

ROCKWOOD WATER LINES

THE ROCKWOOD WATER PEOPLE'S UTILITY DISTRICT **NEWSLETTER**
2018 ISSUE 1

Water Main Flushing Program to Begin



The District's annual Water Main Flushing Program is scheduled to begin in late February and continue through May. The Program is part of the District's ongoing water quality and system maintenance work. This year we will be flushing the west half of the District from 181st/182nd Avenues west to 135th/133rd Avenues and Sandy Boulevard to Haig Drive, just south of Division Street.

Crews will typically place flushing signs in the neighborhoods two to three days prior to flushing the area, and maps of the area(s) to be flushed will be posted on our website daily. District Crews will perform the work from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Crews work at fire hydrants, in street intersections, and at the end of cul-de-sacs. Large volumes of water flow down the streets, while fire hydrants and the water pipes are scoured of built-up sediments and tested for faulty valves.

Residents will not be out of water during flushing; however, some residents in the immediate vicinity of the work may experience low pressure and temporary discoloration of their water. This does not pose a health risk; however residents should check their water before washing any clothing.

If you notice our crews in your neighborhood, we recommend not turning on your water between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. unless it's necessary. This includes not running appliances using water, such as dishwashers and washing machines. If you have discolored water, turn on each cold water faucet and allow it to run until it is clear again and flush each toilet two times. Please call the District office at 503.665.4179 with questions.

What's a Main Break and How do We Fix One?

A main break is when the pipes under the streets that carry water throughout the District break. A main break happens when a pipe develops a crack or hole that leaks water into the soil. This time of year, colder water and wet soils make pipes more likely to break. How do we fix them?

1. Crews respond to the site of the leak and reduce the flow of water by turning control valves.
2. Request marking of the gas, electric, and other utility lines, so we can dig safely.
3. Cut open the road and dig down to the pipe.
4. Repair or replace the pipe.
5. Open a fire hydrant to pull clean water through the pipes, test water quality, then turn all the water back on.
6. Fill the hole and patch or put a plate on the street until the street can be repaired.



Spring is just around the corner!

Spruce up Your Sprinklers

Before you ramp up your watering this spring, spruce up your irrigation system by remembering four simple steps: **inspect**, **connect**, **direct**, and **select**.

Inspect. Check your system for clogged, broken or missing sprinkler heads. Better yet, go with a pro—find an irrigation professional certified by a WaterSense labeled program to do the work for you.

Connect. Examine points where the sprinkler heads connect to pipes/hoses. If water pools in your landscape or you have large soggy areas, you could have a leak in your system. A leak about as small as the tip of a ballpoint pen (or 1/32nd of an inch) can waste about 6,300 gallons of water per month.

Direct. Are you watering the driveway, house, or sidewalk instead of your yard? Redirect sprinklers to apply water only to the landscape.

Select. An improperly scheduled irrigation controller can waste a lot of water and money. Update your system's schedule with the seasons, or select a WaterSense labeled controller to take the guesswork out of scheduling.

For more tips, visit the WaterSense website at www.epa.gov/watersense/outdoor.

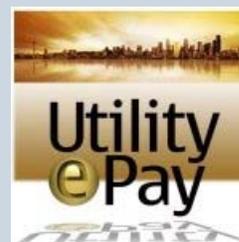


Did you know you can pay your water bill online?

Just go to our website at www.rwpud.org and click on the Utility ePay icon. You can pay by:

★Visa ★MasterCard ★American Express ★Discover ★Check

Visit our Customer Services webpage for other ways you can pay your water bill.



Payment Assistance

The District offers bill payment assistance to qualifying low-income customers. At this time, the financial assistance is a one-time crisis assistance payment of \$132.00 **OR** a bi-monthly discount of \$22.00 on water bills for one year (six bills). To find out if you meet our Customer Assistance Program income guidelines, contact Human Solutions, Inc., 503-548-0217. Their offices are located at:

Rockwood Office: 124 NE 181st Ave.
Portland Office: 12350 SE Powell Blvd.

