DID YOU KNOW?

What's AlertSense?
AlertSense is the community notification system that Skagit 911 uses to deliver alert messages via e-mail, text and/or phone calls to residents and businesses in the event of an emergency or public warning.

Do they have my phone number on record?
If you have standard “landline” service, then the Skagit 911 system database has your listed and unlisted, business and/or residential phone number. Cellular phones are not in the system database. If you’d like to be contacted on your cell phone, you’ll need to register your number.

What kind of alert messages will I receive from AlertSense?
Any local elected or appointed public official or public safety command officer may request an alert message to be activated through the AlertSense system. Examples of events that could prompt an alert activation include: evacuation notices, hazardous material releases, or community police activities.

Where can I register my contact information?
Visit Skagit911.us and click on the “Public Notifications” icon.

If they can’t reach you … they can’t alert you! Sign up today.

WATER WISELY THIS SUMMER

How much water do your plants need?

Many home-owners give their yards more water than necessary. To make sure you’re not overdoing it, get to know the water needs of your plants, be aware of soil and weather conditions, and use this information to apply water only as necessary.

How much water do your plants need?
Most like moist soil around the root zone area although plants that are considered to be drought-tolerant can survive in dry soil for extended periods of time. Before watering, find out if the soil is dry by probing it with a finger or tool.

How much and how often you need to water will be affected by soil conditions. An inch of water will seep down about 12 inches in loose, sandy soil, which holds water longer and sheds runoff more quickly. Water sandy soil more frequently than clay soils. To avoid runoff, water clay soils several times in one day, in short cycles, to allow the water to soak in.

You can improve the water-holding capacity of either type of soil by adding organic matter, such as compost or aged manure. Organic matter “loosens” a clay soil, allowing roots to penetrate and air and water to circulate. Organic matter acts as a sponge in sandy soils, absorbing and storing water that otherwise would

Bulk Water Fill Stations Open

Skagit PUD has launched two new bulk water fill stations that allow for 24-hour daily access to bulk water for our customers. The fill stations are sites where commercial business, agricultural operations and the general public can purchase large volumes of water at easily accessible locations.

Skagit PUD received funding from the Department of Ecology’s drought relief grants program, allowing the PUD to install fill stations in the Conway and Bow Hill areas.

For more information on using the bulk water fill station or establishing an account, please visit SkagitPUD.org.

Bulk Water Fill Stations Open

Water is purchased using a pre-paid access card. The water stations provide customers a convenient and safer alternative to using fire hydrants meters for filling large capacity water tanks.

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PUD Earns ‘TOP’ Water Award

Skagit PUD’s Water Treatment Plant received a Washington State Office of Drinking Water Treatment Optimization Program (TOP) award in recognition for 15 years of meeting and exceeding strict water quality standards.

Skagit PUD is among only four water treatment plants statewide to receive the 15 year TOP award.

“Achieving consistent, high quality drinking water like this is a mark of a very dedicated and skilled water treatment plant staff,” PUD Engineering Manager George Sidhu said.

Skagit PUD voluntarily participates in the state’s program, where water filtration plants commit to working toward meeting treatment optimization goals for particle removal and disinfection that are more stringent than current regulatory requirements. Because turbidity (water cloudiness caused by suspended particles) is a readily measured indicator of treatment plant performance, TOP tracks finished water turbidity data for all conventional and direct filtration plants in Washington.

From 2001-2015, Skagit PUD’s finished water turbidity was 0.10 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU) or less for at least 95 percent of the time, which met or exceeded TOP’s turbidity goal.

Your Water Quality Report Available Online

Each year, Skagit PUD provides its customers with an annual Water Quality Report to let them know how our water quality stacks up against established federal and state drinking water standards. We encourage you to review this report as it provides details about the source and quality of the drinking water delivered to your community in 2015. Included with the report is the annual progress update on Skagit PUD’s Water Use Efficiency goals.

In an effort to be more environmentally responsible, we no longer mass print the reports, but make them available on our website. Starting July 1, please visit us online to view your water quality report at http://www.skagitpud.org/media/51442/CCR2015.pdf.

If you wish to have a paper copy, you can print one directly from our website or you can receive a printed version by contacting our Water Quality department at (360) 848-4461.

Water Wisely > CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

be lost through deep percolation.

Your plants’ water needs will vary according to how well established they are. Plants generally require regular doses of water the first two to three years after they have been planted. Those that are established in a site with the right soil and sun conditions need irrigation only during extended dry spells that may occur in late summer.

Watering Tips

• When water is needed, irrigate turf separately from other plants. As a general rule, well-prepared lawns stay healthy if they receive an inch of water a week, including rainfall.

• When you water your lawn, measure how much water you are applying and check for uniform coverage by placing empty tuna cans around the area being irrigated. Check to see how much water is in the cans after 15 minutes.

• Use sprinklers in the late evening or early morning when evaporation is least likely to occur.

• Thorough and infrequent applications of water are better than frequent shallow waterings.

SOURCE: Washington Public Utility Districts Association

Simplify Your Life!

Online bill payment is now available at SkagitPUD.org. Easily create an account. View and pay your water bills anytime on any device.

Manage multiple accounts with a single sign-in. Scheduled payments … set it and forget it. Let our system make payments for you.