



The Olympic View

Winter 2020

THE DISTRICT COMPLETES 25 YEARS OF FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTABILITY AUDITS WITHOUT ANY FINDINGS

After several months of detailed work, the Office of the Washington State Auditor and the District have completed the 2017–2018 State of Washington Financial and Accountability Audit. On December 23, 2019, the Washington State Auditor released the 2017-2018 Financial and Accountability Audit results for the District. The District received a “clean”, no findings, audit for 2017 and 2018.

This audit represents the 25th consecutive year of clean audits for the District. The Board of Commissioners and the staff work diligently on a daily basis, to provide quality water and wastewater service at a reasonable cost and to ensure that the money paid for these services is properly used in accordance with state and federal standards. This type of dedication is rewarded by Standard and Poor’s and the District’s credit rating of AA. This rating allows the District to save money when bonds are issued.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the professional State Auditors from the Mill Creek office for their continued assistance and support, and the District staff who take their jobs to the next level in the use of public funds.



The State Auditor’s final report can be viewed at www.sao.wa.gov/reports-data/audit-reports.

BACKFLOW DEVICES: DO YOU NEED ONE?

DO WE REALLY READ THE METERS?

Some customers have expressed doubt that our crews actually read the meters because the meter box is full of dirt and rocks. Moles and other pests can completely fill a meter box with dirt within an hour!

Our crew reads your meter every other month, just before your bill goes out. If in doubt about the meter reading, compare the read on your bill with your own reading, and the two numbers should be very close. If there is a large discrepancy, please call our office and we will be happy to re-read and check the meter for any problems.

What is Cross-Connection? A cross-connection is a point in a plumbing system where it is possible for non-drinkable substances and water to come into contact with the drinking water supply.

The District has a Cross-Connection Program that requires our customers to have a backflow device to prevent contamination. If your private plumbing system is connected to a device that can potentially cause a backflow hazard, you need a backflow preventer. Common systems that require a backflow preventer are:

- Underground irrigation system
- Dedicated fire sprinkler system
- Sewage pumping facilities or grey water system
- Private well
- Swimming pool or spa with automatic refill



Backflow Device

Backflow devices are required to be tested annually by a certified backflow tester. A list of certified backflow testers can be found on our website homepage. The District will send out reminder letters if we have not received your test results by the due date of April 1, 2020.

If you think you have a system that could create a potential cross-connection hazard, please contact the District and we would be happy to meet with you to determine if you need a backflow device. Thank you for your cooperation and efforts to keep the drinking water safe for you and your neighbors.

OFFICE HOUR CHANGE

Effective January 1, 2020 our office hours will be 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

KEEPING THE SEWER CLEAR

The District has had recurring issues with items in our system that should not be flushed down the toilet. Items including underwear and clothing, diapers, wipes of any kind, pads and tampons, bandages, cotton swab, cotton balls, contacts, condoms, and more can cause backups in customers' homes and can completely clog the sewer lift stations. It may be clear to some, but as a reminder to everyone, please do not flush anything down the toilet besides human waste and toilet paper.

Please be courteous and help keep your private sewer lines and Olympic View's sewer system clear. Backups cost homeowners and the District time and money.

For more information, there is a video on our website with a visual of how different items break down in flushed water. Even if an item is advertised as "**flushable**" it may go down your toilet but can cause backups down the pipeline.



LEAKY TOILETS ARE COSTLY

Toilets are one of the most common source of leaks in the home, and are often the hardest to detect. Some toilets may continuously run which can be easier to identify, whereas others may run intermittently, making it difficult to detect. Toilet leaks can use a large amount of water without homeowners even noticing.

A great way to test for a leak is to use dye. Dye strips (available in our office) or a few drops of food coloring may be used. To test for a leak, remove the toilet tank lid and put the dye in the tank. Replace the lid but don't flush the toilet and wait at least 10 minutes (or overnight). If you see color in the bowl, you have a leak, probably from the flapper.



If you do have a leak, the video on savingwater.org may help you fix your leak without having to call a plumber. Parts may be purchased at your local hardware store at a very reasonable price. If you do end up needing to replace your toilet completely, the saving water partnership offers a rebate on specific brands of low flow toilets, so make sure to check the list before purchasing.

The District is a member of the Saving Water Partnership which is a group of local water utilities in the greater Seattle area helping their customers save water and money. Savingwater.org is a great resource for customers to learn about fixing leaks and saving water in their home.

District Contact Information

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Commissioners
John Elsasser
Lora Petso
Fanny Yee

General Manager
Lynne Danielson

Office Hours
8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Monday through Friday

The District is closed
Saturdays, Sundays and
Holidays.

Website
olympicviewwater.com

