

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

November - December 2015



Recycle Holiday Household Hazardous Waste

There is usually some assembly required during the holiday season, and that sometimes involves batteries, CFL light bulbs and other household hazardous waste.

Single-family home residents can recycle the following curbside:

- Fluorescent Tubes and Bulbs: Wrap in newspaper and secure with tape. Place next to recycling container and mark "Fluorescent Tubes."
- Household Battery: Place rechargeable and non-rechargeable batteries in separate clear, sealed bags. Set on top of recycling container.

Residents of apartments and condos can drop off the above at Republic Services' (Bellevue's waste hauler) In-City Recycling Drop-Off Center located at 1600 127th Avenue Northeast.

Questions: Contact Republic services at www.RepublicBellevue.com or 425-452-4762.



Holiday Collection Schedule

There is no collection on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. If your collection day is on or after one of these holidays, collection will be one day later. For example, if your scheduled collection day is Thursday (Thanksgiving), collection will be Friday and Friday customers will have collection on Saturday.

Snow and Ice Collections

If weather conditions prevent the safe collection of curbside garbage, recycling, or organics, please remove your carts from the street by the end of the day. On your next regularly scheduled collection day, up to twice the regular amount of materials will be collected at no additional charge.

Follow these handling instructions:

- Extra Garbage: Place securely tied plastic bags labeled "Garbage" (maximum 65-pound weight limit) next to the cart or 32-gallon lidded can.
- Extra Recycling: Box, bundle or place in brown paper bags, label "Recycling," and place next to recycling cart. Please do not place recycling in plastic bags.
- Extra Yard Debris: Label "Yard" and place next to cart. No food scraps outside of cart. Please do not use plastic bags. You may use kraft paper bags and place next to your food/yard cart (available at hardware stores), 32-gallon cans with handles and lids (65 pound limit), and bundles (4-by-2 foot limit) tied with twine.

Questions: Contact Republic services at 425-452-4762 or www.RepublicBellevue.com.

Compost Your Holiday Greens

Keep your Christmas tree and other holiday greens out of the landfill – compost them!

At the Curb

Single-family residents can put Christmas trees and other greens out on your regular collection day. Cut trees into sections, four feet long or shorter, with branches trimmed to less than four feet to fit into the collection trucks. Bundle each section with sisal string or twine (not plastic). Decorated, flocked and plastic trees are not recyclable, and will be charged as extra garbage.

At Apartments and Condos

Check with your manager. The same handling rules apply from "At the Curb."

Questions: Contact Republic services at www.RepublicBellevue.com or 425-452-4762.



Connect with Us with the MyBellevue App

MyBellevue allows you to connect directly with the City of Bellevue to effectively and efficiently resolve issues in our community. Use the app to report important – but not emergency – problems with water drainage, wastewater and solid waste services around the city. MyBellevue is available in the Apple App Store, Google Play and Microsoft Windows Store.





Avoid a Holiday Horror Story

Keep Your Sewer Fat-Free: Homeowners and building owners are responsible for repairing and maintaining their side sewer connections to the city's sewer system. Sewer clogs often peak during the holiday season when turkeys, trimmings, and other holiday fare are prepared for friends and family.

Sewer Clogs Can Be Costly:

When a sewer backup is caused by a side sewer failure, you may be faced with digging up your yard, removing the adjoining sidewalk, and/or opening up the street, potentially costing tens of thousands of dollars. Repairs are NOT typically covered by homeowners insurance.

An Ounce of Prevention: You can prevent grease from clogging your side sewer by pouring used dairy products, fats, oil, grease into a lidded container and placing it in the trash – NOT down the sink drain. Food scraps can also be composted instead of using your garbage disposal.



Flood Prevention Tips

You can help prevent flooding in your neighborhood by following the tips below. A little effort goes a long way!

- Clear debris from storm drains near your home.
- Do not block water flow by dumping trash or yard debris into streams, wetlands, or drainage ditches.
- Leave natural vegetation on steep slopes and along streams and lakes.
- If you own a sump pump, test it before a storm.
- Clean your gutters, downspouts, and cleanouts at least twice a year.
- Know that standard property insurance doesn't cover flood damage. Ask your agent about flood insurance, which is available even if you don't live in a flood plain.
- Call Utilities at **425-452-7869** to find out if your property is in a floodplain.
- Call 911 for emergencies. Call Utilities at **425-452-7840** if your home is in danger of flooding.

Learn more at www.bellevuewa.gov/flooding.htm.



Keep the Chill Out!

Each winter, homes are damaged due to water pipes that freeze and burst. By taking a few simple precautions, you can help save yourself from the mess, money and headaches of burst frozen pipes.

Before the Cold Hits

- Insulate pipes in your home's crawl spaces, basement and attic. Exposed pipes are more susceptible to freezing. The more insulation you use, the better the protection.
- Heat tape can be used to wrap pipes. Closely follow the manufacturer's installation and operation instructions.
- Seal leaks and close foundation vents to minimize cold air entering your house and freezing pipes. Open vents again in the spring to prevent dry rot.
- Drain and disconnect garden hoses and insulate hose bibs.
- Know where your water shut-off valve is located.



Go Green for the Holidays



Each year, Americans throw away 25 percent more trash between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day. This holiday season try one of these waste-cutting without cutting the holiday spirit!

Reduce your waste at holiday parties: Use durable tableware instead of disposable. If you do use disposable, make sure your choices can be recycled or composted.

Give the gift of experience: Instead of one more gift that might be discarded, plan a day trip or hike to areas in the Puget Sound region like Woodinville Wine Country or Snoqualmie Falls.

Wrap gifts creatively: Try wrapping gifts with the Sunday comics or fabric remnants rather than buying one-time use wrapping paper.

When it's all over, remember to recycle: Most wrapping paper can be recycled in your curbside cart, many local retailers and organizations take Christmas lights that have outlived their usefulness, and remember to compost that Christmas tree and other holiday greens.

Find more great tips at www.KCgreenholidays.com.



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