



SPANAWAY WATER NEWS

A NEWSLETTER TO THE CUSTOMERS OF SPANAWAY WATER COMPANY - Fall/Winter 2025

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The annual meeting for the members of Spanaway Water Company is scheduled for **Monday, November 17, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.**
Company office, 18413 "B" St. E.

The property owners served by Spanaway Water Company are members of the non-profit mutual company. At the Company's annual meeting, as an owner/member, you are invited to attend and vote. At the meeting, information about operations, construction plans, conservation efforts, and the accountant's report on the Company's financial status will be presented. You are encouraged to ask questions, discuss Company matters, and vote to elect members to the Board of Directors.

This year's election will be held for two Board positions. The Board of Director's nominating committee has nominated Dave Haukeli and Taylor Griess for these five year terms 2025-2030. Dave Haukeli has served on the board since 2017 and has a background in the structural fire sprinkler systems and related water and plumbing requirements. Taylor Griess has served on the board since 2019 and has an electrical background currently with Elmhurst Mutual Power and Light.

We will also have a special election to fill a partial term that was vacated in June of this year by Jens Vincent. Per SWC by-laws the Board appointed Mr. Alexander Rae to the vacated Board position in July. Mr. Rae comes to us with over thirty years of experience in the water industry. He has recently retired from Lakewood Water District and has been a great addition to the Board. Mr. Rae will be on the ballot to serve on the Board for the duration of the vacated five year term. That term expires November of 2029.

Nominations for Board positions will also be taken from the floor as well. Nominees from the floor must be present to be elected, unless written notice is submitted expressing their interest in serving on the Board of Directors and explaining the circumstances of their absence. A background in public utility systems, business, land development, or construction would be beneficial though not required for the position.

To show our appreciation for the support, three \$50.00 door prizes will be awarded to Company members (property owners) at the end of the meeting. The door prizes are intended to thank members for their attendance. Come be an active member of your water company and possibly leave with a \$50.00 door prize!

Monday November 17, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. 18413 B ST. E - Come Participate!

Important Update: New Hours of Operation Starting Soon!

We're excited to announce an update to our business hours to better serve our customers and community! Beginning **January 5, 2026**, our office will be open **Monday through Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**

This change allows us to extend service earlier in the morning and later in the evening, making it easier for you to take care of your needs before or after typical work hours.

New Office Hours

Monday – Thursday: **7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

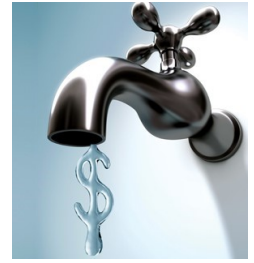
Closed on Fridays

While our Friday office hours will be discontinued, the extended Monday–Thursday schedule provides the same total weekly service time while offering greater flexibility during the week. If you have questions about the schedule change or need assistance planning around the new hours, please contact us at **253-531-9024** or visit **www.spanaway-water.org**. We appreciate your understanding and look forward to serving you during our new extended weekday hours!



Important Update: Water Rate Adjustment Coming Soon

We want to keep you informed about changes that affect our community and the reliable water service we all depend on. Beginning January 1, 2026 water rates will increase by 22%. We know any rate change impacts household budgets, so we want to explain why this adjustment is necessary and how it benefits our customers long-term.



Why Rates Are Changing

Providing safe, dependable water service requires ongoing investment. This rate adjustment helps cover:

- **System maintenance & upgrades** — replacing aging pipes, valves, and pumps to ensure reliable service and reduce costly emergency repairs.
- **Future infrastructure improvements** — planning ahead to meet growing community needs and maintain high water quality standards.
- **Rising operational costs** — including power, treatment supplies, and labor.

What This Means for You

For the average residential customer using 1700 cubic feet every two months, this increase means about \$12.00 more per month (from approximately \$50.81 to \$62.01). Actual changes will vary based on individual water usage. Full rate structure and tiers will be published to our website in early January 2026.

www.spanaway-water.org.

Our Commitment to You

We know rate increases are never easy. Our goal is to keep costs as low as possible while continuing to deliver clean, safe, and reliable water every day. Every dollar from this adjustment goes back into maintaining and improving the system that serves our entire community. If you have questions about your bill or want tips on how to conserve water and keep costs down, visit our website www.spanaway-water.org or contact us at 253-531-9024 or email customerservice@spanaway-water.org we're happy to help. Thank you for your understanding and for partnering with us to ensure a strong water system today and for years to come.

Water Rate Components Explained:

Base Rate and Water Usage Charges cover the day to day operation, maintenance, utility taxes, and water quality testing costs of the water system.

EPA Treatment Charge covers the costs for EPA required water treatment including chlorination, pH adjustment needed for corrosion control, and the related chemical and maintenance cost for well treatment systems.

Capital Projects Fee supports the replacement and upgrade of essential infrastructure within the existing system. This includes water mains, meters and services, storage tanks, wells and pumps, well houses, and the relocation of mains required for county or state road improvement projects. Over the past five years, the Company has reinvested more than \$10 million in capital improvements to enhance and maintain its infrastructure. These proactive investments reflect the Company's commitment to system reliability and to addressing the broader, nationwide challenge of aging utility infrastructure.



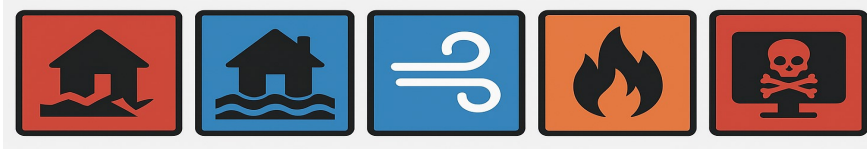
Updating Our FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan

Spanaway Water Company is in the process of updating its FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan, an essential document that helps identify potential natural and human-caused hazards and outlines strategies to reduce their long-term risks.

A FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan serves as a roadmap for increasing community resilience. It assesses threats such as earthquakes, floods, windstorms, wildfires, and other events that could disrupt water service or damage critical infrastructure. The plan then details actions the utility can take—like infrastructure upgrades, emergency power planning, and system redundancies—to minimize impacts and speed recovery after disasters.

Regular updates ensure the plan reflects current conditions, new technologies, and recent hazard data. Keeping the plan current also allows Spanaway Water Company to remain eligible for federal funding opportunities that support system improvements and disaster recovery efforts.

Members who wish to review portions of the plan that are not sensitive may request access by contacting our office. We also welcome comments and feedback from the community to help strengthen our planning efforts and ensure we are prepared for future challenges.



Capital Projects 2025 - 2026

The Company invests capital project fees back into the water system – replacing aging infrastructure and installing new facilities. The Company is actively replacing aging water mains, focusing on 4-inch and 6-inch AC mains combined with thin wall water service lines. These thin walled service lines make up the majority of our system leaks.

Main Replacement Program:

The ongoing Renewal and Replacement (R&R) is our infrastructure replacement program. The focus is on the 48 miles of aging asbestos cement (AC) water mains. These projects effectively rebuild the water system, section by section, and include water mains, service lines, valves, fittings and fire hydrants. Currently these projects are focused on areas with on-going leak issues as we work our way through all of the existing A/C water mains. When possible R&R projects are coordinated with Pierce County road or sewer projects. The 2026 R&R #7 project will replace approximately 2,500 linear feet of main on 159th St from A St to 3rd Ave. The cost for the main replacement project was approximately \$1 million.

Leak Detection and Repairs:

We have recently purchased our own locating equipment which included staff training. We are identifying and repairing more leaks, saving money, and have less unaccounted for water. Since implementing the on-going in-house leak detection program we have found that the equipment has already paid for itself. The goal is to survey one-third of the system each year and repair leaks as they are found. Since implementation in May of 2023 we have identified and repaired over 340 leaks, saving an estimated 3,200 gpm from being wasted. This has proven to be a very practical and successful effort suggested and implemented by the SWC field staff.

Equipment Purchases:

Spanaway Water Company recently purchased a vac truck to enhance our leak repair and maintenance response. This new equipment will allow our crews to locate and repair leaks more efficiently, reduce water loss, and minimize service disruptions for our customers.

Proposed Capital Projects and System Maintenance:

For fiscal year 2026 the Company plans to invest \$1.0 million back into the water system primarily as water system operation and maintenance work and system upgrades.

Future Spanaway Water Company proposed plans include;

- Coordinate engineering and construction for the next AC main replacement project
- Coordinate engineering and construction for the recoating of Tank #3
- Begin preliminary engineering and permitting for an additional main zone storage tank
- Address upcoming PFAS testing, requirements, treatment options



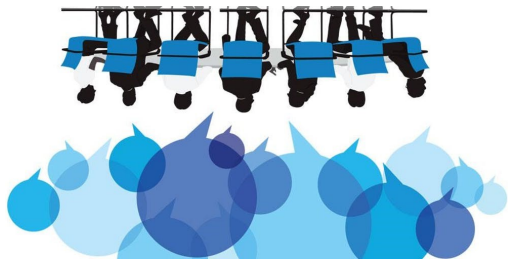
Main Flushing Reminder

A water main's size is predominantly determined by fire flow requirements rather than residential or domestic water demands. Mains that are sized to move large volumes of water for fire flow can accumulate naturally occurring minerals on the interior of the mains during lower volume domestic flow. To improve water quality, we perform routine water main flushing on Tuesdays, typically from September through May. During this process we move large quantities of water through the dead-end or low flow mains to both scour the pipe's interior and bring fresh water into the area. This can stir up the minerals in the piping system. When this happens, you may see a brownish yellow tint to the water, caused by manganese. Manganese is considered an aesthetic "secondary" contaminant. Because the water may be discolored we suggest that you consider this before washing clothing, especially whites, on Tuesdays

***Spanaway Water Wishes You the Very Best This
Holiday Season & Throughout the Year!
Be Safe & Stay Healthy!***



2025 Annual Meeting Notice



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