

the SOOS CREEK

CON NECTION

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July/August 2017

Meet Newly-Appointed Commissioner Merle Reeder

Please join us in welcoming long-time Kent resident Merle Reeder to the Soos Creek Water & Sewer District. Merle was appointed Commissioner, Position 2, in April, replacing Commissioner Larry West who passed away this spring. Merle comes to us with more than 40 years in the commercial and residential building industries. Currently a project manager and salesman for Northwest Roof Service, Merle works with homeowners, property managers, commercial business owners, and investors to provide energy efficient, cost-effective solutions.

Merle also holds a real estate broker's license to assist wife Marti Reeder, a Realtor and managing broker for John L. Scott's Covington-Kent-Maple Valley office. Merle previously owned and managed general contracting business Reeder Brothers Construction for 30 years, overseeing numerous commercial and residential projects including the construction of his own custom-built home on five acres where he and his wife raised their blended family of four children.



With extensive experience as a business owner with a focus on energy conservation, Merle has a strong background in various aspects of the building industry and in the day-to-day management of a small business. He has experience with estimating, construction management, property development, and working with various city and county building departments and their codes and regulations. In addition, Merle has been involved in community and professional organizations including the Building Industry Association, Energy Business Association of WA, and the National Association of REALTORS® and Washington REALTORS®.

Passionate about his community, Merle brings extensive experience, innovative thinking and a fresh perspective to Soos Creek Water & Sewer District. He wants to help the District provide reliable, high quality water and sewer services to customers in an efficient and cost-effective manner. Welcome, Merle!

Soos Creek's Water Supply Ranked #1 in the West

Soos Creek Water & Sewer District (SCWSD) purchases your water from Seattle Public Utilities (SPU). SPU has been ranked number one in the West and second in the nation in J.D. Power's annual customer satisfaction study of U.S. drinking water utilities.

In a news release on May 17, 2017 (<http://www.jdpower.com/press-releases/jd-power-2017-water-utility-residential-customer-satisfaction-study>) the national marketing research company said their 2017 Water Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction Study "is based on more than 40,000 responses, representing more than 87 million residential customers of the 87 largest water utilities across the United States. The study was fielded in four waves between June 2016 and March 2017."

SPU's General Manager and Chief Executive Officer Mami Hara said she was gratified to learn of the utility's high ranking in the J.D. Power study. "The women and men of SPU work hard to provide America's best drinking water, and we are very pleased to see that our customers are reporting a high level of satisfaction," Hara said.

J.D. Power said overall satisfaction in its survey "is measured by examining 33 attributes within six factors (listed in order of importance): delivery; price; conservation; billing and payment; communications; and customer service."

SPU, which delivers pure mountain drinking water to 1.4 million customers in the greater Seattle region, received 744 points on the company's customer satisfaction index, just 5 points behind Miami-Dade County, in South Florida. Placing behind SPU were utilities serving major U.S. cities, including New York, Chicago, Cleveland, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Houston, Atlanta, Denver, San Diego, Los Angeles, and Portland.

MISSION STATEMENT

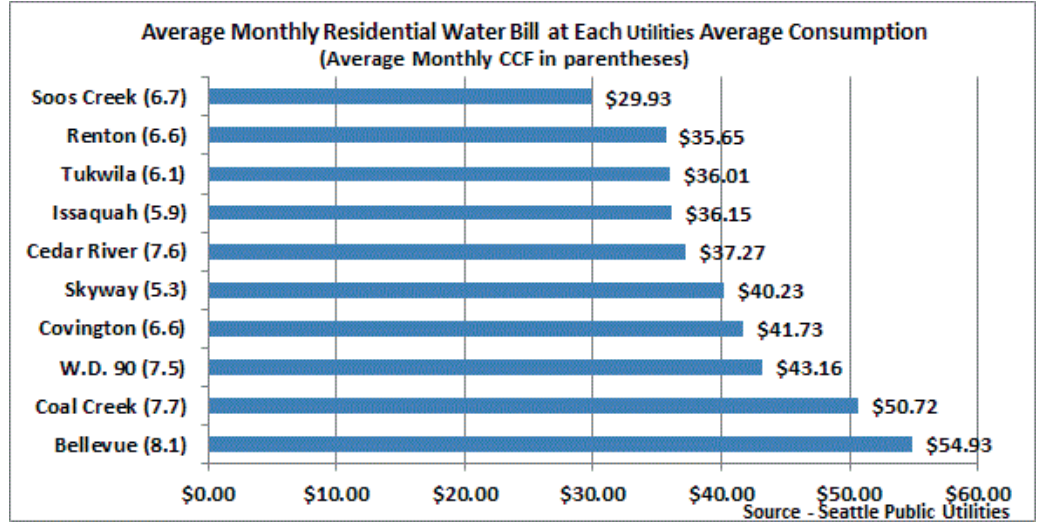
The mission of Soos Creek, a public agency, is to provide reliable, high quality water and sewer services in an efficient, cost effective manner.

DEDICATED AND COMMITTED TO SERVING YOU

Soos Creek Water and Sewer District (SCWSD) is one of the largest utilities in the state of Washington, serving more than 104,900 people within 35 square miles. SCWSD continues to grow and change to meet the needs of our customers and our community, and to meet the requirements of all federal, state, and local regulations. The District’s Board of Commissioners provides a consistent vision and steady leadership that focuses on providing you with safe, high quality water and a reliable wastewater system at responsible rates. Over the past 10 years, our water service population has grown by 7% and our sewer population has grown by 11%. Even with the increase in both water and sewer customers, we have maintained the same number of full-time employees today as we had 10 years ago. Our administrative policies help to attract and retain the best employees in our industry resulting in a very low turnover rate. Our staff is talented, well-trained, and committed to providing you with excellent customer service and keeping our water and sewer system operating efficiently. The Board of Commissioners and District staff continue to work together to accomplish great things. To name a few:

Water Rates

SCWSD purchases your water from Seattle Public Utilities (SPU). Among the purveyors who purchase water from SPU, SCWSD charges one of the lowest rates to its customers (for low, medium, and high consumption). The graph to the right shows the 2016 *Average Monthly Residential Water Bills at Each Utility’s Average Consumption*.



Sewer Rates

The chart below compares SCWSD’s 2016 monthly sewer rate with other sewer districts and cities. The information shows that our sewer rate is below the average rate.

Note: The Rates shown below include King County’s \$42.03 per month Sewage Treatment Charge.

AGENCY	RATE	AGENCY	RATE	AGENCY	RATE
SEATTLE	\$ 92.03	WOODINVILLE	\$ 69.18	LAKE FOREST PARK	\$ 59.12
MERCER ISLAND	\$ 84.80	AUBURN	\$ 66.32	REDMOND	\$ 56.18
SKYWAY	\$ 78.56	NE SAMMAMISH	\$ 65.95	VALLEY VIEW SEWER	\$ 54.05
KIRKLAND	\$ 75.63	COAL CREEK	\$ 63.10	ALDERWOOD	\$ 54.00
SAMMAMISH PLATEAU	\$ 75.19	CEDAR RIVER W & S	\$ 62.60	RONALD W/W MGMT.	\$ 54.00
VASHON SEWER	\$ 73.78	BLACK DIAMOND	\$ 62.00	NORTHSHORE	\$ 53.87
BELLEVUE	\$ 71.43	KENT	\$ 61.46	ALGONA	\$ 52.24
TUKWILA	\$ 71.03	ISSAQUAH	\$ 61.34	LAKEHAVEN	\$ 46.91
RENTON	\$ 70.29	SOOS CREEK W & S	\$ 59.88	AVERAGE	
				MONTHLY RATE	\$65.19

**SOOS CREEK
WATER & SEWER DISTRICT**
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COMMISSIONERS
Alice Marshall
Steve Pfaff
Darold Stroud
Gary Cline
Merle Reeder

GENERAL MANAGER
Ron Speer

Meetings are held the first, third & fourth
Wednesdays of the month @ 4:30 p.m.