

UPPER BLUE SANITATION DISTRICT

UBSD



NEWS

JULY 2018

SEPTIC SYSTEMS AND WATER QUALITY

Did you know that malfunctioning individual septic systems not only contaminate areas immediately surrounding the system, but can have a significant negative impact on water quality in the entire Upper Blue Basin? Contaminants such as phosphorus, nitrogen and coliform bacteria when discharged into the environment will have varying degrees of pollution, including negative impacts on human health. For instance, a septic system contributes up to 2 pounds of phosphorus per year into the ecosystem. This phosphorus contributes to the pollution of our rivers and lakes by adding nutrients that can cause everything from eutrophication of our reservoirs, to taste and odor problems in drinking water. In addition, nitrogen from these malfunctioning systems is not only toxic to aquatic life, but in certain forms is quite toxic to humans. Failing septic systems also increase bacterial presence, which is a strong indicator of direct human contamination and is considered very dangerous if ingested.

Construction of state of the art treatment systems combined with operations overseen by highly qualified personnel and collaborative relationships with other local governments, has ensured that the waters of the Upper Blue will remain "Blue" well into the future. We take great pride in our efforts to be proactive in the identification and implementation of water quality protection projects, such as connection of failing septic systems. These aggressive efforts in the protection of water quality and human health have placed the District as environmental leaders, recognized throughout the Country.

GOT INSURANCE?

Have you ever wondered how you would deal with a sewer backup into your home or condo? Did you know that sanitation districts generally do not have and cannot get backup insurance? So how can property owners protect themselves? First, one must realize that because of the size of the District we cannot be everywhere at once. While the District has an aggressive maintenance schedule, failures and blockages can occur. Most of the time it is the homeowner that notifies us of problems at which time we respond immediately. Because we rely on homeowners we encourage you to ensure that your property is adequately monitored if you have a second home or you are on vacation. Friends, neighbors or property management companies are usually used for monitoring.

Additionally we strongly encourage homeowners to add backup insurance to their homeowners policy. Contact your insurance carrier to see if they offer such coverage.

DISTRICT TRANSPARENCY NOTICE AND MEETING SCHEDULE

The District annually posts its Transparency Notice on the District's web site and at the administration office. This Notice outlines the District's contacts, meeting schedules, director information and election information. The Notice can be viewed at www.ubsd.org.

Meetings of the Board of Directors are held at 5:30 pm on the second Thursday of each month with a work session preceding each meeting. The meetings are conducted at the District's administration office which is located at 1605 Airport Road, Breckenridge and are open to the public.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Allyn Mosher, President

Jason Hart, Vice President

**Patty Theobald, Secretary/
Treasurer**

Signe Rockne-Stimson

Andrew Carlberg,

District Manager

INTERESTED IN LOWERING YOUR QUARTERLY BILL???

The Upper Blue Sanitation District offers a unique program for residents of multiplex units that could reduce monthly service fees up to 80%. This program recognizes the use of multiplex units being used as long term rental or primary residences and could provide monthly rates that are the same as single family homes.

The process is quite simple. First, the owner or tenant must file a Declaration of Restrictive Covenants which simply states that the particular multiplex unit has been used as the owners' primary residence or has been used as a long term rental for the past 12 months. As a part of the Restrictive Covenants proof of voter registration in Summit County or a valid Colorado drivers license showing the license holder resides at the property. Finally, the property must be able to be billed separately and not through a homeowners association or property management company. It's that simple! Call the District office at 970-453-2723 for more information.

HOW IS MY SEWER BILL CALCULATED?

A common question we receive is the method by which a sewer bill is calculated. First, all building units, either residential or commercial are based on a "single family equivalent," or "SFE." An SFE is defined as "the average characteristics of a home of a single family in a permanent residence in the District." Based on flow studies, a single family home contributes a peak flow of 300 gallons per day/per SFE, and this is the base upon which the District evaluates all other uses. For the purposes of determining the amount of SFEs assigned to residential units, the District uses the number of bedrooms and bathrooms contained in the unit. For instance, a detached, single family home with 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms equals one SFE. If the number of bedrooms or bathrooms increases, there is a resulting increase in the amount of SFEs assigned to the home. The amount of calculated SFEs is then multiplied by \$78, which is the current cost per SFE, to equal your quarterly sewer charge. A detailed breakdown of SFE calculations can be found on the District's web site at www.ubsd.org.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Sewer backups due to failure of the District's main line are rare, but do occur. Usually the backup is due to a failure of the property's service line. Therefore, we recommend contacting a plumbing contractor initially. However, if there is concern that the problem is more than a failed service line, such as an overflow, then the best action is to contact the District by calling the emergency response phone. That number is **970-418-6073**. If for some reason that number does not reply, contact Summit County Dispatch at **970-668-8600**; they have a complete list of contact information.

MOVING?

ADDRESS CHANGE?

Do you plan on moving or simply changing your PO Box? Many times there have been instances where our office is not notified of these types of changes and resulting in delinquencies in payment. This also occurs when properties are sold and the District is not provided a current address. So, to eliminate these situations please notify our office at least 30 days prior to the change.

UPPER BLUE SANITATION DISTRICT

TELEPHONE: 970-453-2723

FAX: 970-453-2013

WWW.UBSD.ORG

1605 AIRPORT ROAD

PO BOX 1216

BRECKENRIDGE, COLORADO 80424

PROTECTING THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT FOR OVER 50 YEARS