

We have a winner!

Supaluk Rittikaidachar was the winner of the City of Tukwila's Online Utility Bill Payment contest and will receive a \$100 credit to her water/sewer account. At the December 6, 2010 Council meeting, Council President Robertson drew Supaluk's name from among 71 other Tukwila water/sewer customers who qualified for the drawing. To be eligible, the July, August and September water/sewer bills had to be paid online, on time and in full.

The contest was held to encourage customers to use the web-based, online payment system. This system saves the City processing time and also benefits the customer through added convenience, cost savings (on checks, stamps or gas) and possible credit card perks. Since the inception of the contest, the number of online payments made each month has increased 61%, achieving our intended results of increased usage.

The City of Tukwila encourages its utility customers to begin using or to continue using the online utility bill payment system!

Utility rate increases for 2011

To keep pace with the City's water and sewer utility costs, a rate increase has been approved by the City Council for 2011. The expenses to operate and maintain the City's infrastructure have increased each year due to aging pipe, pump facilities, and Cascade Water Alliance's wholesale water charges. Effective January 2011, the minimum water charge for residential customers will increase from \$8.00 to \$10.00 per month.

Flat residential sewer rates will increase from \$13.39 to \$16.06. Commercial rates will increase from \$23.43 to \$28.12 per 750 cubic feet of water consumption. Monthly sewer bills also include the King County Metro sewage treatment charge which will increase from \$31.90 to \$36.10 per month for 2011.

King County Council has also increased the sewer capacity charge in 2011. The current charge of \$49.07 per month (set up as a payment plan for 15 years) will increase to \$50.45 per month in 2011. The sewer capacity charge only affects new sewer hookups from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011.

Surface Water fees will also increase in 2011. The current rate for single-family parcels will increase from \$85.00 per year to \$93.00 (still one of the lowest rates in the area for surface water fees).

For more information about any of Tukwila's utilities, please contact Tukwila's Department of Public Works at 206-433-0179, or send an email to tukpweng@ci.tukwila.wa.us.

Industrial Land Use Advisory Committee seeks members

The City of Tukwila is reviewing policies and permitted uses for its main industrial area, the Manufacturing/Industrial Center (MIC). Over 14,000 jobs are based in Tukwila's MIC, which covers approximately 966 acres along the Duwamish River and East Marginal Way South. The intent of the MIC is to preserve and enhance industrial and manufacturing activities and the land where they operate.

The City is seeking business and residential representatives for a short-term, focused advisory group to work with Tukwila staff, reviewing issues that affect industrial businesses and land in the MIC, and to consider whether changes in zoning, permitted uses or City policies are required to support existing and future industrial activity.

Business representatives on the committee should either work or own a business in the MIC. Residential representatives should live within one-half mile of the MIC. The plan is to convene two or three meetings, each lasting about two hours.

If you or someone you know would be interested in participating or learning more about the Industrial Land Use Advisory Committee, please contact Rebecca Fox at 206-431-3683 or email her at rfox@tukwilawa.gov.

Your dog could be famous...

As part of Tukwila's Surface Water Management Program (SWMP), Public Works is emBARKing on a public education and awareness campaign regarding the impacts of pet waste disposal. Pet waste is a pollutant full of bacteria which is a health risk to people, especially children. Not scooping up and properly disposing of the waste left behind by dogs allows it to enter the stormwater system.

Tukwila's Public Works Department will produce and make available informational brochures addressing measures pet owners can take to improve water quality and reduce the burden on water treatment... and the Department would like to feature the pictures of local pets!



If you'd like to share your thoughts on how to promote this campaign or submit your dog's picture for the brochure, email npdes@tukwilawa.gov. Further information about the SWMP can be found on the City's web page at www.tukwilawa.gov/pubwks/npdes.html.