

The Drain Report



Going Green in 2011

By: Cordelia Ford

We took a look at our processes at the District, and are trying to reduce the amount of paper mailed out to our customers.

Starting in January, we will no longer be mailing out Past Due notices. If a bill is not paid by the due date, a late fee will be added to the account, and will show as an adjustment on the next billing statement. Midway Sewer bills on a 60-day billing cycle.

Many of our customers have asked about receiving bills electronically and an online bill pay option. We are looking at both programs. The District is doing research, and looking at the cost to the District to offer our customers these programs.

We have 2 autopay options available currently. Customers can pay with a bank account or credit card. Enrollment forms are available at the District Office or at our website www.midwaysewer.org. From the "Quick Links" on the home page, choose "Payment Options". Forms are available for both the bank account and credit card options. Complete the forms and return to the District, and your bill amount will be deducted on the due date.



Customers can also pay with a credit card over the phone. Customers can call during business hours, Monday to Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to pay their bill over the phone. Please have your

Midway Sewer account number available when calling the District.

Customers can also write their credit card number on the back of the payment stub and mail it back to the District. Once we receive it we will process the credit card payment.

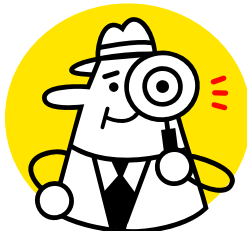
Our 2 autopay programs and credit card payments are all offered to our customers at no additional cost.



Downtown Des Moines Sewer Rehabilitation

By: Ken Kase

The District has decided to do a careful evaluation of over 38,000 feet of 50 year old sewer pipe in the downtown Des Moines area. We plan on using closed circuit, remote controlled pipeline video equipment to review the condition of these pipes. Once the pipe condition is known and the location of any defects has been determined, the District can select the most appropriate repair and rehabilitation methods.



The camera equipment we plan on using has the capability to inspect lateral sewers from the main sewer. If the property owner gives us permission, we will inspect not only the portion of the sewer in the public right of way, but also the sewer within private property, to the extent practical. This would be done at the District's expense and we will share what we find.

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<http://www.midwaysewer.org/>

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Special points of interest:

- Midway Sewer District has one of the lowest monthly rates in the state.
- The Board meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. Please contact the office for the meeting time.
- Midway serves the Cities of Des Moines, SeaTac, Kent, Federal Way, Normandy park, Burien, and the Port of Seattle's SeaTac Airport.
- We have been part of this community since 1946.
- You can expect fast personal service when you need it.
- Our employees care about their customers.
- We have a single focus of providing quality sanitary sewer service.

Silent Heroes

By: Vince Koester, Commissioner

I really like food and I like to cook. I have a reputation as a lover of food, being kind of picky about my food and how it is prepared. I like to consider myself something of an expert on food in general. I never gave much thought to the entire food cycle until I became a Sewer District Commissioner.

The part of the food cycle I am referring to is the "used food" portion. Until I held office, that part of the food cycle did not concern me. Boy did I learn a whole lot about used food. There is an entire world out there I did not know about. There are some amazing people out there that society (and myself) had just taken for granted. These overlooked people include treatment plant operators, lab staff, collection system maintenance personnel, engineers, scientists, regulators, and even office staff.

In some cultures, these people are looked down upon. They are at the bottom of society. In our culture, these people are mostly ignored. If we just took a moment to consider how they impact our lives we may just decide to treat these people differently.

By collecting and treating our wastewater, these people are protecting us and our families from some really nasty pathogens (bugs and germs) that cause illness. In places where wastewater treatment does not exist, many people die prematurely, and the survivors spend a good portion of their lives battling intestinal and other diseases.

That is not how I want to spend my time! What a waste of good food that would be. It gives me nightmares. I would much rather spend my time enjoying life and food and not be in fear of what that food and water might do to me.

I speculate that wastewater treatment and the people who make it happen prevent more disease than all the hospitals and medical staff cure. Next time you are exposed to water and you don't get sick, you should thank your wastewater professionals. They enhance the quality of your life more than you may realize. They are like silent heroes.



Rate Increase & Your Bill - How It's Calculated

By: Cordelia Ford



Midway Sewer has a rate increase scheduled for January 1, 2011. We bill on a 60-day bill period, so the first bill in 2011 will include some time in 2010 as well.

The days in 2010 will be billed at the 2010 rate. The days in 2011 will be calculated at the new rate. The first bill you receive in 2011 will be an amount somewhere between the old rate and the new rate.

For our residential customers, the bill amount will go from a flat-rate of \$40.00 currently to \$44.00 beginning January 1, 2011. For our commercial customers, consumption will increase from .02667 to .02933 per cubic feet of consumption.

Midway Sewer's last rate increase was in 2009. We are doing our best to keep our rates down, and we have one of the lowest sewer rates in Washington State.

Board of Commissioners



George Landon Jack Hendrickson Vince Koester



Midway Sewer District

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