

# UPPER BLUE SANITATION DISTRICT

# UBSD



# NEWS

JANUARY 2016

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### ADOPTS 2016 BUDGET WITH NO FEE INCREASES

The Board of Directors has once again held fees at their current level. That makes five years in a row! In addition to keeping the fees at these low levels the District operates with no property taxes, supporting our “pay as you go” philosophy.

The District’s philosophy of operating like a business has paid off in the fact that we have been able to actually decrease the size of our government and pass those savings on to the customer. Keeping District administration services small while focusing on cross-training all field operations has allowed for an efficient, effective operation.

### UPPER BLUE SANITATION DISTRICT AND SUMMIT COUNTY APPROVE \$1M FOR HOUSING

The Board of Directors of the Upper Blue Sanitation District and the Summit County Board of County Commissioners finalized an intergovernmental agreement that will provide the County a \$1 million dollar fee credit for the County to use on housing and other public projects.

The District is restricted on giving away fees but can exchange fees for items or services of equal value. The adopted agreement reflects efforts of both governmental entities working together, not only to achieve the common good but also reducing expenditures.

### 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.

### FINANCING FOR SEPTIC SYSTEMS

The District offers financing of all fees if you choose to abandon your current septic system and connect to the District’s treatment facilities. We do this to encourage abandoning outdated septic systems which will not only protect public health but also reduce harmful release of pollutants into the environment. This program is not offered to new construction. If interested, please contact our administration office at 970-453-2723

### DISTRICT TRANSPARENCY NOTICE AND MEETING SCHEDULE

This Notice outlines the District’s contacts, meeting schedules, director information and 2016 election information. The Notice can be viewed at [www.ubsd.org](http://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

**Barrie Stimson, President**  
**Patricia Theobald, Vice President**  
**Allyn Mosher, Secretary / Treasurer**  
**Ken Trausch**  
**Jeremy Fischer**  
**Andrew Carlberg, District Manager**

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 insurance to cover the cost of damages due to a sewer backup? Costs for repair and cleanup can easily reach \$10,000-\$20,000. So how can property owners protect themselves if an unfortunate event like this happens? Contact your insurance carrier to see if they offer sewer backup insurance. This insurance is inexpensive when compared to having no coverage and paying the costs yourself. The insurance costs approximately \$30 per year for a single family home and approximately \$15 per year for a condo. The coverage is specifically for damage occurring from surcharge, from a sewer system. This type of insurance is highly recommended for full-time residents and second home-owners. For more information about backup insurance, please contact your insurance agent.

**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, three bedroom and two bathroom single family home equals one SFE. If the number of bedrooms and bathrooms increase, 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](http://www.ubsd.org).

**SUMP PUMPS ARE FORBIDDEN**

In the Spring of every year we experience a high water table due to the run off. During this time we have problems with ground water entering our system resulting in an overload to our treatment facilities. We have crews working every day for months to locate and fix the problems. But in many cases there are problems coming from a customer's property. Many times this is due to leaky service lines, and in other cases we have detected the operation of a sump pump draining crawl spaces into the service line. This type of discharge is illegal under the District's Rules and Regulations because of the stress that it creates in our treatment plants. If you think that you have a sump pump we would be happy to conduct an on-site inspection.

**SPRING ELECTION 2016**

The District will be conducting its biennial election on May 3, 2016. The purpose of the election will be to select three Board members to 4 year terms. Self nomination forms can be obtained from the District's administration office. For additional information please contact the District's Election Official at 970-453-2723.

**UPPER BLUE  
SANITATION DISTRICT**

TELEPHONE: 970-453-2723

FAX: 970-453-2013

WWW.UBSD.ORG

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**PROTECTING THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND  
ENVIRONMENT FOR  
OVER 40 YEARS**