



What's On Tap?

NEWS FOR WATER CUSTOMERS

High Water Usage Alert System Can Save You Money



It could happen to anyone... A water line inside your house leaks for days or weeks and no one notices. The flapper in your toilet doesn't shut properly, and the tank keeps running. Or, the garden hose is accidentally left on overnight.

KC Water's high usage alert system is designed to let you know when you use more water than normal. Our high usage alert system will send you an email if your water use in a given week is four times greater than the previous three weeks.

We have good news! If your account is currently registered online, you are already automatically registered to receive these alerts. If your account isn't registered, simply visit us online at www.kcwaterservices.org and click on "Register New Account" in the upper right corner.

By registering your account, you will be alerted of unusual water usage so you can fix any problems and potentially avoid large spikes in your water bill. 💧

KC Water Uses Robots To Fix Kansas City's Sewers

A robotic camera goes where no human can – inside the miles of sewer pipe buried beneath Kansas City's streets and sidewalks.

KC Water maintains 2,800 miles of sewer main, and every day technicians lead motorized cameras through those sewers. The work is called CCTV for Closed Circuit Television. Workers look for cracks, incoming water, or blockages. They also assess the overall condition of the pipe.



Operating the remote camera is kind of like playing a video game. The operator uses a console with a joystick to get a 360-degree view of the pipe. They do all of this without having to dig up any yards or streets, which costs money and creates disruptions. The information this camera collects lets engineers know what locations need repaired, replaced, or rehabbed.

A common problem in older neighborhoods is tree roots growing into sewer lines. If the roots are left alone, they can engulf the pipe and cause a sewer backup. If a problem is found, the technician will record it. If the problem is on the homeowner's side, an informational flyer is left at the door. 💧

KC Water Saves Thousands Of Dollars With Lighting Upgrades

On the job, lighting is the key to safety. But, lighting can also be expensive. KC Water's Blue River Wastewater Treatment Plant found a way to address both.


New LED lighting was installed in strategic locations at the Blue River Wastewater



Treatment Plant, and the cost of the lighting improvements was \$128,000. However, the estimated annual savings in energy is 144,000 kwh or approximately \$11,500.

As an added bonus, KC Water qualified for and received a rebate check in the amount of \$64,000 from KCPL, which means the project will pay for itself in five and a half years. 💧


Task Force Working On Funding Recommendations

In order to pay for necessary upgrades and federally mandated programs, water and wastewater rates have significantly increased over the last several years. In April, KC Water asked the Mayor to appoint a 15-member Task Force that is charged with integrating community values into a funding strategy for Kansas City's current and long-term water infrastructure needs. The monthly meetings are open to the public, and the Task Force is targeting Spring 2017 for making funding recommendations. Meeting dates, agendas and presentations, and an online public comment form can be found at www.kcwaterservices.org/cost. 


Only Rain Down The Drain



Storm drains are something most people don't ever notice. But, these inlets on the side of the road are an important part of Kansas City's Stormwater Management System. KC Water

maintains over 53,000 storm drains throughout Kansas City. When they are working properly, they move stormwater off of the streets to reduce the impact of flash flooding. When they become clogged with leaves, grass clippings, dirt, or trash, they can't function and streets may flood sooner than they would with working storm drains. It is also important to mention that most storm drains in Kansas City lead directly to creeks, streams, and rivers, carrying any pollutants in stormwater with them. By keeping waste (even leaves and grass clippings) and hazardous materials out of storm drains, you're doing your part to reduce pollution in our local waterways. 

KC Water Receives National Awards

The The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) recently presented KC Water with four Peak Performance Awards, which recognize public wastewater treatment facilities for outstanding compliance records in the 2015 calendar year. KC Water's honors include three **Gold Awards** (Fishing River, Westside, and Rocky Branch Wastewater Treatment Facilities) and one **Silver Award** (Birmingham Wastewater Treatment Facility), recognizing KC Water's efforts to protect regional health and water quality. 

Fall Leaf & Brush Schedule


KC Water, on behalf of the City of Kansas City, Missouri, conducts scheduled curbside leaf and brush collections each spring and fall. Here is Kansas City's spring schedule:

Residents who live in **NORTH** Kansas City (from the Missouri River, north to the city limit) will receive curbside leaf and brush collection from **November 14 – November 18** and **December 12 – December 16**. Curbside collection will take place on your regularly-scheduled trash day.



Residents who live in **CENTRAL** Kansas City (from the Missouri River, south to 63rd Street, but not including residents who live east of Blue Ridge Cutoff) will receive curbside leaf and brush collection from **October 31 – November 4** and **December 5 – December 9**. Curbside collection will take place on your regularly-scheduled trash day.

Residents who live in **SOUTH** Kansas City (from 63rd Street, south to the city limit, as well as all residents who live east of Blue Ridge Cutoff) will receive curbside leaf and brush collection from **October 24 – October 28** and **November 28 – December 2**. Curbside collection will take place on your regularly-scheduled trash day.

For more information, please visit www.kcwaterservices.org/leaf-brush. 

Contact Us:

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What's On Tap? is a quarterly newsletter for KC Water customers. If you have story ideas, comments, or suggestions, please email us at water.communications@kcmo.org.