



Environmental Services

9850 64th Street West
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TRANSFER of SANITARY SEWER SERVICE to PIERCE COUNTY

June 12, 2008

Dear City of DuPont Sewer Customer:

Pierce County Public Works and Utilities is pleased to welcome you as a new customer! Effective July 1, 2008, Pierce County Public Works and Utilities will provide sanitary sewer service to the area previously serviced by the City of DuPont. This change was authorized by a sanitary sewer agreement approved by the Pierce County Council and the City of DuPont Council. The City of DuPont will mail their final billings through June charges the first week of July. **Charges made by the City of DuPont prior to July 1st must be paid to the City of DuPont.** Residential customers should expect their first bill from Pierce County mid September, Commercial customers the first week of August.

SEWER SERVICE CHARGES

In accordance with the terms of the agreement, all new customers shall pay the same rates and charges of current customers. Charges for sanitary sewer are contained in Pierce County Code 13.13. **See the reverse side of this letter for the rates currently in effect.**

SEWER SURCHARGES – DEBT SERVICE

In addition to the above referenced sewer service charges, a \$24.00 per unit/per month surcharge shall be charged to all customers within the Historic Village service area to pay for debt service on the Historic Village Sanitary Sewer Public Works Trust Fund loan, pursuant to the authorized sanitary sewer agreement.

TIMING of BILLING

All accounts are billed in arrears (after the service has been provided). For example, **Commercial Customers** are billed on a monthly basis and will receive their bill for July service in early August. **Residential Customers** are billed on a bi-monthly schedule (once every two months) and will receive their first bill in September for July and August service.

DELINQUENT CHARGES

Payment is due 25 days after the billing date (the due date is printed on the bill). If the charges are not paid when due, a one time late penalty of 10% of the latest amount billed is added to the account. In addition, interest at 8% per year is assessed from the billing date and is applied monthly on the entire unpaid balance, excluding foreclosure costs. Sewer service charges which remain unpaid after approximately 60 days are subject to collection procedures. The County’s collection procedures involve the filing of a lien against the property (currently \$86.00) and foreclosure of that lien in Superior Court.

BILLINGS – TO WHOM SENT

Billings for Pierce County sewer service are required to be sent to the owner of the property for which service is provided, not the tenant. At the property owner’s option, a legal affidavit designating a tenant or property manager to receive the bill may be filed with Pierce County Public Works and Utilities. The affidavit does not relieve the property owner of responsibility for payment of sewer charges if the tenant or property manager does not pay, but only gives legal “permission” to bill a party other than the owner. To obtain a copy of the prescribed affidavit or additional information, you can contact the Billing Department at (253) 798-4020, between 7:30 AM and 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. Or visit our website at www.co.pierce.wa.us under Public Works & Utilities, Sewer Billing.



IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Billing Section:	Hours: 7:30 – 4:30, Monday through Friday	(253) 798-4020
Sewer Maintenance:	24 hour number to report problems with the sewer lines	(253) 565-3440
Engineering Services:	Hours: 7:30 – 4:30, Monday through Friday	(253) 798-4050

CURRENT PIERCE COUNTY SANITARY SEWER RATES AND CHARGES

<u>Residential</u>	Single Family Class:	\$24.55* per unit per month
	Multi Family Class:	\$21.65* per unit per month

Commercial All five commercial classes are billed a basic service charge of \$7.40 plus a volume service charge based on volume and strength of wastewater discharge. Volume is measured in hundreds of cubic feet (CCF's) of water consumption and is determined by the average monthly water usage over the previous year. Strength of wastewater discharge is measured by the level of biological oxygen demand (BOD) and suspended solids (SS) and determined by the business' highest Standard Industrial Code (SIC).

The volume service charge per CCF of water consumption for each class is:

- *Class 1: \$2.06 – BOD or SS less than 300 mg/l
- *Class 2: \$2.76 – BOD or SS greater than or equal to 300 and less than 500 mg/l
- *Class 3: \$3.47 – BOD or SS greater than or equal to 500 and less than 700 mg/l
- *Class 4: \$4.16 – BOD or SS greater than or equal to 700 and less than 900 mg/l
- *Class 5: \$1.36 – BOD or SS greater than 900 mg/l, Plus \$0.24 per lb of BOD and \$0.28 per lb of SS

In addition to the above rates and charges, a \$24.00 per unit/per month Surcharge, State Tax Surcharge (currently .0175%), a State Department of Ecology Discharge Fee (currently \$0.15 per "residential unit" per month) and a City of DuPont Utility Tax (currently 6% of charges and surcharges) apply.

Example: Residential Single Family Bi-Monthly Charges:

7-1-2008 through 8-31-2008	\$ 49.10 (2 months)
Surcharge (Debt Service Charge)	\$ 48.00 (2 months)
City of DuPont Utility Tax	\$ 5.83 (2 months)
Washington State Tax Rate Surcharge	\$ 1.70 (2 months)
Washington State Dept of Ecology Discharge Fee	\$.30 (2 months)
	\$104.93

PAYMENT OPTIONS

1. Mail payments to: Pierce County Sewer, PO Box 11620, Tacoma, WA 98411-6620
2. Use your bank's On-Line Bill Pay Service – Set up the on-line bill pay service through your bank. Please include your **8 digit** Sewer Account Number (including leading zeros) and the mailing address listed above. Allow 3 -5 business days for posting.
3. Sign up for our Automated Payment Withdraw option – Once your application has been received and validated, your sewer charge will be deducted from your checking or savings account on a monthly basis. Download the Automatic Bank Payment authorization form from our website, or call our customer service department at (253) 798-4020 and request a copy of the form be mailed to you.
4. Pay in person at our Budget & Finance office at 615 S. 9th St. – Tacoma, WA. Cashiers are available from 8:00 am– 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. Receipts are issued for payments made at this location. NO DEBIT or CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED.
5. Drop the payment (no cash please) in our drop box at the Environmental Services Building located at 9850 64th St W - University Place, WA. Payments are removed from the drop box daily and mailed to our payment center for processing. (Allow 3 – 5 business days for mailing and processing). No receipt will be issued.