

Seattle Water Department Conservation Office Records, 1978-1989

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Seattle (Wash.) Water Dept.
Title	Seattle Water Department Conservation Office Records
Dates	1978-1989 (inclusive) 1978 1989
Quantity	.6 cubic foot, (2 boxes)
Collection Number	8206-01
Summary	Records of an office that promoted water conservation.
Repository	Seattle Municipal Archives 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 archives@seattle.gov
Access Restrictions	Records are open to the public.
Languages	English
Sponsor	Funding for processing this record series was provided through a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

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 an office that promoted water conservation by residential customers and large consumers through public education, distribution of conservation kits and other means. Records include correspondence, brochures, conservation kit, and subject files.

Use of the Collection

Preferred Citation

[Item and date], Seattle Water Department Conservation Office Records , Record Series 8206-01. Box [number], Folder [number]. Seattle Municipal Archives.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically.

Detailed Description of the Collection

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

8206-01: Water Department Conservation Office Records , 1978-1989

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1/1	4th Annual Central Washington Irrigation Conference	1989
1/2	Conservation Kit Distribution	1983-1987
1/3	Conservation Kits	1981-1982
1/4	Conservation Promotions	1982
1/5	Coordination With Local Utilities	1988
1/6	Coordination With Staff	1988
1/7	Flow Metering Project (Residential)	1988

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1/8	Freeze (Water Pipes)	1987-1988
1/9	Home Water Checkup	undated
1/10	Ideas File	1987
1/11	King Country Correctional Facility	1988
1/12	King County Water	1988-1989
1/13	Large User Call Back	1987-1988
1/14	Lawn Gauge Promotion	1988
1/15	News Articles	1988-1989
1/16	Ordinances - Drought	1978-1987
1/17	Parks Department	1988
1/18	Presentations	1987-1988
2/1	Presentations	undated
2/2	Public Education Specialist	1988
2/3	Puget Power	undated
2/4	Rates	1984
2/5	Rates	1986-1989
2/6	Stream Flow Statistics	1986

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Water utilities--Washington (State)--Seattle

Water conservation--Washington (State)--Seattle

Corporate Names :

Seattle (Wash.) Water Dept.

Geographical Names :

Seattle (Wash.)

Finding aid prepared by Janet Ness
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