Connections



July/August 2024

Anatomy of a Wastewater System

This is the first in a series that shows where your waste goes after it leaves your home, and how the District collects and treats wastewater.

Wastewater enters the system when you flush your toilet or run your shower, tub or sink. All of these smaller pipes connect to the sewer pipe under your street. Sewage is conveyed up to 20 miles via gravity and a network of pump stations to the treatment plant. The sewage is treated at a wastewater treatment plant. This process includes screening for trash, separating liquids from solids, biological treatment and disinfection. The waste Treated biosolids are products are then further transported from treated to produce "biosolids." treatment plant to local farms for use as a soil amendment and fertilizer. **COLUMBIA RIVER** After the wastewater is treated and disinfected, the effluent, clean wastewater, is discharged to the Columbia River. The Washington Department of Ecology closely monitors this process and makes sure the treated wastewater and biosolids meet strict environmental standards.

In the next newsletter: Collections 101, a first look at the District's collection system.

Hours of Operation Monday - Friday 8a.m.-5p.m. Closed Weekends and Holidays

Emergency? Call 24/7: 360-750-5876

Commissioners Norm Harker Denny Kiggins Neil Kimsey

General Manager John M. Peterson, P.E.

Visit us online at www.CRWWD.com

Question from the field

Q: Who's responsible for the pipe that connects my home's plumbing to the District's sewer system?

A: This pipe is often called a side sewer or a sewer lateral because it runs laterally from under your house to the sewer pipe under the street.

The portion of the side sewer that is on private property is private. Once the pipe enters the public right-of-way, it is the responsibility of the District. This transition generally occurs at a "cleanout" located behind the sidewalk. If you need help locating your lateral, you can request a copy of the sewer permit here: bit.ly/3VIC2SZ.

Senior low-income discount

Are you 62 or older? Do you live in your home year-round? You may qualify for a low-income discount on your bill. Currently, this program supports about 300 households at a cost of approximately one nickel per month to all District customers. Contact us today to find out if you qualify. For more information call (360) 993-4001 or visit **crwwd.com/senior-discount**.

Upcoming events

- Ridgefield 4th of July Celebration
- Ridgefield National Night Out
 August 6, Bennett Hall at Abrams Park
- Write from the Start School Supply Drive August

Out and about with the District



Frog represents the District at the Klineline Kids Fishing Derby.



District staff attends the Hazel Dell Parade of Bands.

Did you know?





