

# KEGONSA SANITARY DISTRICT

2240 US HIGHWAY 51  
P.O. BOX 486  
STOUGHTON, WI 53589

(608)873-0230 OR 800-474-0230  
Sewer Emergency (608)843-6026  
info@KegonsaSanitaryDistrict.com

## MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONERS—DECEMBER 2020



### What Should You Put In The Toilet?

That's simple...

***Piddle, Poop, and Paper!***  
***and we mean toilet paper—that's it, nothing else.***



What a year 2020 has been. We went to the stores to purchase our household essentials, and the shelves were bare – particularly toilet paper! While alternatives are available, please remember that “flushable wipes” do not break down in a sewer system and can cause blockages in your private sewer lateral, damage to the District’s grinder pumps, blockages in the KSD sewer system, pump failures at the District’s Lift Stations—and at the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District. **Please remember, toilets are not trash cans!** We remind you of this every newsletter, but we can’t stress enough how important it is not to flush anything but human waste and toilet paper down the toilet. Our grinder pump manufacturer has the following guidelines for items that **should not** be introduced into the sewer, either directly or through a kitchen waste disposal unit:

- Diapers, socks, rags, cloth, cleaning rags—all should be disposed of in your garbage!
- Baby wipes, disinfectant wipes, moist wipes, cotton swabs, sponges, etc.
- Sanitary napkins or tampons—all should be disposed of in your garbage!
- Collect grease and fats in a heat-resistant container, **cool**, and dispose of it in your garbage.
- Collect animal waste and dispose of it in your garbage. **No kitty litter in the toilet!**
- Aquarium gravel, when cleaning fish tanks, **do not flush** the rocks down the toilet!
- Seafood shells, egg shells, Coffee Grounds
- Batteries, Glass, Metal
- Plastic objects (toys, utensils, toothbrushes, etc.)
- Cigarette butts, Syringes, Latex/Vinyl items, Dental Floss
- Paint—not rinsing a paintbrush, but half a gallon of left over paint.

If you use a cleaning service, please make them aware that their cleaning supplies should be put in the trash, not flushed down the toilet! **If we find negligence on the part of the homeowner for the grinder pump failing, the homeowner will be charged for the repairs!** This would include the cost to pump out the basin, the parts that need to be replaced on the pump, and our service operator’s labor.

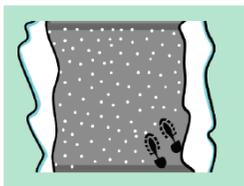
### 2021 Budget Approved

On November 2, 2020, we met and passed the District’s 2021 budget. Effective January 1, 2021, the sewer user charge for a single family home will increase to \$48.00 per month. Two factors make up this increase from last year. First, we are implementing a plan to purchase and replace 20 grinder pumps per year. The District owns and maintains 368 grinder pumps that are all at least 12 years old. We are going to start this program and keep it going. Second, Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) is increasing their rates by 5.2% for 2021. MMSD is where we send our sewage to be treated. This year our staff attended customer meetings at MMSD and learned that their plant is 80 years old and to expect their rates to continue to increase as they start replacing old sections of their plant.

### Maintenance in 2020

Fortunately, at the time of writing this newsletter, we have had a year where nothing major has broken down. All improvements were planned. We learned in the spring that our underground diesel storage tank (which is 32 years old) will no longer be able to be insured because of its age. We are in the process of installing an above ground tank. It will save the District money in the future because we will not need a separate insurance policy to insure it. The fuel is used for the main station’s back-up generator. We also purchased a new locator with the Pleasant Springs Sanitary District. This locator has the ability to locate tracer wire, find power cords in the ground, and marker balls. We also replaced two grinder pump basins that were leaking clearwater into the system. All of these items were paid for out of our Depreciation/Emergency/Reserve fund.

### Chloride Reduction



MMSD has asked for our help in informing the public on how we can do our part to reduce salt entering the sewer system. Here’s what we can do individually to help during the winter season:

Remember to “**Shovel, Scatter, Switch**,” or simply put, remove the snow first, and most importantly, use the correct amount of salt. If you use salt, a coffee mug full of salt is enough for about 60-70 feet of sidewalk. Also remember, if the pavement temperature is below 15 degrees salt will not work. Switch to a blend that works at lower temperatures. Visit [www.madsewer.org](http://www.madsewer.org) for more information!

### Come, Join Our Team



We are looking for a secondary on-call person to join the on-call rotation. This individual will provide immediate response to Primary On-Call Operator in emergency situations for rotated nights and weekend shifts. On-Call

hours are after 3:00 p.m. on weekdays and all hours on weekends.

Requirements for this position include:

- Basic mechanical aptitude and familiarity with hand and power tools.
- Knowledge and experience with pumps and electrical controls helpful.
- A driver’s license and good driving record.

Background checks will be conducted. Applicant must live within 30 minutes of the District office. If interested, contact either Brian or Cindy in the office.



### Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday  
8:00 a.m. to noon

### Service Operators are on duty

Monday-Friday  
7:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m.

### Commissioners

Mike Sherry, President  
Dan Hillery, Secretary  
Mike Petersen, Treasurer

### Staff

Brian Shottliff, Cindy Lehr  
Rich Everson, and Jon Mahuta

- The Commission's regular monthly meeting is generally held the first **Monday** of each month at 4:15 p.m. Agendas are posted at Dunn Town Hall (website too), Quick Stop, and the Sanitary District Office.
- Please send your sewer user charge payments directly to the Sanitary District office to be processed. The address to send your payments to is: PO Box 486, Stoughton, WI 53589. There is also a **drop box** located in the garage service entrance door.
- For those of you who **share grinder pumps**, we believe that \$17 per home, per year is accurate for the power cost to run the grinder pump(s). If you share a grinder pump with your neighbor and the electricity to run the grinder pump comes from their home, you should be paying your neighbor your share of the electricity to run the grinder pump. It is your job to be a good neighbor.



### Winter Reminders

- If you see a red light on or see water pooling near sewer lines, this is **not** normal and should be reported to the District immediately so any necessary repairs can be made.
- Please make sure your grinder pump basin lid is on and secure. There should be a lock on one side and a ring on the other.
- Please notify Digger's Hotline if you are planning any digging on your property, remodeling, or replacing a driveway so we can mark the sewer lines.
- If you have a grinder pump basin on your property, please be sure to prune/trim the plants around it so our service operators can gain access to the basin should repairs be necessary.
- Similarly, please do not pile brush on top of your grinder basins. **Snow and ice** accumulate on those piles during the winter, and our service operator cannot get to the grinder pump should repairs be necessary.
- If you plan on tearing down an existing home and rebuild, please contact our service operators. The existing line needs to be capped off. If you share a grinder pump and the electricity is on your home, arrangements need to be made for temporary service so your neighbors continue to have sewer service.

### Kegonsa Sanitary District Quick Facts

#### KSD System:

Sewer Mains: 20.11 Miles  
Sewer Manholes: 129  
Grinder Pumps: 368

#### Customers:

Residential-555  
Commercial-18

Pumping Stations: Four Lift Stations and the Main Pumping Station

The user charge delinquency rate for 2020 was approximately 3% of the amount billed. We appreciate the timely payments by the vast majority of our customers.

#### Sewer User Charge History:

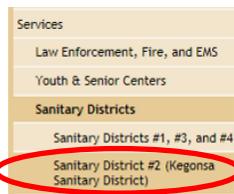
1990-1992	\$35.00	2011-2012	\$32.00
1993	\$33.00	2013	\$33.00
1994-1995	\$32.00	2014-2015	\$36.00
1996-1997	\$28.00	2016	\$38.00
1998-2008	\$26.00	2017-2018	\$40.00
2009	\$27.00	2019	\$42.00
2010	\$30.00	2020	\$43.00

### We're on the Web!

The District has a link on the Town of Dunn's website! The Town's web address is:

[www.http://town.dunn.wi.us/](http://town.dunn.wi.us/)

Once there you will find our contact information, sign-up form for automatic billing, link to our latest Newsletter, and the monthly agenda.



### Automatic Bill Payment Program

We are pleased to be able to offer you this convenient way to pay your quarterly sewer user charges. Currently, 252 customers are using the program. If you choose to sign up, this service will start with the March 1, 2021 billing. There are no charges for this service, but just like when you pay with a check, any transfers refused because of insufficient funds or a closed account will incur a service charge of \$25. Also, we have the ability to **email** invoices to you! Just let Cindy know and she will get you set up to receive your invoices via email. To help save on billing costs, it is OK to **prepay** your sewer user charge if you would like. This is available to both automatic bill payment customers and mail-in customers. Contact Cindy in the office if you have questions.

### Automatic Bill Payment Enrollment Form (Please Print)

Customer Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

New Sign up     Change (Checking Account)

Kegonsa Sanitary District Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my Quarterly Invoice emailed to my email address: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby authorize the Kegonsa Sanitary District to charge my checking account quarterly for sewer user charges until further notice.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

You must include a **voided check** so that we can record the correct banking information. Please return this form to the District office. Kegonsa Sanitary District, PO Box 486, Stoughton, WI 53589.

