

# the Flow

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## Quite a View

The Woodmoor Dolphins can now boast that their mascot swims fins and tails above all others. The Kingsgate Standpipe, located at the corner of NE 160<sup>th</sup> Street and 124<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, recently underwent a seismic retrofit following the 2001 Nisqually Earthquake.



View of Mural from Woodmoor Elementary

Upon completion, Donna Hennig Mural Design of Renton repainted the mural on the tank to incorporate Woodmoor Elementary's mascot within a panoramic Puget Sound setting. The placement of the dolphins and orca whales was designed for the students to view from both Woodmoor and Kenmore Junior High\*.

\*The Northshore Junior High mascot, formerly the Whalers, changed names this year. They are now the Titans..

## Fall Is For Planting

Fall is the perfect time to plant lawns, shrubs, trees, perennials and annual or biennial flowers. In our mild climate, roots of most plants grow through all but the coldest few weeks of winter, while nature takes care of watering. This allows fall transplants to grow deep, healthy root systems before the stresses of summer return. Choose the right plants for each garden condition, prepare the soil well and mulch. Your new plantings will thrive next summer with minimal watering.



## Call Before You Dig

Are you remodeling, landscaping, or doing repair work that requires you to dig on your property? Before you do any excavating or till the soil to a depth of 12 inches or greater, you are required by law (RCW 19.22) to provide notice of your intent to all owners of underground facilities.



You can do this quickly and easily by dialing 1-800-424-5555 for one-call locates. The one-call center will ask you a series of questions to help determine which utility companies should be notified. During the next two business days (not counting weekends and holidays), the underground lines will be marked with a color representing the type of utility location. For example, they use red for electric lines, orange for telephone or cable TV, yellow for gas or oil, blue for water and green for sewer lines\*. Once marked, you're ready to dig.

You can find more information at either [www.wucc.org](http://www.wucc.org) or [www.callbeforeyoudig.org](http://www.callbeforeyoudig.org).

\*Northshore Utility District does not provide locates between the meter and the building on private property.

## Water Supply Outlook as of August 25, 2003

The water supply outlook is fair due to continued extremely dry watershed conditions and below normal reservoir storage for this time of year. Customers are reminded that using water wisely helps keep water in the rivers and reservoirs. For the most current update, go to:

[www.ci.seattle.wa.us/util/watersupply/current.htm](http://www.ci.seattle.wa.us/util/watersupply/current.htm).

## Winterize Now

The arrival of fall brings cooler temperatures and reminds us of the need to prepare our pipes for the winter ahead. Because water expands when frozen and can create splits in your pipes, you may experience water damage when the pipes thaw and the water begins flowing through the splits. Water damage due to leaks can be costly as well as time consuming to clean up.



The District protects its water meters from freezing by annually filling your water meter box with sand and sawdust. You can protect your pipes from freezing by following the tips listed below:

- ◆ Disconnect all hoses from your outside hose faucets.
- ◆ Use an insulated waterproof cover to protect your outside hose faucet.
- ◆ Keep garage doors closed to shut out the cold air.
- ◆ Wrap exposed pipes in both the garage and underneath the house.
- ◆ Block off outside air vents where plumbing is present.
- ◆ Drain your irrigation lines.

Most importantly, locate your house water shut-off valve prior to any emergency. It saves dollars and makes good sense.

## WashWise Rebates

From November 1 - December 31, 2003, single-family residences can receive an additional \$25 rebate from Northshore Utility District for the purchase of a water and energy efficient clothes washer. Combine it with the existing \$75 rebate from the Saving Water Partnership for a total rebate of **\$100**. \$25 will automatically be credited to your account after you submit your \$75 rebate form for processing.

Visit [www.savingwater.org](http://www.savingwater.org) for a list of qualifying washers, or call (425) 398-4419 for further information.

## Build Healthy Soil With Compost

Fall is a great time to improve the soil in your landscape with compost. Compost feeds the soil life that provides your plants with nutrients, water, and protection from disease. Compost makes plants healthier, cuts down on your water and fertilizer costs, and helps protect our streams from chemicals and excess runoff.

Use it in the following ways:

**Spread it around**– Spread 1 - 3 inches of compost on top of garden beds to smother winter weeds, feed the soil, prevent erosion, and conserve water next summer. You can also use 2 - 4 inches of fall leaves, bark or wood chips.



**Dig it in**– Mix 1 - 3 inches of compost into new planting beds for healthier plants that need less water and fertilizer.

**Build it up**– Rake in ¼ to ½ inch of compost into your lawn, preferably in combination with aeration and overseeding. Try to use compost that has some nitrogen content, such as composted steer manure.

**Ask for it**– If you use the services of a professional gardener or landscaper, ask them to use compost to prepare the soil and to mulch each fall and spring to prevent weeds and conserve water.

**Make it**– Create compost at home. You can make or buy a compost bin. Call the Natural Lawn and Garden Hotline at (206) 633-0224 for do-it-yourself plans and great discounts on compost bins.

No matter how you use it, compost is a great addition to any landscape.

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