

WATERWORKS

Hallsdale-Powell Utility District Customer Newsletter

SUMMER 2016

HANDY OUTDOOR WATER & MONEY- SAVING TIPS FOR SUMMER



It's estimated that up to 50% of the water we use outdoors is not necessary to maintain a healthy landscape. Use your water wisely and help save money too.

- **Only water when needed** – Depending on the type of plants or turf, you may only need to water once or twice a week.
- **Water early in the morning or late in the day** – Water when the sun is low to minimize evaporation.
- **Set your mower higher** – Close-cropped grass is more vulnerable to weeds, insects and disease.
- **Keep an eye on weather** – If rain is in the forecast, turn your sprinkler off ahead of time. Even better, install a rain sensor that will do it automatically.
- **Watch what you're watering** – Make sure your sprinklers are not wasting water on paved areas or shaded areas where less water is needed.

As much as **50 percent** of the water we use outdoors is **wasted** from

look for

inefficient
watering methods and systems.
Curb your water waste!

- **Make use of rainwater** – Water collected in rain barrels can be used to water outdoor plants.
- **Sweep, don't spray** – Use a broom instead of a hose to clean patios, decks and sidewalks.
- **Wash vehicles wisely** – Don't leave the water hose running while washing your car at home. Better still, use a car wash that recycles their water.

For more water saving tips, visit www.epa.gov/watersense



The Quality Is Clear!

For the past 62 years, HPUD has provided a safe, reliable and abundant supply of drinking water to our customers. To help ensure your water supply is safe, HPUD's water quality lab performs over 450,000 tests every year and monitors for more than 400 contaminants such as lead, copper, nitrate, and coliform bacteria.

You may have recently received HPUD's 2015 Water Quality report with your utility bill which provides this information in more detail.

If you have any questions, please call us at 865-922-7547 or read the report online at www.hpud.org/water-quality.

How Can You Help Prevent Sewer Overflows & Backups?

- Don't pour grease down the drain.
- Repair or replace any defective sewer pipes to stop leaks.
- Repair or replace any broken clean-out caps.
- Disconnect any sump pumps or gutter drains from the sewer system.
- Report any damaged or missing manhole lids.
- Report all SSOs or sewer backups immediately.



For more information what HPUD is doing to address sanitary sewer overflows, visit www.hpudactnow.org.

Know what's below. Call **811** before you dig.

As a homeowner, always remember to call 811 before you start any digging, even small projects like planting trees or shrubs. A simple call to 811 starts the process to get underground utility lines marked for free. Once the call is made, your local utility companies will send a locator to your property to mark the main utility lines.



When you call 811 and your underground lines are properly marked and located before you dig, you'll prevent unintended consequences, such as injury to you or your family, damage to your property, utility service outages, and potential fines and repair costs.

Don't assume you know what's below. Protect yourself and those around you – Call 811 every time! For more information, visit <http://www.tenn811.com>.

Summer Savings Program



Hallsdale-Powell Utility District's (HPUD) Board of Commissioners has once again approved a summer savings program for your sewer bill for the months of June, July, and August 2016. More water is used during the summer months for outside activities such as watering lawns, washing cars, or filling pools. Most of that water never enters the sewer system for processing or treatment.

In order to more accurately reflect sewer usage in the summer months, this program sets a sewer cap, which is a maximum amount of water usage upon which customers are charged sewer fees. Any usage above this amount will not be billed for sewer, but water will continue to be billed at the current rate.

The amount of savings for each customer will vary, as it depends on the average amount of water used in each household throughout the previous year. Another way for a customer to save on outside water use is to have a secondary water (irrigation) meter installed for \$375. This is a 'water only' meter and no sewer charges will be applied to this usage.

If you have questions about your eligibility, call Customer Service at 865-922-7547.

Reminder:

In April 2016, the HPUD Board of Commissioners approved rate adjustments of 4% for water and 6% for wastewater which will take effect after September 1, 2016.

Your rates help us ensure your utilities stay in good working order and fund critical water and wastewater infrastructure programs, which are mandated by the state and EPA.