

Connections

September / October 2016



Planning for the Long Term, Part I

This is the beginning of a multi-part series about how the District's long-range planning supports reliable service and keeps rates affordable.

Planning Supports Reliable, Low-Cost Service

The District is proud to be a service provider in Clark County. High-quality service is delivered at rates that are among the lowest of similar providers locally and state-wide.

Long-range planning is one of the most important ways the District keeps service reliable and affordable. Running a wastewater system is complicated. The District must simultaneously meet the needs of growing communities, maintain the existing system, and ensure that the public's money is being well spent.

Planning is a key tool to providing:

- Adequate capacity to **support economic development goals and forecasted population growth.**
- **Stable, low rates** by forecasting expenses and needs, and avoiding the higher cost of isolated projects.
- **Reliable service that protects public health and the environment** through robust operations, maintenance and system improvement programs.

The General Sewer Plan Guides the Way

At the core of the District's planning efforts is the General Sewer Plan, which guides the District's services over a 20-year timeframe. From this plan, the annual budget and short-term programs are developed.

The District is currently in the process of updating the General Sewer Plan, which is a complex and technical process. The updated plan will consider official growth forecasts in Clark County, and anticipate what projects will best serve the public interest over the next 20 years.

A draft plan will be made available for public review. Public open houses will be held to explain the plan and collect feedback from the community. The Washington State Department of Ecology will review and approve the plan prior to formal adoption by the District Board of Commissioners.

Planning Progression

General Sewer Plan	→	6-year Capital Program	→	Annual Budget
<i>20-year Outlook of Growth and Collection System</i>		<i>Guides System Development and Restoration & Replacement</i>		<i>Funds Current Projects</i>



Updating the General Sewer Plan includes forecasting growth to make sure sewer service meets the community's needs and supports economic development.



Timing of system expansion and upkeep of the current system must be considered, requiring engineering and financial analyses.



The goal is to develop a plan that is smart and streamlined in order to continue to provide reliable service and maintain low, consistent rates.

Follow the General Sewer Plan Update on the website:
www.tinyurl.com/gensewer

Hours of Operation

Monday-Friday
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Closed Weekends
& Holidays

Emergency?

Call 24/7:
360-750-5876

Commissioners

Norm Harker
Neil Kimsey
Denny Kiggins

General Manager

John M. Peterson

Visit us online at www.CRWWD.com

8000 NE 52nd Court, Vancouver, WA 98665 • Write: PO Box 8979, Vancouver, WA 98668 • Phone: (360) 750-5876 • Fax: (360) 750-7570



Free Leaf Disposal COUPON

For Vancouver and Clark County residents only

Prevent street flooding — NEVER blow or place leaves in the street.
Use this coupon for free leaf disposal from:

October 1 - December 31, 2016

DISPOSAL DROP-OFF LOCATIONS:

City Bark
2419 NE Andresen
Vancouver, WA
360-253-8461

H & H Wood Recyclers
8401 NE 117th Ave
Vancouver, WA
360-892-2805

West Van Materials Recovery Center
6601 NW Old Lower River Rd
Vancouver, WA | 360-737-1727

Triangle Resources
612 SE Union St
Camas, WA
360-834-7253



This coupon must be presented at the drop-off site and is for **LEAVES ONLY**, up to 5 cubic yards. No trimmings, yard debris or mixed loads with this coupon; these items will be charged at the regular price. Leaves must be emptied from plastic or kraft bags.

Sponsored by:



To redeem coupon, complete the following information:

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Zip: _____

City of Vancouver residents: Funding for your participation in this program is provided through your garbage rates.
Clark County residents: Funding for participation is provided by Clark County Public Works.



Clean Audit for Thirty Fourth Year

The State of Washington performs audits of local government agencies to promote accountability, integrity and openness. The audit earlier this year for fiscal year 2015 confirmed the District upholds all areas of financial reporting and has controls in place to effectively safeguard the public's money.

Every year, the District goes a step further than required to create a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. This report provides more meaningful financial information to partners and customers than statements alone, linking current and planned activities to broad financial impacts.

For more information about finances and reports, visit:
www.crwvd.com/about/financials.html.

Participate in 2017 Budget Planning

August kicks off the District's annual budget planning period. You are invited to attend any of the five public meetings in the Board Room at the District's offices:

- **October 11:** Budget workshop #1 will present six-year financial forecast and capital (infrastructure) plans.
- **October 25:** Budget workshop #2 will review operations and maintenance (O&M) expenses.
- **November 8:** Budget workshop #3 will review revenues/ expenses and fund balances.
- **December 13:** Budget public hearing at 5 p.m.
- **December 27:** Board action on 2017 budget.

Come See Us at the Safety Fair

Stop by the District's booth to find out about long-range planning and grab your own *Freeze the Grease* kit. See you there!

Saturday, September 24
Noon – 4 p.m.
Public Safety Complex
505 Northwest 179th Street
Ridgefield WA 98642

Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER
24
Public Safety Fair

Reliability Tip: Use Cold Water with the Disposal

Garbage disposals can cause significant issues for sewer pipes if not used properly. Follow these tips:

DON'T

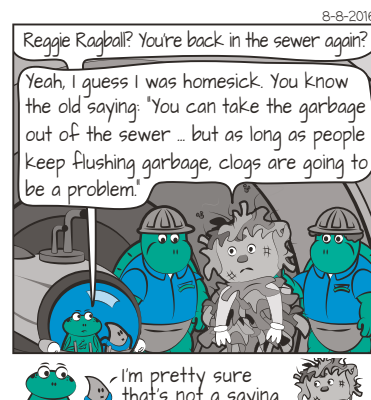
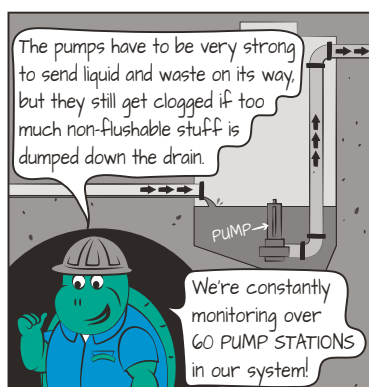
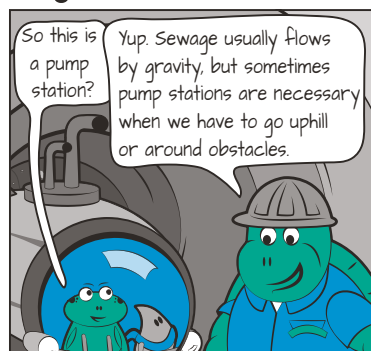
Don't wash fatty/greasy foods down your sink.
Don't use hot water while using disposal. Grease will first liquefy but then cool and accumulate further down the line, clogging pipes in your home and the sewer.

DO

Use only cold water when running the disposal. It will solidify any grease or oils so that they can be chopped up.
Run cold water at least 30 seconds after food has cleared to keep things flowing.

What you put down the drain really does matter!

Frog and the F.O.G.G.



8-8-2016