



# NEWS SPLASH

Summer 2009

## IRRIGATION TROUBLESHOOTING QUIZ



**A**



**B**



**C**



**D**



**E**



**F**

Here's a quiz to test your skills in identifying and correcting irrigation system problems! Match the letter of each of the photos to the numbered selections below. Answers are on the back page. Good luck!

\_\_\_1. Exercise caution when using brushcutters in natural areas that have irrigation systems. Fix all leaks promptly! Most areas with native plants do not need irrigation once established.

\_\_\_2. Ensure that your rain sensor is hanging correctly and is not underneath a building roof edge so it can capture and measure rainfall totals and shut off your system during rain events.

\_\_\_3. Move sprinkler heads away from outdoor lights or other electrical fixtures to prevent electrical hazard risks or damage to your lamps.

\_\_\_4. Straighten heads as necessary to keep them from pointing down at the bark mulch and instead direct them toward the plant material.

\_\_\_5. Check sprinkler collars and tighten them if needed to minimize leaks and prevent water from pooling at the sprinkler head.

\_\_\_6. Adjust sprinkler heads so they are not striking buildings or pavement., which can help prevent costly damage. Select a sprinkler head with a partial circle degree pattern instead of a full circle for areas next to buildings.

# ARE YOU READY? BE PREPARED!

Have you ever wondered whether or not you will have water or sewer service during an emergency event? Emergencies can include earthquakes, windstorms, health advisories and flood events. These can impact the provision of water and sewer as well as other public services. The Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District prepares for these events by:

- Maintaining an Emergency Response Plan to guide the District response in the event of an emergency
- Training all District staff on the National Incident Management System (NIMS)
- Conducting regular internal District Emergency Planning Committee meetings to continually improve the emergency plan and review emergency responses for areas of improvement
- Participating and coordinating with local and regional emergency planning efforts, including emergency training exercises that put the Emergency Response Plan into action



The District's stated priorities during an emergency are:

- Life safety
- Incident stability
- Property conservation

The District strives to ensure that all priorities are met as promptly as is reasonably possible, and evaluates and adjusts staffing to ensure that the challenges of a given incident are resolved efficiently while minimizing any inconvenience to our customers.

Are you prepared for an emergency? The District strongly encourages its customers to prepare themselves for these life changing events. While the District's goal is to respond as quickly as possible, in a large event it may not be possible to respond to all situations at the same time. Customers that are prepared for an emergency will most likely have a calmer, more controlled response. Try to incorporate emergency planning in your home on a year round basis. Here are some websites you can investigate to help you plan for emergencies:

3 Days, 3 Ways: King County Office of Emergency Management outlines how to prepare your home for an emergency:

<http://www.govlink.org/3days3ways/>

Washington Military Department Emergency Management Division's preparedness website also includes good planning information:

[http://www.emd.wa.gov/preparedness/prep\\_index.shtml](http://www.emd.wa.gov/preparedness/prep_index.shtml)

The American Red Cross also has an online store for purchasing emergency kits:

<http://www.redcross.org/>

Join Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) and learn how to be a community leader during emergency events:

City of Sammamish CERT: <http://www.sammamishcitizencorps.org/Default.aspx>

City of Issaquah CERT: <http://www.ci.issaquah.wa.us/page.asp?navid=1367>

Other King County CERT partners: <http://www.govlink.org/cert/>

## Answers to Irrigation Troubleshooting Quiz:

- |      |      |
|------|------|
| 1. E | 4. C |
| 2. A | 5. B |
| 3. F | 6. D |

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We will continue to provide information in our newsletters and on our website with regards to emergency planning. Stay tuned and be prepared!

## 2009 LANDSCAPE WATERING CALENDAR

In an effort to reduce printing costs, the Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District is now incorporating the landscape watering calendar into the summer newsletter. You can also find the calendar on our website at [www.sammplat.wa.org/conservation.html](http://www.sammplat.wa.org/conservation.html).

Use of the calendar helps us balance peak summer water use. Too many people watering their lawns and landscapes at the same time can put a strain on our water distribution system and storage facilities.

To use the calendar, find the symbol that contains the numbers that include the last two digits of your house number. These will be your designated watering days.

**HERE'S AN EXAMPLE:** Your house number is 22654. The last two digits of your house number are 54. This means your watering days are Wednesday and Saturday (green triangle.)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
00-15	No Lawn Watering	16-32	33-99	00-15	16-32	33-99