



## Meet Northshore Utility District's Engineering Department

Northshore Utility District (NUD) provides water and sewer utility service to a population of over 85,000 and encompasses the City of Kenmore, parts of the cities of Bothell, Lake Forest Park, Kirkland, and Woodinville. The District operates 284 miles of water mains and 262 miles of sewer mains. The Engineering Department is responsible for planning the replacement of aging infrastructure so the system will continue to function into the future. This department also manages development projects and connections to NUD's existing system.

NUD's Engineering Department is comprised of two teams, Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and Development Engineering (DE), which include a total of 11 employees, supervised by the Engineering Director.

The CIP team includes three engineers and an inspector who manage the design and construction of water and wastewater utilities. Their oversight of infrastructure ensures that NUD can provide reliable water and sewer services now and for future generations.

The DE team includes two permit technicians, one engineering technician, two construction inspectors, and an engineering supervisor who provide services related to permits and inspections of water and sewer services within the District.

NUD is committed to managing public resources responsibly and providing essential services safely and reliably. The Engineering Department is proud to serve the community and do their part to keep NUD's system flowing.

*In photo from left to right: Ethan Maiefski, Assistant General Manager/Interim Engineering Director, George Matote, Senior Engineer, Brandon Humphrey, Senior Engineer, Jeran Hurst, Construction Inspector in Training, Colby Horne, Engineer, Aparna Khanal, DE Supervisor, Tyler Johnson, Permit Technician, Taylor Clark, Engineering Technician, Erik Westfall, Construction Inspector, Not Pictured, Thema Crenshaw, Permit Technician*

## Spring Gardening for Less Water Use Year Round

During our wet, rainy Northwest spring, it can be hard to imagine the dry summer months ahead. Springtime happens to be one of the best times to prepare your yard to thrive with less water. Here are some of the things you can do now for a more water-efficient summer:

**Spread mulch.** Mulch is any organic material spread on the surface to conserve water, control weeds, and slowly feed the soil. Different mulches work better for different plants. In the spring, spread 2-3 inches of compost, leaves, or grass clippings on beds. For woody plants and trees, use wood chips or coarse bark as mulch.

**Give your soil some love.** Well balanced, nutrient-rich soil can mean healthier plants and more efficient watering. Is the soil in your garden beds sandy, gravelly, sticky, or compacted? Depending on the situation, the soil might need aerating to improve drainage or amending with organic matter such as compost.

**Aerate your lawn.** Aeration involves poking small holes in the soil to allow air, water, and nutrients to penetrate the grass roots. This helps the roots grow deeply and makes it easier for water to reach the roots. Aerate the lawn in the spring, when your grass is in its peak growing period so it can recover quickly.

**For more water-saving tips, visit [savingwater.org](https://www.savingwater.org).**



**Northshore  
Utility District  
Board of  
Commissioners**

Suzanne Greathouse,  
Board President

Trudy Rolla,  
Board Secretary

Matt Breyse,  
Commissioner

Tom Mortimer,  
Commissioner

Bruce Gardiner,  
Commissioner

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Board of  
Commissioner  
meetings are  
held on the 1st  
and 3rd Monday  
of each month.  
Meetings begin  
at 5:30 p.m.  
(except holidays)

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**District Office**

P.O. Box 82489  
6830 NE 185th St.  
Kenmore, WA 98028

Ph: (425) 398-4400  
Fax: (425) 398-4430

[www.nud.net](http://www.nud.net)

**Hours of  
Operation:**

Mon - Fri  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**(Open 24 hours for  
emergencies)**



## Water & Wastewater Utilities 101

Humans have been harnessing water for drinking, bathing, and growing food for thousands of years. The availability of water has been an important factor in the growth – and decline – of communities throughout history. Today, we often turn on a tap or flush the toilet with hardly a thought about the vast network of pipes and treatment facilities that make water safe and convenient. So, how did we get here, and what exactly is a utility district?

### **Our Modern Water Systems**

Water and wastewater infrastructure has evolved significantly in the United States over the last two centuries. In the mid-19th century, many American cities built centralized water supply systems, but initially these systems provided raw river water without any treatment. Water treatment plants were added after major outbreaks of diseases like cholera were linked to contaminated water. However, wastewater treatment didn't become widespread until the mid-20th century.

### **Why Are There Utility Districts?**

Today, public water and wastewater systems are regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state agencies under the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Clean Water Act. Providing clean drinking water and managing wastewater involves considerable infrastructure, skilled operators, constant oversight and maintenance, and long-range planning to keep the system working as it ages. Organizations such as utility districts fulfill these responsibilities.

According to the EPA, there are over 148,000 public water systems in the United States. A public water system may be publicly or privately owned. Publicly owned utilities like Northshore Utility District serve about 89% of Americans.

### **Your Utility District**

What is now Northshore Utility District started in 1947 initially as King County Water District Number 79. The District is governed by a board of five elected commissioners who establish rates and policies. Over the last eight decades, NUD has been committed to providing reliable water and wastewater services to the community and will continue to do so in a safe, economical, and ecologically responsible manner for decades to come.

## NUD Gives Back to the Community

Northshore Utility District is proud to partner with local organizations to support the community. Recent employee and Board of Commissioners contributions include:

- \$1,250.00 for the Mary's Place fundraiser
- Several large boxes of food were donated by District staff for the Kenmore Food Bank (City of Kenmore's Food Drive)

### **You can help the community, too!**

**Learn about the Share a Drop program that helps families in need pay their water bills: [nud.net/share-a-drop](http://nud.net/share-a-drop)**

