

# Seattle Water Department Water System Services Records, 1958-1996

## Overview of the Collection

<b>Creator</b>	Seattle (Wash.) Water Dept.
<b>Title</b>	Seattle Water Department Water System Services Records
<b>Dates</b>	1958-1996 (inclusive) 1958 1996
<b>Quantity</b>	3 cubic feet, (8 boxes)
<b>Collection Number</b>	8203-05
<b>Summary</b>	Records related to operations of the Seattle Water Department.
<b>Repository</b>	<a href="#">Seattle Municipal Archives</a> Seattle Municipal Archives Office of the City Clerk City of Seattle PO Box 94728 98124-4728 Seattle, WA Telephone: 206-233-7807 Fax: 206-386-9025 <a href="mailto:archives@seattle.gov">archives@seattle.gov</a>
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	Records are open to the public.
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Sponsor</b>	Funding for processing this record series was provided through a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

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## Historical Note

A public waterworks was created by City Charter amendment in 1875. However, Seattle was served primarily by small private water companies for the next decade-and-a-half. Following the Great Fire of 1889, citizens voted to fund creation of a municipally owned water system. The City purchased the private systems and began development of the Cedar River Watershed, and since 1891, has owned and operated a municipal water system. The system was administered by the Superintendent of Water under the auspices of the Board of Public Works. In 1905 the Department of Lighting and Water Works was created. Five years later, the Water Department became a separate entity. Most of the water used by the Seattle Water Department came from the Cedar River Watershed property, which also provided income for the department through the selling of logging rights. Several timber companies including Weyerhaeuser Company, Scott Paper Company and Pacific States Lumber Company, all had contracts with the Water Department. In the 1950s, Seattle voters chose to add fluoride to the city's water supply and charged the Water Department with the task of fluoridating. The election was a close one, however, and debate over the policy lasted into the '70s. In 1997 the Water Department was consolidated with the utilities of the Engineering Department to form Seattle Public Utilities.

## Content Description

Records of the Director of Water System Services and division staff, 1993-1996, as well as Director's records from the predecessor Operations Division. Records consist of project files, subject files, meeting materials, correspondence, email and reports concerning the water delivery system and its maintenance, as well as customer assistance. Topics include the Cedar River pipeline and Tolt River dam and pipeline. Also included are Water Department internal communications and documents concerning Department policies and employee training.

## Use of the Collection

### Preferred Citation

[Item and date], Seattle Water Department Water System Services Records , Record Series 8203-05. Box [number], Folder [number]. Seattle Municipal Archives.

## Administrative Information

### Arrangement

Arranged in two subseries: Operations files and Administrative files.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

### Operations files, 1958-1996

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1/1	Cedar River East Side Supply Line	1975-1978
1/2	Cedar River Pipeline No. 1	1975-1978
1/3	Cedar River Pipeline No. 2 (Incl. Photographs)	1968-1976
1/4	Cedar River Pipeline No. 3	1979
1/5	Cedar River Pipeline No. 4	1974-1977

<b>Container(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
1/6	Cedar River Pipeline Right of Way	1974-1978
1/7	Lake Youngs Control Works	1975-1978
1/8	Lake Youngs Control Works 42" Waste Line	1975
1/9	Locating Reports	1981-1990
1/10	Mercer Island Pipeline (Incl. Photographs)	1975-1979
1/11	Meter Programs	1988-1989
1/12	Meter Replacement Programs	1991-1992
1/13	Meter Replacement Programs	1989-1991
2/1	One-Call Subsurface Warning	1980-1988
2/2	One-Call Subsurface Warning	1978-1979
2/3	One-Call Subsurface Warning System of King County Agreements	1978-1988
2/4	Operations Division Managers' Meeting	1983-1987
2/5	Operations Division Managers' Meeting	1988-1993
2/6	Operations Focus Group	1991
2/7	Operations - Support Services	1990-1993
2/8	Photographs - Westlake Mall, Freeze, Others	1988-1989
2/9	Pilot Program - Super Crews	1995
2/10	Pipeline Construction	1990-1993
3/1	Plastic Pipe	1993-1996
3/2	Plate Lifting Proposals	1993
3/3	Preventive Maintenance Program	1986-1991

Container(s)	Description	Dates
3/4	Productivity Initiatives	1991-1993
3/5	Public Drinking Fountains	1994
3/6	Pump Stations	1993-1994
3/7	Purveyor Meter Maintenance Program	1984-1985
3/8	Purveyor Meters	1982-1989
3/9	Purveyor Meters	1973-1982
3/10	Purveyors Information	1995-1996
3/11	Spaghetti Lines (Private Water Lines)	1993-1994
4/1	Spaghetti Lines (Private Water Lines)	1993
4/2	Spaghetti Lines (Private Water Lines)	1993
4/3	Tolt Charts	undated
4/4	Tolt River Dam	1962-1969
4/5	Tolt River Dam	1974-1977
4/6	Tolt River Dam	1978-1979
4/7	Tolt River Dam - City Engineering Dept.	1964-1973
4/8	Tolt River Dam - Clippings	1976-1978
4/9	Tolt River Dam - Drawings	1958-1963
4/10	Tolt River Dam and Slide Area Maps	1961-1979
5/1	Tolt River Dam Photographs	1978
5/2	Tolt River Dam Photographs - Construction, etc.	1960-1966
5/3	Tolt River Dam Photographs - Spring Slide Area	1978

<b>Container(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
5/4	Tolt Pipeline No. 1	1974-1979
5/5	Tolt Pipeline No. 1	1974-1976
5/6	Tolt River Project	1995
5/7	Tolt River Project - Remlinger and Dolder Claim	1963-1964
5/8	Tolt Regulating Basin	1975-1978
5/9	Tolt Regulating Basin	1993-1996
5/10	Transmission Line Maintenance	1994
5/11	Water Main Replacement	1993-1994
5/12	Water Quality Lab	1995
5/13	Water Supply Plan	1993-1995
5/14	Watershed	1993-1996
5/15	Waterways 2000 Project	1993
5/16	Windstorm 1/20/1993	1994
6/1	CIP, 1994 (Water Dept.)	1993-1994
6/2	Noise Ordinance	1982
6/3	Non-Revenue Water	1990-1991
6/4	Partners In Public Education (PIPE)	1992
6/5	Planning Issues	1992
6/6	Planning Unit	1990
6/7	Planning Unit	1990-1991
6/8	Policy Committee	1993

Container(s)	Description	Dates
6/9	Responses To inquiries	1981-1986
6/10	Risk Management	1994-1995
6/11	Ross Store Flooding	1996
6/12	Safety Awards	1993-1996
6/13	Seattle Center	1993
6/14	Security	1996
6/15	Seniority Status	1995
6/16	Sexual Harassment	1994-1995
6/17	Skyway Water	1996
6/18	Spoil Hauling	1991
6/19	Standard Operating Procedure, Environmentally Critical Areas	1994

## Administrative files, 1978-1996

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
7/1	State Legislation Evaluation	1995
7/2	Street Use Permits (Citywide)	1994-1995
7/3	Supervisory Development Program	1994-1996
7/4	Tacoma - Seattle Interties	1995
7/5	Take Your Daughters To Work	1995-1996
7/6	Telecommuting Policy	1995-1996
7/7	Tippett Marine	1995

<b>Container(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
7/8	Training Activity Report	1993-1996
7/9	Training Council	1993-1995
7/10	Training Council / Budget	1993-1996
7/11	Training Plan	1994-1996
7/12	Tri-Caucus Members	1993
7/13	Tuition Payment Program	1988
7/14	Tukwila Takeover	1993
7/15	Tunnel Safety	1992
7/16	Underground Storage Tanks	1993-1996
7/17	Unfunded State Mandates	1987-1996
7/18	Utilities and Environmental Management Calendar	1996
7/19	Utility Coordinating Council of King County	1978-1988
8/1	Volunteer Standpipe Climbers	1995
8/2	Warehouse Issues	1994-1995
8/3	Water Action for Safety and Health (WASH) Board	1994
8/4	Water Pipe Worker	1994-1996
8/5	Water Stats, Water Utility Database Water Utility Surveys	1996
8/6	Water System Services Division Overview	undated
8/7	Weston - Water GIS	1993-1994
8/8	Woolworth Building	1993
8/9	Workplace Expectations	1989-1995

# Names and Subjects

**Subject Terms :**

Cedar River (King County, Wash.)  
Municipal water supply--Washington--Seattle  
Tolt River Dam (Wash.)  
Tolt River, South Fork (Wash.)  
Water utilities--Washington (State)--Seattle  
Water-meters--Washington--Seattle

**Corporate Names :**

Seattle (Wash.) Water Dept.

**Geographical Names :**

Seattle (Wash.)

**Form or Genre Terms :**

Drawings  
Maps  
Photographs

Finding aid prepared by Janet Ness  
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