

The Drain Report

Autopay Program Changes

By: Cordelia Ford

Midway Sewer is changing our credit card autopay program to increase the security of your credit card information. Our new program will be online, and customers will need to enroll online.

The new program will start operation on November 1st, but please don't wait to enroll. Online enrollment will open October 1st. Please visit our website, www.midwaysewer.org to find the link to enroll in the program. The new program will also give you more options, and will allow you to make 1-time payments with card information you can store for your convenience.

All credit card enrollment forms will be deleted from the old system as of October 30, 2015. We will shred the enrollment forms, and if you have not signed up online for the new program by October 30th, you will not be enrolled in our autopay program.

Our autopay program started in 2007, and the security standards have changed a lot in the last 8 years. We value your trust, and we are making this change to ensure continued payment security.

Please feel free to call the District if you have any questions on the autopay program or the enrollment process. It is a new system for us too, and we will do our best to help you. It will take some time to get used to the new system, but it is a necessary step. This change will not effect our bank account autopay program.

Please sign up on the new system before the October 30th deadline, so that your autopay can continue without interruption. Our website address is: www.midwaysewer.org.



That looks like a real smile to me!

Gone Fishing

By: Ken Kase

Rick Frazier has decided it is time to go fishing and not come back to work. In other words he retired at the end of June after 33 years of service to the District. Rick mostly worked on the sewer collection system making sure that everything flowed smoothly. That is no small task given that there is over 140 miles of sewer collection system to maintain.

Rick attained the position of Senior Operator and had been involved in training many of the current collection system personnel. Rick has seen many improvements to the sewer system and the equipment used to maintain and operate it. He knew where the problem spots were and how to handle them. Rick was a valued employee and he will be missed. All of us at the District wish Rick well in the years to come!

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Special points of interest:

- Midway Sewer District has one of the lowest monthly rates in the state.
- The Board meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. Please contact the office for the meeting time.
- Midway serves the Cities of Des Moines, SeaTac, Kent, Federal Way, Normandy park, Burien, and the Port of Seattle's SeaTac Airport.
- We have been part of this community since 1946.
- You can expect fast personal service when you need it.
- Our employees care about their customers.
- We have a single focus of providing quality sanitary sewer service.



Thank You In Advance For Your Cooperation Preventing I & I!

By Scot Sanborn

There are many words used to describe different types of water such as drinking water, clean water, dirty water, ground water, surface water, rain water, **wastewater**, seawater, storm water, etc. Only **wastewater** that passes through your plumbing fixtures like sinks, toilets, showers, laundry and dishwashers, should enter the Midway Sewer District sanitary sewer system. Our treatment method uses biological treatment technology to clean up the wastewater to an acceptable level, so too much of the wrong kind of water can cause capacity and treatment problems. When I became a Sewer Commissioner one of my goals was to make the system better and more efficient by reducing the amount of the "wrong type of water" in our system. A large portion of this "wrong type of water" comes from something we call Infiltration and Inflow (I & I).

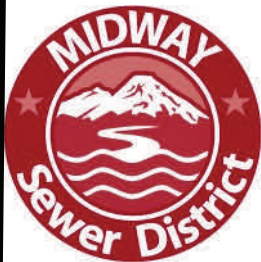
When water other than domestic sewage enters our system of sewers it uses up capacity that was intended for domestic wastewater. The sources of I & I are leaky pipes that allow ground water into the system, crawl space sump pumps that pump surface and ground water into the sewers, downspouts and yard drains that pour rainwater into the sewer system. We all pay for the costs of I & I. In order to be able to cope with I & I you must either eliminate it or build enough capacity into the system to be able to handle it.

Building a bigger sewer conveyance system and treatment plant to handle I&I (the wrong type of water) is not a viable option. The rules and regulations that govern our District do not allow us to accept the "wrong type of water". Even with all this regulation the wrong type of water finds its way into our system. The District is constantly looking for the sources of I & I. We have purchased the very best pipeline video inspection systems and sewer maintenance equipment to be able to detect and prevent I&I from entering the sewer system. When we find a leaky pipe we fix it. Even with all this effort we still get I & I.

Where is this I & I coming from? It is coming from private property. Sometimes property owners are unaware that their pipes are conveying I & I into the public sewer system. Other times property owners are fully aware because they connected a source of I & I to our system. The District respects private property but is not willing to continually allow private I & I getting into the public sewer system. If you have a connection to the sewer that allows I & I into the sanitary sewer, that is an illicit connection and it needs to be eliminated.

The District knows of certain areas where the I & I problem is the most severe. It makes sense that these are the areas where the District will concentrate its efforts to reduce I & I. If you are uncertain if you are contributing to this problem contact the District for assistance. We will do our best to help not only eliminate an illicit connection to the sewer but also help you with resolving the underlying water problem. If I am to realize my goal of reducing I & I into the sewer, and thereby keep your sewer expenses low and the quality of your sewer service high, I am going to need your cooperation. Please remember that not all water is the same. We need to keep some types of water separated from other types of water for our own good, the good of our community and the environment.

Board of Commissioners



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