



## Board Considers Proposed 5% Rate Change

In our August 2003 issue, WASA was proud to report that our upgraded AA bond ratings helped us reduce our costs and limit your Fiscal Year 2003 rate increase to 2.5 percent. Even as WASA continues to hold the line on operating costs, we are making necessary improvements—some of which are required by law—to the water and sewer system.

If approved, the proposed increase for Fiscal Year 2005 will not take effect until October 2004, and will raise the typical residential customer's monthly bill \$1.83. The increase is needed to fund a ten-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP), which will maintain water quality and improve service and reliability through ongoing infrastructure maintenance and improvements like these:

**Water** – A major rehabilitation of the Bryant Street pumping station will continue this year. The Automated Meter Reading (AMR) project, which began in 2002, will continue in 2004-2005 with the replacement of the largest commercial meters. To date, over 106,000 residential and small commercial meters have already been installed.

**Sanitary Sewer** – We'll be reconstructing portions of the system, including testing less disruptive methods for rehabilitating the sewer lines that carry wastewater from residences to the main line under the streets.

**Combined Sewer** – With a budget of \$143 million, we are proceeding with some important projects that are projected to result in a 40 percent reduction in combined sewer overflows into our waterways in just a few years.

**Wastewater Treatment** – Major projects include an upgrade to facilities that control the level of nitrogen discharged from the plant. Necessary security and access upgrades, and other facility projects, are also scheduled.

**Stormwater** – The projects include replacing undersized,

aged and deteriorated sewers, and installing new sewers to serve new development.

All of these improvements will help us continue to ensure high quality water service delivery and reliable treatment systems for our community. To learn more about the proposed rate increase, call 202-354-3600 or visit [www.dcwasa.com](http://www.dcwasa.com).

### Bringing The News To Your Neighborhood

Your input is incredibly valuable to everyone here at WASA. So join us at one of our Community Meetings to discuss the proposed rate change.

**Wednesday, February 18, 2004**  
**6:30-8:30 p.m.**

Francis A. Gregory Branch Library  
3660 Alabama Avenue, SE at 37th Street, SE

**Thursday, February 26, 2004**  
**6:30-8:30 p.m.**

Washington Highlands Branch Library  
115 Atlantic Street, SW at South Capitol Street, SW

**Tuesday, March 2, 2004**  
**6:30-8:30 p.m.**

Palisades Branch Library  
4901 V Street, NW at 49th Street, NW

**Remember—you can pay your bill online at [www.dcwasa.com](http://www.dcwasa.com)**

# STOP

*pouring money  
down  
the*

*DRAIN*

## No Fancy-Schmancy Equipment Needed.

These everyday household items can help you start saving water and money today:

- Keep a **pitcher of water** in the fridge instead of running the tap for cold drinks.
- Use a **wall clock or kitchen timer** to keep your shower under five minutes, saving up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- While using **shampoo** in the shower, turn the water off. Also turn the water off while using your **razor**. You'll save more than 150 gallons a week.
- Keep your **ears** open for dripping faucets and toilets that flush themselves. Fixing a leak can save 500 gallons a month.
- Use the **wastebasket** for tissues, instead of the toilet.
- Reach for the **laundry scoop** only when you have a full load, and save up to 600 gallons each month.

Visit [www.dcwasa.com](http://www.dcwasa.com) for 100 ways to use water wisely.

## We'd love to hear your feedback!

*What's On Tap* is a monthly newsletter designed to focus on our most important resource: you, our valued customer. It's our way of keeping you up-to-date on changes at WASA that affect your service, and even more importantly, how you are served. If you see something of interest, don't hesitate to give us your feedback — we'd love to hear from you. Call Public Affairs at 202-787-2200. Or e-mail us at [info@dcwasa.com](mailto:info@dcwasa.com).

## Report Emergencies 24 Hours A Day!

It's easy to get in touch with WASA. Use our hotline number to report improper use of hydrants, catch basins that have become clogged with leaves, water leaks or suspected sewer backups.

**24-Hour Emergency Hotline: 202-612-3400**

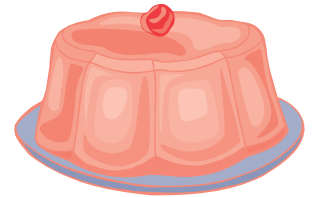


## The Main Ingredient

## Red Hots® Valentine's Day Salad

### Ingredients

- 6 ounces (2 packages) cherry JELL-O®
- 4 ounces Red Hots® candy
- 3 cups boiling WASA water
- 20 ounces crushed, undrained pineapple
- 2 cups applesauce



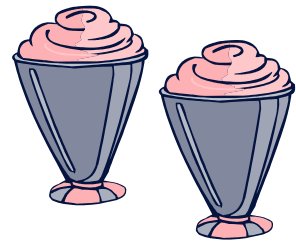
### Directions

Dissolve JELL-O and Red Hots candy in boiling WASA water. Set aside and let cool until room temperature. Add pineapple and applesauce. Pour into oiled 8-cup mold. Chill before serving.

## Valentine's Day Creamsicle Frappe

### Ingredients

- 2 cups vanilla ice cream
- 1 cup orange juice
- 1 cup cold WASA water
- 1/4 cup undiluted orange juice concentrate



### Directions

In a blender, combine all of the ingredients. Blend until smooth. Divide into two glasses. Enjoy!

*Want to see your favorite WASA water recipe featured in "What's On Tap"? Just send your name, address, phone number and clearly printed recipe to:*

District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority  
Public Affairs Office - Favorite Recipes  
5000 Overlook Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20032

**District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority**  
Customer Service Department  
810 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
Customer Service: 202-354-3600  
24-Hour Emergencies: 202-612-3400  
[www.dcwasa.com](http://www.dcwasa.com)

