

Are You Prepared?

Winter storms are here, the time to prepare is now before more snow falls and ice forms. Here are a few helpful suggestions.

Preparing for Winter

- If you have a kerosene or propane heater, refuel your heater outside and remember to keep it at least three feet from flammable objects.
- Make sure your fireplace functions properly.
- Have rock salt and sand on hand for traction on ice.
- Keep your gas tank at least half full at all times during the winter months.

During a Winter Storm

- Wear several layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing rather than one layer of heavy clothing. Wear mittens rather than gloves.
- Do not drive unnecessarily.
- Reduce the temperature in your home to conserve fuel.
- Heat only the areas of your home you are using. Close doors and curtains or cover windows and doors with blankets.
- Use alternative heat methods safely. Never use a



gas or charcoal grill, hibachi or portable kerosene or propane heater to cook indoors or heat your home.

- Never use a generator indoors or in a garage or carport.
- Bring dogs and cats inside during cold weather.

If in your Vehicle

- Make sure someone knows where you are going. Stay on the main roads.
- If you must stop, remain inside the vehicle. Use a bright flag, flare or your hazard lights to draw attention to your vehicle.
- If trapped in a blizzard, clear your tail pipe and run your engine and heater for 10 minutes every hour. Open your window slightly.
- During night hours, keep the dome light on in the car so rescue crews can see your vehicle.
- Keep an emergency kit in your vehicle. Include a three-day supply of water and non-perishable food that can be eaten without being cooked. Include a blanket or sleeping bag for each passenger, a flashlight, cell phone, shovel, sack of sand or kitty litter, booster cables, flares, coffee can with lid, and toilet paper. ♦

Bottled Emergency Water

The District would like to help you prepare a supply of emergency drinking water. Enclosed with this newsletter is a sticker with instructions on how to bottle your own emergency water. Simply follow the instructions and use the sticker to label your water. Additional labels are available at the District and more information on storing emergency water can be found on our web site at www.nud.net. ♦

EMERGENCY BAIN

To prepare and store your own emergency drinking water:

- Wash bottle and lid thoroughly with warm water and dish soap
- Rinse well
- Add 1/8 teaspoon unscented liquid chlorine bleach to each 2-liter bottle
- Fill the bottle completely with tap water - be careful not to touch the rim of the bottle or the inside of the lid
- Screw on the lid tightly
- Store in a cool, dark place away from volatile chemicals

The Red Cross recommends having two, 2-liter bottles of water per person, per day or a minimum of six, 2-liter bottles for each member of your household.

Date Bottled: _____
empty and repeat every 6 months

Legislature Approves Funding for Infrastructure

At the close of the 2011 Washington State Legislative Session, approval was granted for 77 public infrastructure projects including one in Northshore Utility District. Total funds allocated to the program were \$324 million, of which \$3,105,000 will go to finance the construction of a gravity sewer main. Sewage in that area is currently pumped to higher ground for collection via a lift station located on the Juanita shores of Lake Washington. The gravity sewer main will make that unnecessary and thus eliminating the possibility of spills into the lake, the need for periodic maintenance, and the energy costs for continual operations.

“I applaud the Legislature in maintaining their commitment to improving the states infrastructure,” says Washington Association of Sewer & Water Districts President, Steven Skipworth. “Even with the state facing challenging economic times, their understanding that sewer and water

infrastructures are critical to maintaining and attracting business development is important.”

The Public Works Trust Fund Board, which administers the fund, had reviewed and recommended all 77 projects for funding by the Legislature. Governor Gregoire also supported the recommendations of the P WTF Board seeing it as part of her jobs initiative.

The Public Works Trust Fund was established in 1985. It is a revolving loan fund that offers low interest rate loans to help local governments finance critical public works projects. The Public Works Board receives administrative support from the Washington State Department of Commerce. Projects include roads, domestic water, sanitary sewers and storm sewer systems. For more information on the Public Works Board, visit www.pwb.wa.gov. ♣

Sewage Backups

Flushing the wrong things down the toilet can damage household plumbing, the environment and the wastewater treatment system. One of the leading causes of sewage backups into homes is when “disposable wipes” are flushed down the toilet.

Flushing “disposable wipes” puts your family and your neighborhood at risk for a potential sewer backup. Many brands of wipes claim to be flushable or “bio-degradable”, but time and time again they are the reason for backups that cost homeowners and tenants thousands of

dollars in plumbing bills. When flushed down the toilet, it doesn’t take long for these wipes to collect and cause backups in private sewer lines as well as main lines.

This can all be avoided by simply disposing of rags, wipes and other materials in the garbage rather than the toilet. Keep yourself and your neighbors clean and safe from sewage backups by disposing of used wipes in the garbage can and not the toilet. ♣



Important Contact Numbers

Northshore Utility District - Water & Sewer Services	
Finance, Operations & Emergency After Hours	425-398-4400
City of Kenmore	425-398-8900
Flooding/Storm Drainage After Hours.....	206-296-8100
Puget Sound Energy	
Electricity, Gas & Street Lighting Outage & Repair	888-225-5773
King County Animal Control	206-296-PETS
Garbage Services	206-646-2492



Northshore
Utility District
Board of
Commissioners:

Robert Peterson
President

Don Ellis
Secretary

Bruce Gardiner
Commissioner

Trudy Rolla
Commissioner

Margaret Wiggins
Commissioner

Board of
Commissioner
Meetings
are held at the
District Office
on the
first and third
Monday of each
month at 5:30 p.m.,
except Holidays.



District Office
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www.nud.net