

**Fix that Leaky Toilet!**  
During Fix a Leak Week March 16 through 22

A leaking toilet can waste the same amount of water as taking 10 showers a day. And you may have no idea it's leaking—if it's located away from your main living area... if you're away from home most of the day... or if the leak is intermittent. Testing your toilet for a leak is super easy... just stop by our main office and pick up a free toilet test strip. If you find a leak, the fix-it tips on this website will help you stop it: [www.savingwater.org](http://www.savingwater.org)

**Take a Free Gardening Class!**  
Water Smart Gardening  
Thursday, March 26, 2020 • 6:30 to 8:00 pm

at North City Water District in Shoreline

Gardening in the Pacific Northwest presents many water related challenges – from too much stormwater and drainage problems to several months of drought. Join Jessi Bloom to learn the basics of rain gardens, rain collection, drainage solutions, and great plants for every garden. Class is free but you must register to attend: send an email to [theresah@northcitywater.org](mailto:theresah@northcitywater.org) or call our main office at 206.362.8100.

**Enter to Win a Gift Card!**

North City Water District is a member of the Saving Water Partnership, a group of utilities in King and Snohomish Counties that work together to save water. The results of this survey will help us identify which water conservation messages are most effective with our customers.

TAKE A  
SURVEY  
AND YOU  
COULD WIN A  
\$50 AMAZON  
GIFT CARD



visit [savingwater.org/survey](http://savingwater.org/survey)  
between April 1st - 20th to enter

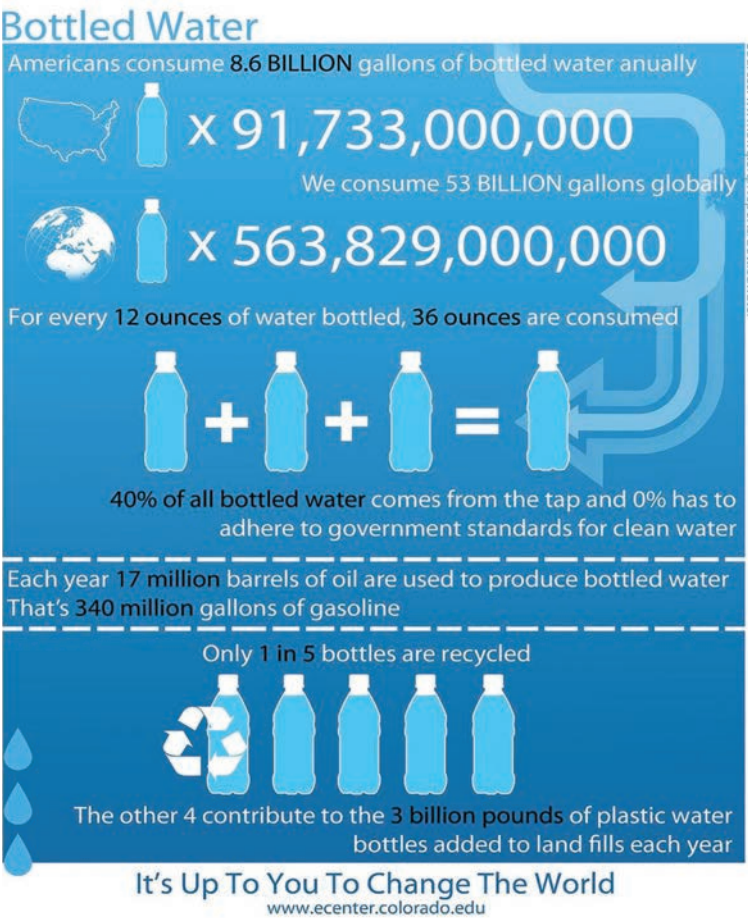
The North City Waves Newsletter is brought to you by North City Water District, and its Board of Commissioners:  
Ron Ricker (President), Charlotte Haines (Vice President), and Patty Hale (Secretary).  
Feel free to contact us at PO Box 55367, or 1519 NE 177th Street, Shoreline, WA 98155.  
206.362.8100 • [www.northcitywater.org](http://www.northcitywater.org) • [f](#) / NorthCityWaterDistrict

**Public Hearing on  
Water System Planning**  
Tuesday, March 17 at 3:00 pm

Since the first issue of our 2018 newsletter, you've been able to follow the development of our Water System Plan. We've now completed this comprehensive effort, including three new appendices to the plan: Water Use Efficiency, ShakeAlert, and Coliform monitoring.

Part of our planning efforts included a long-term outline of capital facilities, looking out nearly 40 years to estimate when approximately 50 one time capital projects will be required, in addition to 8 ongoing annual capital reinvestment efforts. Although the project scope may change slightly over time, this roadmap helps us ensure our water system is the best it can be.

Come join us as we discuss these projects, identify rate management, and adopt our new Water System Plan in a **Public Hearing at our main administrative headquarters on Tuesday, March 17 at 3:00 pm.**



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*North City*  
WATER DISTRICT

**NORTH CITY WAVES**

A newsletter for water-related issues and info  
Serving the communities of Shoreline and Lake Forest Park since 1931

Issue 1: January • February • March 2020

**From Our Board...**  
by Ron Ricker, President

Whether we are setting policies for the District, identifying ways to improve our service, or planning a new capital project, our role as your Board of Commissioners is to work as cooperatively and proactively as we can. Together, we analyze pros and cons, weigh in from our individual experiences and perspectives, and work in cooperation to arrive at the most sound, effective, proactive solutions. We use this same approach in working with other public agencies to achieve common goals—whether for our ratepayers, our community, or our region. Given that one of the foremost goals in our region is emergency planning, we find ourselves asking: what additional ways can we cooperate to achieve a common goal? How can we strategically help each other? What barriers prevented us from working together in the past, that we can openly identify in order to work towards a common goal? When organizations are willing to work together, the entire community benefits. Our recent emergency preparation efforts with other agencies continues to prove it.

**HAVE YOU CONTACTED US YET?**  
Let us know how you prefer to be contacted in the event of a natural disaster or emergency.  
Tell Us by E-mail:  
[customerservice@northcitywater.org](mailto:customerservice@northcitywater.org)  
Call Us: 206.362.8100

North City Waves Newsletter ~ a publication by North City Water District  
website at [www.northcitywater.org](http://www.northcitywater.org)  
(3) Sign up for news, alerts, free classes and more on our  
(2) Follow us on [www.facebook.com/NorthCityWaterDistrict](http://www.facebook.com/NorthCityWaterDistrict)  
(1) Join [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com) for neighborhood news and notices

**Three Ways to Stay in Touch**

- ICS Training and Emergency Preparedness
- Project Update: New Maintenance Facility
- The Rainwater Balancing Act
- Three Opportunities for Ratepayers
- Public Meeting: Water System Planning
- The Facts About Bottled Water

**Inside This Issue**

PO Box 55367  
1519 NE 177th Street  
Shoreline, Washington 98155  
206.362.8100





# ICS Training

## the Next Step in Emergency Preparedness

On Wednesday, February 26, North City Water District's main administrative office was closed while our staff and Board of Commissioners—joined by the staff of Olympic View Water and Sewer District—participated in an all-day ICS training effort led by Seattle Public Utilities.

Incident Command System (ICS) training is a component of the National Incident Management System. This comprehensive national approach helps public agencies like ours be better prepared to handle a natural disaster, through the use of standardized terminology, equipment, and organizational structures. By helping us communicate with and plan for interactions with other agencies in emergency situations, this training helps us do what we do best: ensure safe, reliable water supply in the event of an emergency.

In our case, emergencies can range from a localized event such as a broken water main (due to varying causes, including soil and construction conditions when the pipe was installed, shifts in the surrounding soils, temperature fluctuations, and the age of the pipe itself), to larger scale natural disasters such as a potential earthquake, often referred to in regional planning efforts as the "Cascadia event" in our area.

### NCWD Emergency Preparedness Efforts To Date

- Joined **ShakeAlert** (the early warning system developed by the U.S. Geological Survey).
- Installed **earthquake valves** at both of our water reservoirs that will close automatically to prevent water loss in the event of significant earth movement.
- Installed **backup generators** at both our main North City/Denny Clouse Pump Station and our Administrative Headquarters.
- Constructed **emergency water filling stations** at our reservoirs (shown at right).
- Held several **multi-agency meetings** to prepare for coordinated emergency responses.
- Asked our ratepayers to provide voluntary **emergency contact information**—if you haven't already, feel free to email us at [customerservice@northcitywater.org](mailto:customerservice@northcitywater.org), or give us a call at 206.362.8100 with your info.



*Our new Emergency Water Filling Stations will enable customers to fill their own water containers during an emergency situation*

# Project Update: New Maintenance Facility

**While you may not have seen many changes on the outside of our new maintenance facility these past few months, there's been a lot going on inside.**

Current progress includes new exterior doors and windows, getting the mechanical and electrical systems roughed in, cubicles being framed and sheetrocked, and insulation added to the exterior walls. Next up, we'll be pouring a new foundation to be ready for the delivery and erection of the metal Crews Vehicle Facility structure to be erected in early March. Got questions about the project? Feel free to give us a call at 206.361.8100!



*Exterior of the new Maintenance Facility*



*Interior of the new Maintenance Facility*



*Tolt Reservoir Overflow—in a normal year*



*Tolt Reservoir Overflow—open and releasing water in early 2020*

# The Balancing Act Between Rainfall and Snow Melt

**Tired of all the rain this year? You're not alone... we can't turn on a weather report without hearing how much "above normal rainfall" we've had. How is it all managed?**

Current water storage behind the Chester Morse Lake, Masonry Pool, Lake Youngs, and South Fork Tolt reservoir is above normal this time of year, as shown in the photos at left. Because these same reservoirs will need to accommodate snow melt later this spring, their overflow valves have been opened to release water. This process requires careful consideration in order to minimize impact to communities downstream, maintain safety at the dams, and manage communications with the King County Flood Warning Center.

As members of the Seattle Water Supply Operating Board, North City Water District representatives meet monthly to address these and other issues, including water quality, conservation, and regional supply forecasts. For a first-hand look into water supply conditions within our regional water system, we recommend the following website:

<http://operatingboard.org/WaterSupply/CurrentConditions/index.htm>