



# What's on Tap

Vision of Tomorrow | Action Today

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## Water Theft and Secured Property Trespassing Reward Program

Unauthorized use and/or tampering of the water system is considered theft and threatens the quality of our drinking water and deprives the District of resources needed to operate and maintain the water system. In addition to criminal prosecution and/or other legal proceedings, the District will levy financial penalties toward those found tampering with the water system. District customers also share in this loss as rates are set to recapture the cost of total water production and supply.

Likewise trespassing on District property, such as water supply or reservoir sites, may result in water contamination or other security implications. Such issues cause undue expense to rate payers as, in the extreme case, the site may need to be drained, treated, tested and/or repaired before continuing use in its primary function.

While the District remains vigilant in establishing, monitoring and frequently evaluating our security program, we also recognize the value of having more eyes out there. To that end, a Reward Program exists to encourage the reporting of suspected unauthorized water use or illegal trespassing on District property. If the violation is confirmed, the citizen(s) reporting the activity are eligible for a reward of \$100 subject to authorization of the General Manager.

**"If you see something - say something."**

if you **SEE**  
something  
**SAY**  
something

## Earthquake Pre-Planing

A 9.0 magnitude earthquake along the Cascadia Subduction Zone and the resulting tsunami is the most complex disaster scenario that emergency management and public safety officials in the Pacific Northwest could face. Several agencies are collaborating in the Cascadia Rising regional exercise to better prepare for this disaster.

On June 7-10, 2016 Emergency Operations and Coordination Centers (EOC/ECCs) at all levels of government and the private sector will activate to conduct a simulated field response operation within their jurisdictions and with neighboring communities, state EOCs, FEMA, and military commands.

In the spirit of Cascadia Rising, that same week Covington Water District will be conducting an annual review of our earthquake pre-plan procedures and supply backpacks. In September the District is scheduled to conduct an in-house earthquake exercise to continue enhancing our emergency preparedness and response strategies.

As a reminder to all of our customers, after a major earthquake the default is a boil water advisory until otherwise notified by the District. If you have any questions and/or would like to learn more about the District's emergency preparedness, please contact Mike Amburgey | Operations Manager at 253-867-0950.



The District will be closed  
in observance of the  
following holidays:

Monday, July 4th - Independence Day  
Monday, September 5th - Labor Day

## Call Before You Dig

Want to avoid spending a day in the dark? It's as simple as 8-1-1.

Dial 811 from anywhere in the country a few days prior to digging, and your call will be routed to your local One Call Center. Tell the operator where you're planning to dig, what type of work you will be doing and your affected local utilities companies will be notified about your intent to dig. In a few days, they'll send a locator to mark the approximate location of your underground lines, pipes and cables, so you'll know what's below - and be able to dig safely.



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



## Lawns 101: The Natural Course for Healthy Lawns

- Adjust higher-set mower to two to three inches. Mow weekly. Leave clippings on lawn to fertilize.
- Water lawn deeply and then let it dry out to allow oxygen, which organisms need to break down nutrients to feed plants, to get back into the soil. Too much water can do as much damage as too little.
- Maintain lawn by using organic or slow release fertilizers in the fall.
- Avoid weed and feed, pesticides and quick release fertilizers.
- Jump-start an unhealthy lawn. In the spring or fall, aerate, over seed and rake in compost.
- Consider alternatives to a lawn on shady, steep or wet sites.

## Grasscycling...

The average homeowner with a lawn creates about 1,000 pounds of grass clippings a year. Instead of paying to send them to a landfill, why not put them to good use by leaving them on the lawn! They're almost 90% water - which means watering less often if clippings are left, and they contain lots of nitrogen, so less fertilizer is used. Clippings don't contribute to thatch as once thought. Mow your lawn when it is dry, make sure your mower blades are sharp and set them to cut off no more than one third of the grass blade. Leave the lawn no shorter than two inches.

