including salmon, river otter and bald eagle. Everything that flows off your property flows into this habitat. You can help protect water quality.

- **Use a commercial carwash** because the wastewater is sent to the sewer for treatment.
- **Avoid pesticides.** Products that kill "bad" bugs in your yard kill good bugs in the stream.
- **Scoop the poop,** bag it and place it in the trash. Dog waste carries harmful microorganisms that can be passed on to humans.

Thank you for keeping our streams and lakes clean.

Bellevue Stream Team
streamteam@bellevuewa.gov



Utilities discounts and rebates

The City of Bellevue offers programs to assist low-income residents with utility costs for water, wastewater and drainage.

Rate Relief

Rate relief offers 70% off basic utility costs for low-income seniors (62 and older) and low-income persons with permanent disabilities who meet specific residency and income guidelines. You may qualify for rate relief if your 2021 household income was \$40,500 or less for one person or \$46,300 or less for two people. The scale increases as the size of the household increases.

The form of relief depends on how utility costs are paid:

- **Utility Rate Discount:** If you pay a Bellevue utility bill, you may qualify for a rate reduction on your 2022 utility bills. This program is open through Oct. 28.
- **Utility Rate Rebate:** If your utility costs have been paid through rent or other third party, you may qualify for a rebate check on 2021 utility costs you paid. This program is open April 1 to Oct. 28.

Emergency Assistance Program

If you pay a Bellevue utility bill directly, and are not eligible for a rate discount, you may qualify for

a 100% discount for up to four months of basic utility service, if you are experiencing a one-time financial shock that interferes with your household's ability to cover basic needs.

There are no age or disability requirements for the Emergency Assistance Program. This assistance is available once every three years.

Additional Requirements

Additional requirements apply for rate relief discounts and rebates as well as the Emergency Assistance Program. Guidelines and applications are available at BellevueWA.gov/utility-relief, or call 425-452-5285 for more information.

Only YOU can prevent sewer backups!

City maintenance crews are working hard to clear sewer blockages but only YOU can prevent sewer backups caused by grease and wipes. Our sewers are designed to dispose of toilet paper, human waste and water. When other things — such as wipes, cooking oil and grease — are flushed down the toilet or washed down the sink, sewer pipes get blocked and can cause backups. Sewer backups can cost thousands of dollars to repair and pose a risk to public health and the environment. Customers are responsible for issues that occur in their sewer pipes. We all share the cost in taking care of the public system. Do your part in preventing sewer backups, save costs and protect the environment.



Sewer Backup Prevention Tips:

- Only flush toilet paper and human waste.
- Use organics recycling to dispose of food scraps.
- Collect and properly dispose of used cooking oil.
- Wipe down dinnerware and pans before washing.

Bellevue Utilities News is available online and in other languages at www.bellevuewa.gov/utilities

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

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Tin Tức Về Tiện Ích của Bellevue (Bellevue Utilities News) có bản tiếng Việt trong www.bellevuewa.gov/utilities.

General information: 425-452-6932
utilities@bellevuewa.gov
utilities.bellevuewa.gov

Customer Service/Billing: 425-452-6973

Drinking Water Quality: 425-452-6192

24 Hour Emergencies: 425-452-7840
(flooding, water main breaks, no water, sewer overflows, pollutant spills)

Republic Services (solid waste service):
425-452-4762