



King County Industrial Waste Program Newsletter Fall 2018

KCIW fees starting January 1, 2019 are online: Look for your annual fee estimate

Every year, KCIW revises its fees. [The fees that begin January 1, 2019](#) are now available online. To help recover program costs, we are increasing surcharge fees and issuance fees for minor discharge authorizations and letters of authorizations.

We have not changed our compliance monitoring and administration fees since July 2014. These fees use a fee structure based on volume of water and two industrial pollutants – heavy metals and fats-oils-grease (FOG). KCIW has been holding these fees steady while working on a new fee structure. Look for your the annual estimate letter in November explaining how the revised fees may apply to your facility.



A new fee structure is in the works

Since today's varied industries use water differently, KCIW has been working to propose a new fee structure. Instead of using water volume, KCIW is considering fees based on the cost of providing service to each type of industry.

Changing the fee structure requires a two-step process.

1. First the King County Council considers an update to the King County Code.
2. Pending Council approval, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks develops a Public Rule. KCIW will inform customers about the Public Rule process, which includes a 45-day comment period and a public hearing.

If the public rule is complete in 2019, new fees could go into effect before the end of that year.

The new system would primarily affect [issuance fees and compliance monitoring and administration fees](#).

However, [surcharge customers](#) may also see changes to their bill.

Surcharge fee update: Year 3

We are currently in the middle of a four-year cycle to [update to the way Surcharge Fees are calculated](#). Businesses like food and beverage processors that send “high strength” or concentrated organic wastewater to the sewer system pay more because it costs more to treat this wastewater. KCIW is phasing in new surcharge fees based on an updated cost allocation that reflects current treatment systems and recent data. To limit impacts to businesses, KCIW decided to take four years to roll out increases that resulted from the allocation change. In 2019, we will be in year three of a four-year process to increase the surcharge fee allocation.



EnviroVation Award application deadline Dec. 14

KCIW encourages all permitted facilities to apply for its annual EnviroVation Award for excellence in pretreatment. For a downloadable application, and to learn about the awards criteria, visit www.kingcounty.gov/industrialwaste or contact the program.



Mark Henley approaches his one-year anniversary as KCIW Manager

In December 2017, Mark Henley became the new manager for the King County Industrial Waste Program. Mark has been leading the KCIW team for the last year in their efforts to administer the pretreatment regulations and partner with industries to prevent pollution. He has also been working on several new process improvements that may go into effect as early as 2019, including updating the program's fee structure and acquiring and integrating a new pretreatment information management system database that will help our team serve our customers more effectively and efficiently. We wanted to make sure you know how to reach him: MHenley@kingcounty.gov or (206) 263-6994.



Commitment to Compliance Award facility profiles

Each spring, KCIW recognizes facilities that have done an excellent job maintaining compliance and preventing pollution. Their work protects communities, the environment, and the economy in our region. The Commitment to Compliance Award honors facilities that have received a Gold Award for five consecutive years. This year we had five award winners.

[Learn more about the 2017 Commitment to Compliance winners.](#)

Companies that violate clean water rules receive penalties

How to Avoid Penalties: Late submissions are a frequent and preventable reason for violations and fines. Plan ahead. File your applications and reports on time. [Read the fall enforcement ad.](#)



Filing Project streamlines record keeping and recruits new employees



The file room on site was bulging. The file cabinets overflowed. Folders lived on top of the cabinets with arrows and sticky notes pointing to them. People complained about papercuts. Off-site, decades of active and inactive files were stored together chronologically, making it difficult to respond to requests for records about specific facilities and to remove outdated files from closed facilities. Something had to change. [Read more....](#)

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Questions about the Industrial Waste Program? Contact us by phone 206-477-5300, email info.KCIW@kingcounty.gov or on the web: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/industrialwaste>.