

the SOOS CREEK

CON NECTION

www.sooscreek.com

January/February 2016

Lift Station No. 46 Regional Sewer Conveyance Improvement Project Update

The District's Lift Station No. 46 Regional Sewer Conveyance Improvement Project is currently under construction and, upon completion, will serve the City of Covington's Town Center, the economic hub for the area. There are several projects to accomplish to provide service to the area, which includes the construction of a new lift station (Lift Station 46) and associated sewer facilities. There are four main projects:



Trenchless - Casing Entering Shaft 6

- Installation of the new Lift Station No. 46 (under construction). During calendar year 2015, the planned location of Lift Station No. 46 was relocated to the south side of SE 272nd Street at its intersection with 156th Avenue SE. This relocation requires the extension of the new force main from Lift Station 46 southerly in order to cross SE 272nd Street.
- A trenchless tunnel across State Route 18 and private property for a new gravity sewer to Lift Station 46 (under construction). You may have seen the large cranes along Covington Way SE just south of SE 272nd Place which are being used to install necessary facilities to facilitate construction of the sewer line.
- A new force main from Lift Station 46 discharging to an existing sewer trunk line and a new gravity main to redirect flow from an existing Lift Station 28B to Lift Station 46 (completed). This was the project during the summer of 2014 that closed 156th Place SE.
- A new gravity main to intercept flow from the existing Lift Station 21, which is nearing capacity, to Lift Station 46 (completed). This project wrapped up in November with the reopening of Wax Road.

These projects are part of the District's regional plan to serve the growing area in the southeast portion of its sewer service area well into the future. Details for each project can be found on the District's website at www.sooscreek.com/projects/lift-station-46.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact the District's Construction Hotline at 425.757.6290 or by email at liftstation46@sooscreek.com.

\$100 Rebate

Old, leaky toilets can use over 5 gallons per flush (gpf). That's a lot of water down the drain! By replacing them with new water-efficient fixtures, you will conserve water for the Puget Sound region and may save money on your utility bills. Soos Creek Water & Sewer District's residential water customers who replace their old toilets with new Premium 1.06 gpf (or less) models are eligible for a \$100 rebate. For more information, go to www.savingwater.org or call 206-615-1282.



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.

SOOS CREEK WATER & SEWER DISTRICT

14616 SE 192nd Street
P. O. Box 58039
Renton, WA 98058-1039
customer_service@sooscreek.com
Phone: (253) 630-9900
Fax: (253) 630-5289
www.sooscreek.com

COMMISSIONERS

Gary Cline
Alice Marshall
Darold Stroud
Steve Pfaff
Larry West

GENERAL MANAGER

Ron Speer

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

2016 WATER AND SEWER RATES

The Board of Commissioners establishes utility rates on an annual basis. The decision is made after District staff proposes and the Board approves an expenditure budget for the upcoming year. The District held a public hearing to obtain comments on the proposed 2016 water and sewer rates. On December 2, 2015, the Soos Creek Board of Commissioners approved a 1% increase in the monthly base charges and volume charges for water and a 2% increase in Soos Creek’s portion of the sewer rates. King County’s sewage treatment rate is shown as a separate charge on your bill, and will not increase in 2016. The increases will be effective with the February 29, 2016 billing cycle.

Water
The District will increase water rates for 2016 to fund higher operating costs. Below is an outline of the current rates and the 2016 rates.

<u>CURRENT RATES (BIMONTHLY)</u>	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Irrigation</u>
Base Rate for 3/4" Meter	\$ 27.90	\$ 27.90	\$ 27.90
Volume Charge per 100 Cubic Feet			
Winter Rates:			
0—1,000 cubic feet	1.75	1.75	6.00
1,001—2,000 cubic feet	3.60	3.60	6.00
2,001—3,000 cubic feet	4.50	4.50	6.00
> 3,000 cubic feet	5.10	5.10	6.00
<u>2016 RATES (BIMONTHLY)</u>	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Irrigation</u>
Base Rate for 3/4" Meter	\$ 28.18	\$ 28.18	\$ 28.18
Volume Charge per 100 Cubic Feet			
Winter Rates:			
0—1,000 cubic feet	1.77	1.77	6.06
1,001—2,000 cubic feet	3.64	3.64	6.06
2,001—3,000 cubic feet	4.55	4.55	6.06
> 3,000 cubic feet	5.15	5.15	6.06

Notes:
 : 100 cubic feet of water
 : = 748 gallons
 : Summer Conservation Rates
 : (June—September) include a
 : 20% surcharge (the first 1000
 : cubic feet are exempt)

Sewer
The sewer bills sent to Soos Creek customers itemize the charges for Soos Creek’s sewer rate and King County’s Sewage Treatment charges. The District’s portion of the bill is for the maintenance of our system that collects the sewage from your existing structure (house, business, or school) and conveys it to King County’s system and ultimately to the Renton Treatment Plant. Effective with the February 29, 2016 billing cycle, Soos Creek’s base rate will be \$35.70 (bimonthly) and the Volume Charge for commercial customers will increase to \$2.38 per 100 cubic feet of water in excess of the first 1,500 cubic feet (bimonthly).

The King County Sewage Treatment charge shown on the Soos Creek sewer customer’s bill reflects King County’s capital and operating costs for treatment and disposal of sewage. King County’s sewer rate will remain \$84.06 (bimonthly) and King County’s Volume Charge for commercial customers will remain \$5.60 per 100 cubic feet of water in excess of the first 1,500 cubic feet. If you have questions or comments regarding the King County Sewage Treatment charge, contact the King County Council at (206) 296-1000; for sewage treatment information, call (206) 684-1280.

NO WIPES DOWN THE PIPES!

Wipes, cloths, and rags are being found in sanitary sewers at an ever increasing rate. Many of these products are labeled as flushable, but while they may clear the toilet, they will most likely cause problems downstream.

These products are becoming notorious for blocking sewer mains and binding up pumps. Items that specifically list the term “flushable” (but should NOT be flushed) include diapers and diaper liners, baby wipes, pre-moistened wipes, a wide variety of bathroom cleaning wipes, and feminine hygiene products. Instead, please place these items in a trash can. While a toilet may be capable of flushing golf balls, these synthetic products simply do not break down and will have to be removed at the treatment plant or in pumping stations.

Over the last decade, Soos Creek Water & Sewer District has experienced an increase in wastewater pump station maintenance and malfunctions. “Crews regularly unclog mounds of disposable wipes from pumps at considerable expense and environmental consequences. When equipment clogs, wastewater may back up into homes or out of our manholes and into the environment,” said General Manager Ron Speer.

Unless it is human waste (urine and feces) or toilet paper, don’t flush it.



A baby wipe after it has been flushed, gone through the collection system, and pulled from a pump station.