

July 24, 2018

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED RATE INCREASE

To Our Valued Customers:

Thank you for your support of our solid waste services. We work hard to provide superior service at the lowest possible price. This rate increase will become effective for services rendered on or after September 7, 2018. Billing for the rate increase will correspond with your normal billing cycle. Therefore, customers billed in the month of June for July and August will see the new rates on the June billing. Similarly, customers billed in July for July and August or for August and September will see the new rates on the July billing.

Our last general rate increase took effect on November 1, 2015. Since then, costs have continued to increase over these last nearly three years. On March 1, 2018, Cowlitz County increased the disposal fees by 2.5%. Additionally, fuel, labor, medical insurance and new equipment costs have increased. These increases, along with nearly three years of other cost increases, forced us to file a request with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (the Commission) to increase our rates.

Our proposed rates are reflected on the proceeding pages. For questions about how this increase affects you, please feel free to contact Rick or Rolly at 360-425-4302 (360-225-7808 for Woodland customers).

The commission has the authority to set final rates that may be lower or higher than the company's request, depending on the outcome of its investigation. You can submit comments by going to [utc.wa.gov](http://utc.wa.gov) and clicking "Submit a Comment," or by one of the following options:

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW  
P.O. Box 47250, Olympia, WA 98504-7250  
E-mail: [comments@utc.wa.gov](mailto:comments@utc.wa.gov)  
Telephone: 1-888-333-WUTC (9882)

Commission staff will make a recommendation to the commissioners at an open meeting in Olympia, which is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on Aug. 30, 2018. You will have an opportunity to comment in person at this meeting. If you are unable to attend the open meeting, you can participate by telephone by calling 360-664-1234 the day before the open meeting for instructions and to sign in.

A memo containing the staff recommendation will be available on the commission website about three days prior to the open meeting. To view the memo, go to [utc.wa.gov](http://utc.wa.gov). Click on the link near the bottom that says "Documents." Under "Open Meetings," click on "Agendas, meeting minutes, orders." When the open meeting date (see above) appears, click on the memo for this filing. This will take you to a page with the memo and any associated attachments.

The commission is committed to providing reasonable accommodation to participants with disabilities. If you need reasonable accommodation, please contact the commission at (360) 664-1132 or [human\\_resources@utc.wa.gov](mailto:human_resources@utc.wa.gov).

Thank you for your continued trust in us.