

The Water Faucet

JANUARY 2014

Check out our website. You can obtain water conservation information and rebate forms!

<u>Free</u> dye strips to test for toilet leaks are available at the District Office.



Westborough Water District P.O. Box 2747 So. SF, CA 94083-2747

24-Hour Telephone No. (650) 589-1435

Fax (650) 589-5167

e-mail address:

wwd@westboroughwater.com

Is Your Bank Paying Your Water Bill on Time?

Unfortunately, some customers who paid their bills via their online banking service were under the mistaken impression that the Westborough Water District received the funds electronically on the date they selected. Instead, they have found out that not only wasn't their bill paid on time, but a late fee was incurred. The online banking service debits your account on the date you select and then mails a check to the District; however many banks bundle and hold checks for up to 7 business days before mailing them. This can cause your payment to be received after the billing deadline. To ensure timely payment of your bill and avoid late fees, we suggest you schedule payment at least 10 business days prior to the due date.

Another way to prevent possible late payments is to sign up with the District for free automatic electronic payment of your bill from your checking, savings, or Visa/MasterCard account. For details, please visit our website and click on the tab "Service and Billing" and then select options for paying your bill. \$\overline{Z}\$

DO YOU WANT TO LOWER YOUR SEWER SERVICE CHARGE NEXT YEAR?



Did you know that your sewer service charge for the entire fiscal year is based on how much water you use during the January/February meter reading period? Water usage during these months best reflects the amount of water that is being discharged into the sewer system, since there is so little outdoor watering at this time of year. The District uses the amount of water consumed during those months to calculate your sewer charges for the year. YOU HAVE CONTROL! By reducing water use during these months, you can reduce your sewer charges. Repair all leaks before the January/February meter reading period. Conserve water by taking shorter showers, wash full loads of dishes and clothes, install water efficient fixtures, eliminate outdoor watering if possible, and be conscious of wastefulness.

Toilets are the most common leak that increases your bill. Some toilet leaks are silent. Stop by the District office and pickup free toilet-test dye strips and information on how to test your plumbing for leaks.

The District also offers a free leak test upon request: staff reads your meter at the beginning of the test and again 3-4 hours later; then calculates usage on your meter to estimate the leakage over a 60-day billing period.

The average household usage is 4-6 units per person per billing period. If your usage is higher you may want to consider a free water audit by staff. Visit our website for more details.

With the threat of a drought this coming year, we encourage everyone to fix leaks and conserve water now! Doing so may reduce your annual sewer charges!

Washing Machine Rebate



Effective January 1, 2014, the Westborough Water District's Washing Machine Rebate Program, which is managed through the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA), will reimburse customers \$50 to \$125 for all new purchases, depending on the type of washing machine you purchase. For more information, please go to: http://bawsca.org/water-conservation/residential-water-conservation-programs/high-efficiency-clothes-washer-rebate-program/

Westborough Water District Exempt from City's Sewer Lateral Certificate Program

The City of South San Francisco recently approved an ordinance amending the City's Municipal Code Regarding Water Quality Control and Sewer Lateral Construction, Maintenance and Inspection, which went into effect September 14, 2013. It

YOUR DISTRICT:

The Westborough
Water District board
meetings are held on
the second
Thursday of every
month at the District
office. The meeting
begins at 7:30 p.m. and
the public is
encouraged to attend.

The current Board members are:

President: Tom Chambers

Vice President:
Perry Bautista
Directors:
David Irwin, William
Lopez, and Janet
Medina.

clarifies that homes served by the sanitary sewer system owned and operated by the Westborough Water District are exempt from the City's sewer lateral compliance certificate program. Without the exemption, this program would have required property owners in the District to have a plumber inspect/repair their sewer lateral prior to the sale of their home.

Capital Improvement Projects

We thought you would like to know what Capital Improvement Projects the Westborough Water District has completed this past year. We are happy to report the District was able to complete the following Capital Improvement Projects during 2013:

- Completed seismic valve upgrade project which included installing new seismic valve, piping, vault, and
 control panel. An earthquake may cause the tanks to drain due to water main breaks, which would leave
 customers without drinking water for an extended period of time. In the event of a major earthquake, this
 valve automatically closes and preserves drinking water in one of the three water storage tanks, leaving
 the other tanks available for fire protection purposes. \$66,000
- Replaced Avalon Sewer Lift Station pumps (2). The pumps were very old and we were unable to get parts for repairs. \$27,214
- Replace Rowntree Sewer Lift Station pump (2) with a new chopper pump. Parts for the old pumps are no longer manufactured. The chopper pumps will help prevent clogging and reduce scum and sludge buildup. \$47,044
- Replaced Skyline Pump Station control valve (2) that were in poor condition and unreliable; these are needed to protect our system from water surges. Also, replaced pump and 30 horsepower motor (1).
 \$33,505
- Purchased utility truck with air compressor, generator, hoist, tailgate lift, jack hammer, hose reel, and welding equipment; all needed to expedite repairs to our own system. We obtained this truck from a neighboring district at a steeply discounted price of \$20,000 (approximate savings of \$80,000).

NOTARY PUBLIC

The District has a Notary Public on duty that can notarize documents you may have for a fee of \$10 per signature. Feel free to take advantage of this service. Please call in advance to set up an appointment.