

GrassCycling Virtual Workshop Instructions



“GrassCycling at home saves time, saves water, requires less fertilizer, requires less mowing, and keeps my lawn healthy and green. Plus, it’s better for the environment. It’s a win-win!”

-Marianne Binetti,
Columnist and Horticulture Expert

To take the GrassCycling Virtual Workshop and earn your rebate, visit:
olympiawa.gov/grasscycling

Rules: Rebate good for Olympia garbage customers only. Residents who claimed a rebate from spring 2012 workshops cannot claim a second rebate. Rebates are limited and available on a first come, first served basis.

Keep Costs Down

Even with our new payment system, the City’s processing fees remain the same. Every time you pay with a credit card, the City is charged fees from the credit card companies.

Pay by one of the methods below to help us avoid these fees:

- Sign up with the City for autopay using your checking account.
- Bill pay through your bank.
- Use a check to pay in person at City Hall or by mail.

Questions?

Utility Billing
360.753.8340
publicworks@ci.olympia.wa.us

Utility Payments Quick & Easy



City of Olympia Utility Billing is pleased to announce new and improved phone and web payment options. The City will roll out the following enhancements around February 1, 2013:

- The ability to pay from your checking account via e-check.
- The ability to set recurring payments.
- Quicker and easier over-the-phone credit card payments.
- New electronic notification of late payments.
- Option to receive an e-statement.
- For customers with multiple properties, the new My Account feature will allow you to use a single login ID to link multiple accounts together and make a single payment.



Why Does Yaeger Park Flood?

The park is designed to provide stormwater retention in the winter and recreation in the summer.

Flood water comes from surfaces where the water cannot soak into the ground (rooftops, roads and parking lots).

The pollutants picked up along the way settle out as the water sits in large ponds. This cleaner water flows downstream into Percival Creek, Capital Lake and eventually Budd Inlet.

Questions?

Andy Haub
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Stormwater Managing Runoff



The Storm and Surface Water Utility provides our community with important environmental services, including flood management, improving water quality, and protecting aquatic habitat.

The majority of the budget is focused on managing stormwater runoff from our streets, including cleaning sediment from pipes, repairing and upgrading aging stormwater systems, and constructing water quality treatment facilities in older areas of the City. On-the-ground habitat improvements are supported as Utility funding and grants allow.

The Utility also provides extensive technical assistance and environmental programs such as Stream Team and the OLYWater school programs.



Yaeger Park - Not Flooded



Yaeger Park - Flooded

The City of Olympia is committed to the non-discriminatory treatment of persons in the employment and the delivery of services and resources. This publication was designed in-house and printed locally.



five | things

an Olympia Utilities publication

Rates Edition 2013

olympiawa.gov

- one | your utilities - 2013 rate changes
- two | water & wastewater rate changes
- three | waste resources efficiencies
- four | utility payments - quick & easy
- five | stormwater - managing runoff

Learn more about McAllister Wellfield, your future water source, at olympiawa.gov/mcallister





Your Utilities 2013 Rate Changes



Water & Wastewater Rate Changes



Waste ReSources Efficiencies

GrassCycling Virtual Workshop & Mower Rebate

Take the GrassCycling Virtual Workshop and earn up to \$150 rebate toward the purchase of a mulching mower, or \$25 toward a backyard compost bin.

The virtual workshop opens to all City of Olympia garbage customers on March 1, 2013. Please clip this ad and put on your refrigerator as a reminder. Rebates are limited and available on a first come, first served basis.

Follow instructions on reverse to take the virtual workshop and claim your rebate.



On Demand

The City of Olympia Utilities provide these essential services:

- High quality, fresh **drinking water** at your tap – with minimal treatment.
- **Wastewater** transported from your home or business to a state-of-the-art treatment facility, which also produces Class A reclaimed water.
- **Garbage, recycling and organics** solutions for your home or business.
- **Flood management, improved water quality and aquatic habitat restoration.**



With current economic conditions, we take great care to focus on essential services in order to minimize financial impacts on utility customers.

For 2013, the rates did not increase for residential garbage, recycling and organics collection, or for local wastewater collection services. A bi-monthly bill for a typical residential customer increased by just over \$6.00, or about three percent overall, due to rate increases for drinking water, storm and surface water, and LOTT wastewater treatment services.

Typical Bi-Monthly Single-Family Residential Bill

	2012	2013
Drinking Water	\$36.54	\$39.64
Local Wastewater Collection - NO Increase	\$37.08	\$37.08
Waste ReSources - NO Increase	\$38.36	\$38.36
Storm and Surface Water	\$21.17	\$22.42
LOTT Regional Wastewater Treatment*	\$66.00	\$67.98
TOTAL:	\$199.15	\$205.48
% Increase		3.2%
\$ Increase		\$6.33

* Rate set by LOTT Clean Water Alliance

Water Costs Less in Winter...

Especially for our commercial and multi-family customers. Rates for these customers are about 50 percent lower from November through June, when water demand is lowest. Rates are higher from July through October to encourage conservation during summer, when water use doubles on the hottest days.

Residential customers can save year-round by using less water.

Questions?

Liz Hoenig
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Drinking Water Utility rates increased seven percent in 2013. The rate increase is needed to compensate for declining water use, to cover higher operating costs, and to support several major construction projects. Key projects include the McAllister Wellfield (which replaces our more vulnerable source at McAllister Springs), a new water reservoir in southeast Olympia, and replacement of aging service meters with automated meter reading technology. Rates vary by customer type and water use.

The City's wastewater fee covers the cost of maintaining the sewer pipes and pumps that carry wastewater from your home or business to larger, regional sewer pipelines. This fee did not increase in 2013.

The Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater, Thurston County (LOTT) Clean Water Alliance fee pays for the regional system and treatment of wastewater. This fee increased in 2013 by 99 cents per month, or \$1.98 bi-monthly. The increase is needed to cover inflation related to construction, power, and chemical costs.



Pictured at left: Engineering Technician Jane poses inside a section of 54-inch steel casing, which protects a 36-inch water main as it passes underneath the BNSF Railway tracks. The water main will bring drinking water from McAllister Wellfield to Olympia.

Cover Photo: Jane and Project Manager Tim oversee work at the new wellfield.

Learn more about the transmission line and new wellfield construction at: olympiawa.gov/mcallister

GrassCycling Saves Resources

In spring 2012, the City ran a pilot program in southeast Olympia to reduce the amount of grass clippings collected at the curb. For 2013, the opportunity will be open to all Olympia garbage customers.

What's GrassCycling?

- Mulch mowing.
- Composting grass in your backyard.
- Using grass clippings as mulch on flower-beds.

See attached coupon to learn how to earn a rebate towards purchase of a mulch mower.

Questions?

Ron Jones
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Residential, commercial, and drop box fees are not changing.

What is Helping Keep Rates Down?

- The fee the City pays to dispose of garbage at Thurston County Waste and Recovery Center is not increasing.
- Waste ReSources continues to become more efficient by improving routes with one-side road collection and use of fully automated collection trucks.
- Residents and businesses are taking advantage of waste reduction programs offered by the City.

Help Keep Rates Stable

- Continue to reduce waste by shopping smart and choosing recyclable over disposable packaging.
- Be sure to recycle and compost all the materials we accept.
- Continue placing your cart in an accessible location.



Waste collection drivers Matt, Bob and Terry are helping Olympia move Toward Zero Waste. Contact us to learn how to make your next event zero waste.