

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
Web: www.bellevuewa.gov/utilities.htm
Non-city phone numbers: Republic Services (solid waste service) 425-452-4762

September - October 2017



Are You Prepared for Winter Storms?

Here are a few things you can do now to be ready and reduce flood damage around your home:

- Clean gutters and downspouts twice a year. Failure to maintain gutters, downspouts, and outlets can lead to significant damage to your home when it rains.
- Check your property's drainage system. This is especially important on commercial properties that have multiple catch basins or other drainage structures that require regular maintenance. A clogged system can cause property flooding.
- If you own a sump pump, test it before a storm.
- Build a family emergency kit. Keep enough water, food and other supplies (flashlights, crank or battery-operated radio, blankets) in your home to meet your needs for at least three days. Kits for winter car travel are also recommended.
- Have a family disaster plan.
- Check to see if your homeowner's insurance covers flood or other storm-related damage.
- Protect water pipes from freezing in exposed or unheated areas (attics, basements and garages) by wrapping with tape and insulating materials.

Visit takewinterbystorm.org for more tips on how to prepare for winter storms.



Keeping the Water Flowing: Your Storm Rates at Work

The next time you pass a storm drain on the road, know that your utility bill is helping to support work that is controlling damage caused by storms.

You may have seen utilities vector trucks in your neighborhood. These giant cleaning machines allow crews to use high pressure water and vacuums to clean storm drains, stormwater detention facilities, and stormwater pipes.

With winter rains around the corner, crews from Bellevue Utilities are busy cleaning and protecting us from flooding by maintaining:

- More than 20,000 storm drains
- 400 miles of stormwater pipes
- 11 city-owned regional stormwater detention facilities
- More than 350 city-owned residential stormwater detention facilities



Prevent Flooding: Adopt a Drain

Don't let fall rainstorms flood your street. Help clear your local storm drain of leaves and other debris by adopting your local storm drain.

Every autumn Bellevue Utilities faces a big job keeping storm drains clear – there are over 20,000 of them around the city!

Remember to clear your drain only if it is safe. Stay out of the street and work from a sidewalk if possible. Put all leaves and compostable debris in your organics cart. Don't put grass clippings, leaves, or other debris into drains, ditches, creeks, culverts, gutters or ravines.

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

Don't Flush Trouble! Use the Trash. Not the Toilet.

Flushing anything but toilet paper and what occurs naturally can cause massive sewage clogs – causing overflows that might damage property and hurt the environment, including our lakes and streams. Don't believe those ads promoting so-called "flushable" products that can supposedly be safely disposed of in your toilet.

Bellevue Utilities 36 pump stations are in constant operation – pumping our wastewater to the treatment plant. Despite their steady pumping, the stations require continual maintenance to free them of paper towels, tissues, wet wipes, and other products that should have been put in the trash.

Pump stations throughout the city are located in public spaces, shopping centers, and residential areas – and when not treated kindly pose a threat. So please do not flush paper towels, facial tissue, cotton swabs, personal and baby wipes, hair, dental floss, feminine hygiene products, or cat litter.

Green Cleaning Workshops

Come for a free, hands-on Green Cleaning Workshop presented by Bellevue Utilities to learn how to choose and make green cleaners and how to avoid products that are harmful for the environment and our health.

Receive a free green cleaning kit and a certificate for completing the class! Adults and children over seven are welcome to attend.

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.

Fall Workshop Dates & Locations

Wednesday, September 13 • 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Bellevue Downtown Library, 1111 110th Avenue NE

Tuesday, October 3 • 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Newport Way Library, 14250 SE Newport Way

Friday, October 13 • 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Bellevue Downtown Library, 1111 110th Avenue NE

Sunday, October 22 • 3 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Lake Hills Library, 15590 Lake Hills Blvd

Thursday, November 2 • 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Newport Way Library, 14250 SE Newport Way

Monday, November 6 • 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Lake Hills Library, 15590 Lake Hills Blvd

Fall Recycling Event October 28

Now's the time to declutter before winter comes! Everything you drop off will be recycled at Bellevue's Annual Fall Recycling Event.

Saturday, October 28, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Bellevue Presbyterian Church, 1717 Bellevue Way NE

What's accepted: If you haven't been able to find a second life for the following items, please make sure they are safely secured when you are transporting them to the event with tarps, rope, straps, netting or other means. Only cars, passenger vans and pickups are allowed to drop off items. No flatbed or dump trucks are allowed. We reserve the right to refuse oversized, commercial or contaminated loads.

Cash-only fee for the following items:

- Appliances and scrap metal (\$33 for air conditioners, \$28 for refrigerators and freezers, \$5 for water heaters with insulation coating)
- Mattresses and box springs (\$15 per item)
- Porcelain toilets and sinks (\$15 per item)
- Residential propane tanks (\$5 per item) and small, empty camping tanks (\$1)
- Tires (limit six for the following: \$2 for each tire, \$3.50 for each tire on a rim, \$10 for each large truck tire, and \$15 for each truck tire on a rim)

Other items accepted include:

- Auto parts (metal and non-greasy)
- Appliances (such as blenders, dishwashers, dryers and washing machines, microwaves, stoves, and toasters)
- Clean scrap wood (untreated and unpainted)
- Electronic equipment (DVD and VCR players, cell phones, computer keyboards and mice, copiers, fax machines, printers, scanners, and stereos)
- Exercise equipment
- Lawnmowers (drain oil and gasoline, remove batteries for electric)
- Lead acid batteries (car, truck, marine and motorcycle)
- Metal lawn furniture
- Rigid plastics (such as buckets, children's toys, coolers, laundry baskets, plastic lawn furniture, PVC pipe, and sports bottles)
- Secure shredding of confidential materials (limit 5 file-sized boxes no larger than 15 inches long, 10-inches wide, and 12 inches high)
- Styrofoam blocks and packing peanuts (white blocks and packing peanuts of any color)

Explore the event flyer online and for full details at bellevuewa.gov/FallRecyclingEvent.

Free Water-saving Items Just a Click Away

Bellevue Utilities wants to help you save water. By installing high-efficiency fixtures and practicing wise water use, you can reduce your water consumption, lower your utility bills and help ensure a reliable water supply for future generations.

Bellevue is a member of the Cascade Water Alliance, through which customers can get free conservation items – paying only shipping and handling.

A sample order for \$7 could include all of these items:

- Low-flow Showerhead: reduce gallons per minute and energy demand from your water heater.
- Dye Tablets/Strips: test to stop water waste from silent toilet leaks.
- Digital Shower Timer: attaches to the wall with a suction cup.
- Kitchen Faucet Aerator: has a 360 degree swivel capability plus reduces water flow.
- Bathroom Faucet Aerator: reduce water flow but not the performance.

Place orders at cascadewater.org/water-efficiency/free-items.

Homeowners only need an account or customer number from their utility bill. Free items are also available to apartment condo owners and managers.

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

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.

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Bellevue Utilities News (Novedades de Bellevue Utilities) está disponible en español en www.bellevuewa.gov/utilities.htm.

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



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