

May 2021 Newsletter

Please submit questions/comments to admin@sallal.com

<p>Contract with the City</p>	<p>Last summer, the Sallal Board approved an \$18K engineering study to determine how much mitigation water could be made available to the City along with how much drinking water will be needed for our members for purchase from the City.</p> <p>To correct some misinformation about water supply contract negotiations between Sallal and the City, we are seeking the following goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A contract will NOT result in reduced availability of water for our existing members. It would actually increase the amount of water available to Sallal’s members. 2) A contract will NOT result in increased rates for our existing members. It should actually help keep rates as low as possible for a longer time because it would allow for more new connections, and those connection fees, which will also generate increased monthly revenues, helping to pay for replacement of aging pipes. 3) If there is no contract, Sallal will not have enough water to serve the planned growth. A moratorium (for Sallal’s service area only) will occur. Sallal may be forced to yield more of its service area to North Bend, as has already happened with two large development parcels. 4) Our only other option is to obtain a new water right, which we are pursuing; but the regulatory hurdles present a significant challenge.
<p>Backflow And Cross-Connects</p>	<p>It’s backflow prevention inspection time again!</p> <p>If you are required to have an annual backflow prevention inspection, you will receive notification from Sallal with this month’s bill. They are due by July 31st.</p> <p>A cross connection is any connection to the public water supply that can allow contaminants to enter the system. This can happen if water from a facility, home, or irrigation system flows backwards into the distribution system. Properly operating backflow devices prevent this flow reversal and protects Sallal’s water from contamination.</p> <p>The Safe Water Drinking Act of 1974 and the Washington Administration Code 246-290-490 requires all public water systems in Washington State to operate an on-going Cross Connection Control Program to protect the public water supply from contamination from possible cross-connections. The Sallal Water Association adopted a cross-connection control program in 1998 with the goal of premise isolation. The Association is not responsible for eliminating or controlling cross-connections within the customer’s water system. The goal of the Association’s Cross Connection Control Program is to prevent non-potable water from returning into the public water system.</p> <p>Sallal staff evaluates residential and commercial connections to determine the level of backflow protection based on regulatory requirements. The Association has the right to deny service to any member who does not install a required backflow device or if the member does not complete the annual testing on the backflow device. Annual notices are sent to all property</p>

	<p>owners that have or are required to have a premise isolation backflow device, reminding them of the annual testing requirements.</p> <p>More information on Backflow and Cross-Connections is available on the Sallal Website at: https://sallal.com/backflow-and-cross-connect-information/</p>
<p>Member Education</p>	<p>Plans for a summer getaway?</p> <p>If you are leaving your residence for 30 days or more, please consider requesting us to turn your water off at the meter while you are gone. This helps to protect your home from leaks that might occur. However, be aware that turning off your water will disable a fire sprinkler system and, if an in-home leak occurs, hot water heaters and other appliances could be drained of water. Consider also turning off your hot water heater if water service is shut off.</p> <p>Selling your home?</p> <p>Please contact us as soon as you have a signed sales contract or at least 30 days prior to closing. The transfer of membership must occur upon closing and there are some minor fees involved, so please loop us in early in the process to provide the date of closing and your forwarding address to avoid any delays in the closing of your sale.</p> <p>Watering your lawn/garden?</p> <p>As we move into the warmer months, many members will be watering gardens and lawns. Every summer, we get calls from members who are concerned with the increase in their water bill. In addition to the guidance in the “Conservation” section of our website, members can water more efficiently using a gradual approach. Start out watering 2 days a week for 10 minutes and adjust as necessary. This will help to prevent overwatering and wasting water/money.</p> <p>Did your Bank Change Routing Numbers?</p> <p>If you have ACH with us and your bank changes its routing number, it is your responsibility to update that info with us. Otherwise, your payment will not be processed (returned as NSF), resulting in fees for you.</p>
<p>New Ways to Manage your Account</p>	<p>With our recent billing system change, you can now access your account online. Once you have completed the initial setup, you will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay your bill on our website, using a credit card. (There is a \$3.00 fee for this payment option.) • View your billing and payment history for the last year. • View your water usage history in a table or graph. • View a copy of your current bill (after the 1st of each month). • Update your information and make account preference changes. <p>These great new options will allow you to view information on your account 24/7. But first you must set up your account online to gain access. All members will need to follow these steps below to access their account:</p> <p>Go to https://sallal.epayub.com/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2F (or follow the red “Pay Online” link from our website at www.sallal.com/billing)</p> <p>Click on “REGISTER” in the top right of the screen and use your Sallal account number to register. You will need to create a username and password. Please save this information somewhere safe as we cannot recover your username and password for you in the Sallal office.</p>