Bellevue Utilities News

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

March - April 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 Web: http://utilities.bellevuewa.gov/

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



Coming to Bellevue Soon!

"Smart" water meters, which track and wirelessly transmit your water usage in near-real time, are coming to Bellevue. The city will begin replacing water meters later this year, with all smart meters set to be installed by the end of 2020.

Smart meters, equipped with radio transmitters, send consumption data to the city over a secure wireless connection. The city will then use the data to show daily consumption, so you can monitor and manage use, detect possible leaks as well as create bills. Utilities staff will begin informing customers when meters in their neighborhoods will be changed later this year.

Before large-scale meter replacements take place, there will be a pilot test of the technology early this summer. The Utilities Department is collecting the names and contact details of those customers who would like to participate in the pilot. If you're interested, please send your name, address and phone number to SmartWater@bellevuewa.gov.

More information about smart meters is available at https://bellevuewa.gov/smart-water-meter.

Don't trash it! Fix it!

Do you have something lying around your home that could be useful again if only you knew how to repair it? Now, help is on the way through the City of Bellevue's Repair Fair!

During the free event, volunteers experienced in repair will be on hand to try to fix items brought in by the public. They will do their best to make repairs.

Where: Bellevue Library, 1111 110th Ave. NE When: Wednesday, May 29, 3-6 p.m.

What to bring: Small household items, such as:

- Chairs and tables
- Blenders, coffee makers, lamps and fans
- Cell phones with broken screens
- Clothing and curtains, ripped or needing minor alterations

You will also need to bring your own replacement parts and materials for specialized repairs, which are fairly common.

The Repair Fair is brought to you through a partnership between King County and the city.

For event questions or to let us know what you are planning to bring, which is helpful for our repair volunteers, call 206-477-4481 or email tom.watson@kingcounty.gov.

Utilities Discounts and Rebates

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

Rate Relief

Rate relief offers 70 percent 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 2018 household income was \$37,450 or less for one person or \$42,800 or less for two. 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 2019 utility bills. This program is open through Oct. 31.
- Utility Rate Rebate: If your utility costs have been paid through rent or other third party, you may qualify for a rebate check on 2018 utility costs. This program is open April 1 to Oct. 31.

Emergency Assistance Program

If you pay a Bellevue utility bill directly and are not eligible for the Rate Discount, you may qualify for a 100 percent discount for up to four months of 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 will be available when the programs open at BellevueWA.gov/UtilityRelief or by calling Bellevue Utilities at 425-452-5285.

Update Your Account Information Online

Keeping your account information current is important for many reasons.

It allows Bellevue Utilities to:

- Contact you in case of an emergency, such as a water main break, flooding or a boil water notice.
- More quickly inform you of a water leak. Customers are responsible for paying for wasted water use both in their home and their private water service line.

Update your customer contact information today at bellevuewa.gov/ ContactUpdate.

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Get Your Green On!

Bellevue Utilities is offering free, hands-on workshops so you can learn how to live a healthier and more sustainable life.

With **Zero Waste Hero** workshops, you'll sharpen your recycling and composting knowledge and learn to reduce waste in the first place Learn how to save money by reducing food waste.

- Properly sort recycling, organics and garbage.
- Learn where to recycle unusual items such as batteries.
- Take home a reusable, recycling collection bag, a kitchen composting container and kit, and posters of how to sort.

With **Green Cleaning** workshops, you'll learn how to choose and make green cleaners and how to avoid products that are harmful for the environment and your health. Receive a free green cleaning kit and a certificate for completing the class!

If you would like to attend, registration is required. Please email us at **recycle@bellevuewa.gov** or call **425-452-6932** to register. Spaces are limited to 20 people per session, first come, first served. Adults and children over seven are welcome to attend.

Workshop Dates & Locations

Green Cleaning

Newport Way Library, 14250 SE Newport Way Saturday, March 23, 1 – 2PM

Monday, April 15, 7 – 8PM Tuesday, May 7, 7 – 8PM

Lake Hills King County Library, 15590 Lake Hills Blvd

Sunday, April 28, 2 – 3PM Wednesday, May 1, 7 – 8PM

Bellevue Library, 1111 110th Ave NE

Thursday, May 2, 6 – 7PM

Zero Waste Hero

Newport Way Library, 14250 SE Newport Way

Saturday, March 30, 12 – 1PM

Monday, April 29, 7 - 8PM

Tuesday, May 14, 7 – 8PM

Lake Hills King County Library, 15590 Lake Hills Blvd

Friday, April 12, 4 – 5PM

Wednesday, May 15, 7 – 8PM

Bellevue Library, 1111 110th Ave NE

Monday, May 6, 7 – 8PM



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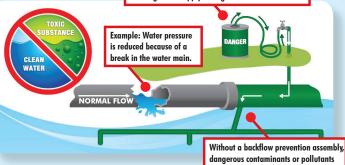


Prevent Dangerous Backflow

Do you own an irrigation system, fire sprinkler system or lake water pumping system? Bellevue Utilities, in compliance with State law requires that backflow assembly devices be installed in these systems.

Reverse flow is created by a change in water pressure. Dangerous contaminants can then be drawn into the drinking water supply through a cross-connection.

could enter the drinking water supply.



What Is Backflow?

It's exactly what it sounds like: the water is flowing in the opposite direction from its normal flow. With the direction of flow reversed, due to a change in water pressure, backflow can allow contaminants such as fertilizers, garden chemicals, insects and pet waste to enter your drinking water system.

A backflow prevention assembly ensures water flows only one way. If you have any of the above systems, watch for a test reminder notice from us, and please make sure you have a certified tester complete your required annual backflow assembly test. Please contact our Water Quality staff at **425-452-4201** with any questions. Your efforts help protect your drinking water quality!

Empty, Clean, Dry – Words To Recycle By

It only takes an extra minute to empty, clean and dry your recycling. That ensures it will get made into something new.

Recycling is an important thing we can do to benefit both the environment and the economy. You keep lots of material out of the landfill, and making products from recycled content decreases the need to extract new materials, such as petroleum, wood, minerals and water from the environment.

Bellevue residents continue to benefit both the environment and the economy by recycling their plastic, paper, cardboard, glass and metal cans. No matter what, we should all continue recycling and strive to recycle right.

Containers that previously contained food or liquid should be rinsed to remove residue. Shake out excess liquid and air dry. When putting recycling in your curbside bin, make sure you don't overfill the bin and keep the lid shut tight to keep out rain.

As long as they are empty, clean and dry, you should always recycle paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, jugs and tubs, glass bottles and jars, and metal cans.

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