

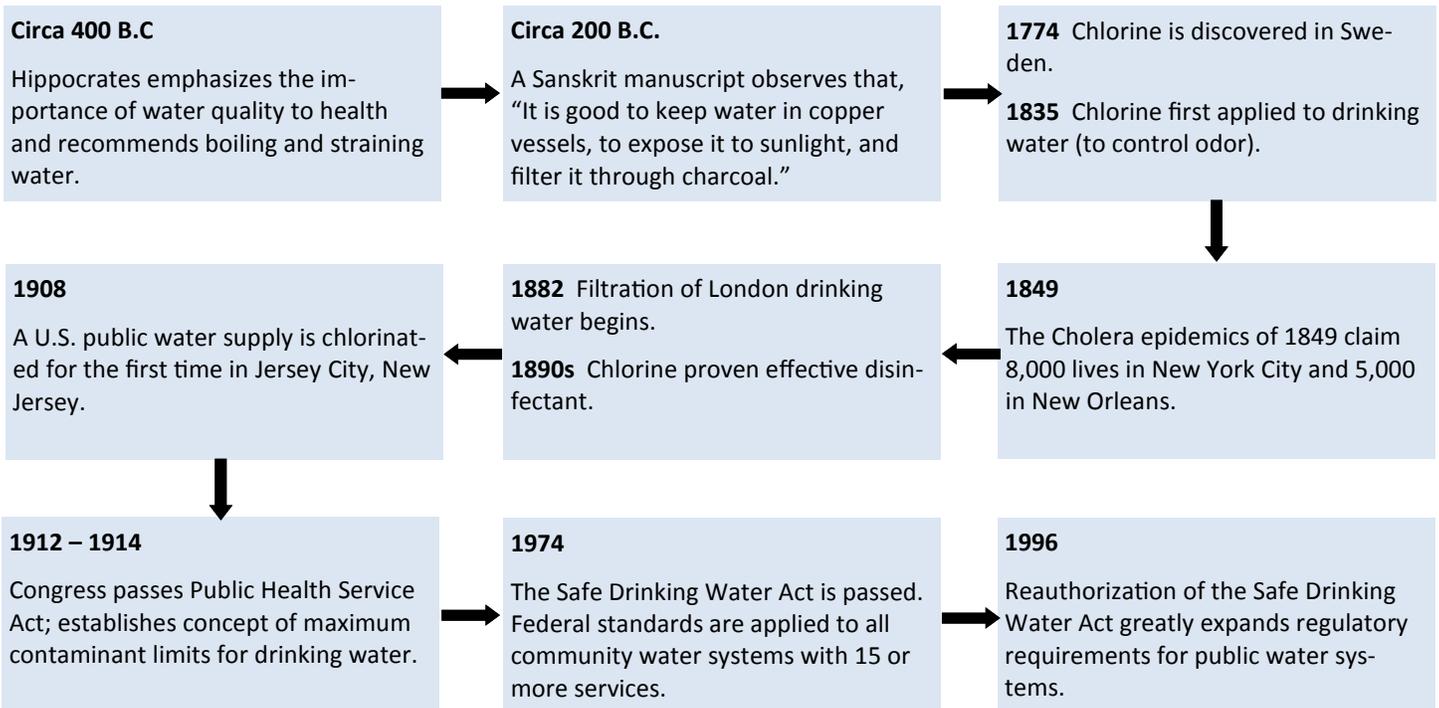
# Kitsap Connection

For customers of Kitsap PUD's drinking water utility March/April 2017

## Are you ready for Drinking Water Week?

If not, don't worry. You have plenty of time. This year's Drinking Water Week runs May 7-13. On the morning of the 7th, kids around the country will jump, excitedly, from bed and rush to the kitchen tap for the traditional first drink. Officials will issue proclamations highlighting the importance of our drinking water infrastructure and lamenting its deteriorating condition. And a grateful nation will pause and reflect on the public health and other societal gains that are possible only with safe drinking water. Sigh... In fact, only one of these is likely to occur. Can you guess? (IT'S THE SECOND ONE!) Since we are sending this newsletter well in advance; however, let's go over some information to help you—hopefully— have a happy, healthy and informed Drinking Water Week 2017.

## Some milestones in Drinking Water History



courtesy Alaska Division of Environmental Health

## I'll have what she's having...

In Kitsap, that is groundwater. Except for the City of Bremerton's surface water source behind Casad Dam, all of Kitsap County's drinking water comes from groundwater sources. Though the source is the same, the means of delivery vary greatly.

There are approximately 147 community Group A Public Water Systems in Kitsap

County. These systems, which are subject to the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act provide water to over 80% of our population.

Smaller Group B water systems, not subject to the Safe Drinking Water Act, serve another 10,000 people. Kitsap has approximately 900 Group B water systems. They, typically, serve small develop-

ments of 4– 6 homes. Kitsap Public Health District maintains limited oversight of Group B systems in Kitsap.

Lastly, 30,000 or so people are served by private wells. Kitsap has approximately 15,000 of these. While private wells go through a permit process, they are not subject to ongoing regulation as are public water systems.

# Take a vacation. And take a vacation.



Once while I was on vacation, a water bill delinquency notice was delivered to my house. It was brought in by my Mom, who was getting my mail. Worse, it was—likely—delivered by a good friend who works for the utility

(not a KPUD system). When I got home and discovered the situation, you know what I did? I signed up for autopay. Now when I go on vacation EVERYONE can rest assured the water bill, at least, is taken care of. Shouldn't you do the same? Our Customer Service Department re-

ports that over 1,800 customers are signed up for autopay. To join them, go to <http://www.kpud.org/billPayAndRates.php> and select an option that is right for you. And enjoy that vacation!

## Low Income Senior, Low Income Disabled Rates

KPUD offers reduced water rates for low-income seniors and disabled individuals. Seniors must be at least 62 years old and meet income thresholds established in state law.

To claim low-income disabled status, an individual must meet income thresholds established in state law AND be retired from regular employment by reason of physical disability.

For more information, and to apply, visit our website at <http://www.kpud.org/billPayAndRates.php>

# Recharge/Withdrawal: Water In, Water Out

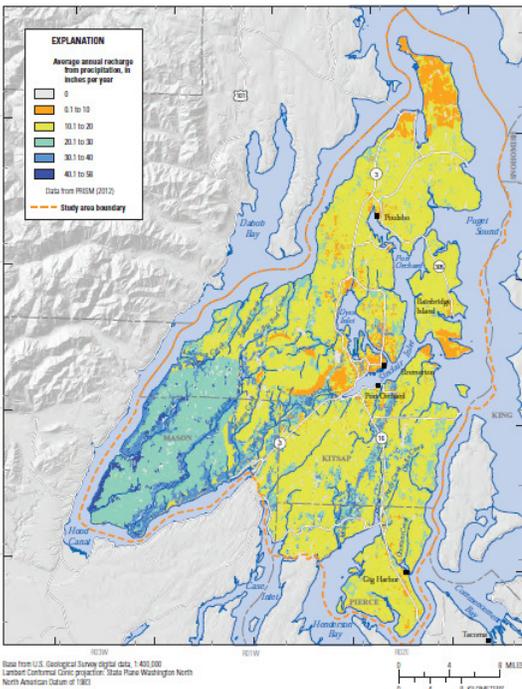


Figure 18. Distribution of average annual recharge from precipitation, Kitsap Peninsula, west-central Washington, 1960–2010.

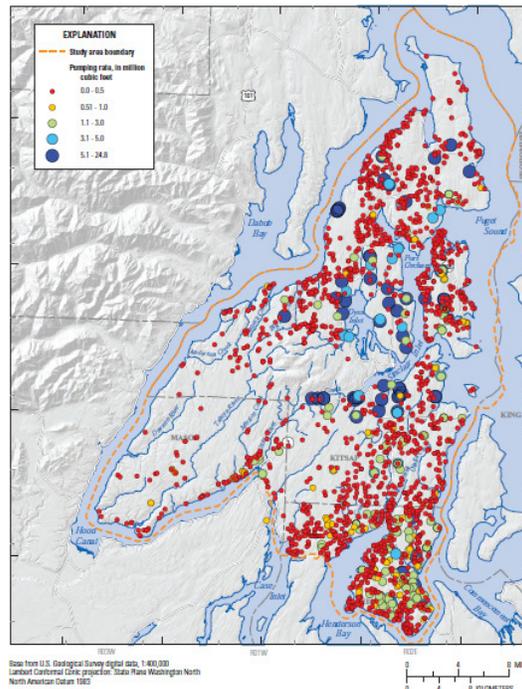


Figure 19. Locations of public-supply wells and pumping rates, Kitsap Peninsula, west-central Washington, 2012.

The two graphics above are from the 2014 USGS report Hydrogeologic Framework, Groundwater Movement, and Water Budget of the Kitsap Peninsula. I apologize for the small scale with which they are presented here. I think they can be informative, none-the-less.

The map on the left shows groundwater re-

charge rates. Not surprisingly, areas with high precipitation rates have high recharge rates. The map on the right shows public water system withdrawals. A strategy of Kitsap's regional supply strategy is to tap water in the wet southwest and use it to augment supply in drier parts of the county.

## Kitsap PUD

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## 2017 Water Rates

2017 Rates shown below are for a typical residential service. Remember: KPUD bills on a bi-monthly basis.

### Basic Service Charge

\$24.25 (monthly)  
\$48.50 (per 2-month billing)

### Commodity Charge

**Tier 1** (0-1,400 cubic feet)  
\$1.15 per 100 cubic feet\*

**Tier 2** (1,401—2,400 cubic feet)  
\$1.55 per 100 cubic feet

**Tier 3** (2,401—4,000 cubic feet)  
\$2.40 per 100 cubic feet

**Tier 4** (over 4,000 cubic feet)  
\$5.50 per 100 cubic feet

\*100 cubic feet equals 748 gallons

## Kitsap Water Trivia

In 2014, the United States Geological Survey published a study of the Kitsap Peninsula's groundwater resources. During the study year, the USGS found approximately 687,000 acre feet of water (one acre foot = 325,851 gallons) recharged the groundwater system. Question: Of this, what percentage was withdrawn for water supply purposes?

- A. 40%
- B. 20%
- C. 10%
- D. 4%

Answer: D. Total groundwater withdrawals for the entire Kitsap Peninsula was found to be approximately 29,000 acre-feet, or 4% of total recharge.