



BILLING CYCLE TO CHANGE FOR FLAT-RATE CUSTOMERS



All customers paying a flat rate will experience a change in their billing cycle in July.

Currently, all flat-rate customers are billed at the same time every other month. Starting in July, customers will continue to be billed every other month, but half will be billed in alternating months. In order to implement the change, some customers will experience a one-time diversion to the two-month billing cycle by receiving a bill in July for the month of July only — a one-month bill.

Our flat rate customers will receive a letter in May explaining how the billing cycle changes will affect them. Watch for information in your mailbox.

Questions? Please call customer service at (916) 791-0115.

WATER METER ACCESS REMINDER

San Juan Water District reminds you to leave some space around your water meter box. This makes it possible for SJWD representatives to read your water meter on a regular basis.

SJWD asks that you maintain a three-foot clearance on all sides of your meter box — free of landscaping or other obstructions. We realize that the required three-foot clearance can impact the appearance of your yard. If you have concerns about the trimming or removal of your landscaping or need help conducting the work, SJWD will be more than happy to assist you — free of charge.

Please contact us at (916) 791-0115. We'll be happy to offer suggestions.

FREE WATER EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS

SJWD offers a variety of free programs and services to help you use water wisely. We encourage you to take advantage of the following opportunities:

- **Landscape Irrigation Review:** Our staff will visit your home and evaluate your irrigation system to develop an optimum watering schedule for your landscape.



DID YOU KNOW?

There is no need to install home water filters or water softeners because your water is soft right out of the tap! San Juan water comes from among the most pristine watersheds in the United States — the American River. Our water is soft because it contains very low levels of calcium carbonate, which increases water softness and the effectiveness of shampoos, soaps and laundry detergents.

Landscape irrigation reviews take from one to three hours, depending on the size of your landscaped area. To schedule an appointment, please call (916) 791-2663.

- **Free Landscape Irrigation Controller Program:** You may qualify to participate in our free landscape irrigation controller replacement program. With funding provided by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and participation from Rain Bird, qualified customers can exchange their controller for a water efficient controller and rain sensor. Please note that you must attend a workshop prior to installation to learn how to use your new controller.
- **Ultra-Low-Flush Toilet Rebates:** Customers who replace an existing 3.5-gallon-per-flush (gpf) toilet may receive a rebate of up to \$75 when they purchase and install a new 1.6-gpf toilet. To receive the rebate, customers must complete a short application form, provide proof of purchase and have the new toilet inspected by SJWD staff. SJWD staff will dispose of the old toilet.
- **Residential Plumbing Retrofit:** If your home was built before 1992, SJWD will provide you with free water saving devices such as low-flow shower heads, toilet tumblers and kitchen and bathroom sink aerators.

As always, we want to help you improve the water efficiency of your home and garden. For more information, please call (916) 791-0115 or visit our Web site at www.sjwd.org.

Water

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR FREE GARDENING CLASSES

San Juan Water District is offering free classes in March:

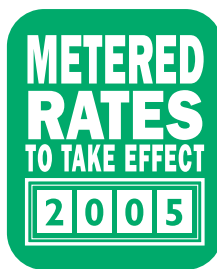
- At 9 a.m. on March 9, learn how to turn leaves and grass clippings into magic for your soil at our composting class. You'll discover the materials most suitable for composting, as well as tried and true composting techniques.
- At 10 a.m. on March 9, join us in our residential dwarf orchard for a spring pruning demonstration. You'll learn about proper pruning techniques for maintaining the health of your trees.
- At 9 a.m. on March 23, learn how to install a new drip irrigation system, or convert an existing sprinkler system to drip irrigation, to improve water efficiency.

All of these special classes are taught by landscape experts who are also Master Gardeners. They are **free of charge** and will take place at San Juan Water District, 9935 Auburn Folsom Road in Granite Bay. For additional information, please call our conservation department at (916) 791-2663.

FREE METERED RATE COMPARISONS

Are you wondering how the transition to metered rates will affect your water bill? Let us show you! A federal mandate requires all San

Juan customers to be billed based on a metered rate by 2005. In preparation, we have been reading meters throughout most of the district to gather water consumption information. If you are in an area where we have been reading meters, we can provide you with a comparison of your current flat rate bill to a metered rate based on your historical consumption. To date, more than 800 customers have voluntarily switched to a metered rate based on the comparison information provided to them.



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BILL PAYMENT OPTIONS

SJWD wants to remind you that if you pay your water bill online or through a bill-paying service, it can take up to 10 days for the district to receive your payment. To avoid this delay, you may want to take advantage of either our Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) program or pay automatically by credit card. This allows you to have your water bill deducted directly from your bank account or charged to your VISA or Master Card.

To sign up for either program, please contact our customer service department at (916) 791-0115 to request an application. You may also download an application online at www.sjwd.org. Once we receive your information, it will take one full billing cycle to enroll you in the program you select.



CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB!

SJWD recently updated its Web site with new information and improved navigation. Need help reading your meter? Visit www.sjwd.org/howtoreadyourmeter.htm.