



# WHAT'S ON TAP?

NEWS FOR WATER CUSTOMERS

## STOPPING LEAKS CAN SAVE BUCKS



**K**C Water has joined forces with Bridging the Gap – a non-profit group that connects environment, economy, and community through education and volunteer action – on Leak Stoppers.

The program provides income-eligible customers with water-saving devices and other water conservation assistance at no cost.

Qualifying customers may receive a water conservation kit that contains faucet aerators, a high-efficiency shower head, a toilet tank bank, toilet detection tablets, a toilet flapper, and a toilet fill cycle diverter. Toilets manufactured before 1982 may qualify for replacement with a new, water-efficient toilet.

To participate, customers must meet income limit requirements: \$31,895 for a family of two, or \$48,470 or less for a family of four. 💧

**MORE INFORMATION**

[www.bridgingthegap.org/water/leakstoppers](http://www.bridgingthegap.org/water/leakstoppers) or call 816-890-9600.

## UPGRADES COMING TO MAIN STREET



*Pershing Road and Main Street is the northern terminus of Upgrades on Main, a two-year project to replace aging water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure beneath the City's major thoroughfare.*

**K**C Water this fall will begin a two-year project called Upgrades on Main, a multimillion-dollar initiative to replace aging water and sewer infrastructure on a nearly 4-mile stretch of Main Street from Union Station to the Plaza and the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

At various times and locations, construction crews will be installing new water mains, wastewater sewers, stormwater pipes, associated manholes, and fire hydrants.

“As with any infrastructure improvement, there will be a short-term impact,” said Terry Leeds, Director. “Trenches will be dug and pipes will be delivered and placed, causing noise and dust and temporary traffic interruptions. We will stage the work in phases. Our contractors are committed to minimizing disruption as much as possible.”

The result will be fewer service

interruptions due to pipe breaks, better efficiency, improved fire protection, and infrastructure expected to last for decades to come.

“Underneath every great city is a great water system,” Leeds said. “This work paves the way for the KC Streetcar Main Street extension.”

KC Water offers several ways to stay informed about this infrastructure work:

- Sign up for the weekly Updates on Main email newsletter at [www.kcwater.us/upgradesonmain](http://www.kcwater.us/upgradesonmain).
- Send a message to the Updates on Main team at [water.upgradesonmain@kcmo.org](mailto:water.upgradesonmain@kcmo.org).
- Call the Updates on Main hotline at 816-337-1013 (M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.). 💧

**MORE INFORMATION**

<http://kcwater.us/upgradesonmain>

# IT FALLS ON ALL OF US: STORMWATER TIPS FOR RESIDENTS

A common refrain for many homeowners, especially in older parts of town, is the adverse effects of rainfall. Sure, it waters our lawns and gardens, but too much rain also can cause basement flooding, washouts, and pollution of streams and rivers upon which we rely for drinking water.

In the water industry, minimizing the negative impact of rainfall is called stormwater management. It's a priority for KC Water, which, among other things, maintains 44,000 catch basins, a 1,250-mile stormwater system and 13 miles of Missouri River levees.

But homeowners have a role, too. Here are just a few of things any resident can do to protect Kansas City's most precious natural resource:

- Don't put anything in a storm drain. Storm drains along street gutters drain to streams and rivers. They are not trash cans.
- Pick up after pets, and dispose of pet waste in weekly trash pickup.
- Don't litter, and pick up litter you see on streets and sidewalks. Litter on the ground can become trash in the river after just one good storm.
- Don't sweep grass clippings or leaves to

the street. Consider a mulching mower, and bag leaves for City pickup in the fall.

- Take motor oil, household cleaners, old paint, batteries, and other hazardous waste to the KC Water Household Hazardous Waste Facility for proper disposal.

There are many other steps homeowners can take that not only protect waterways, but also beautify yards: Using native plants in landscaping, installing a rain garden, and planting a tree, among others. 💧

## MORE INFORMATION

[kcwater.us/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/KCMO-Resident-Stormwater-Booklet.pdf](http://kcwater.us/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/KCMO-Resident-Stormwater-Booklet.pdf)

# PARK AMBASSADORS LEARN ABOUT STREAM QUALITY



KC Water is collaborating with Park Ambassadors to share information about water quality in creeks and streams that flow through the City's parks.

It's no secret that many Kansas City parks feature streams and creeks that provide a natural habitat for wildlife and recreational trails.

Now KC Water's Education team is collaborating with Park Ambassadors, KC Parks & Rec volunteers, to share information about the waterways in Kansas City parks.

"Park Ambassadors can promote

our message of reducing pollution in stormwater through their efforts to keep pollution out of our parks," said Mary Guerra, Water Quality Education and Outreach Coordinator.

Guerra and Kate Delehunt, KC Water Curriculum Coordinator, conduct a hands-on educational lesson with Park Ambassadors about clean creeks as well as KC Water's educational programs that can be conducted in parks.

"Among other things, we teach about different types of invertebrates living in our waterways and how they can be used to help calculate water quality," Guerra said.

To learn more about KC Water education programs, visit the link below. 💧

## MORE INFORMATION

[www.kcwater.us/education/](http://www.kcwater.us/education/)



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CUSTOMER SUPPORT: (816) 513-1313 (Option 1) or 311 • [www.kcwater.us](http://www.kcwater.us)

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