

Connections

March / April 2021



You can make a difference in the health of our waterways! Part 6: Around the house

This series explores how your actions can make a difference and help preserve the health of our rivers and streams. Pollutants found in wastewater are often introduced in and around our homes.

During this series, we've explored the house from room to room, highlighting sources of common and emerging pollutants and chemicals. In this issue we'll introduce a pollutant commonly known as PFAS that is found throughout the home. Widely used for its ability to repel both water and stains, PFAS can be found in carpeting, furniture, clothing, kitchenware and paper goods.

PFAS are very persistent in the environment and in the human body – meaning they don't break down and can accumulate over time. Wastewater treatment plants weren't designed to remove these kinds of chemicals which are best addressed at the source.

Actions You Can Take

There are actions that we can take that can limit the presence of these chemicals in wastewater and our waterways. We can choose safer alternatives and take care of the products we do have.

Choose Safer Alternatives

- Choose personal care or household products without "PFTE" or "FLOURO" ingredients. Remember, whatever goes on your body, goes down the drain!
- Avoid products labeled as stain and water resistant whenever possible.
- Avoid stain-repellent treatments of clothes, carpets and furniture.
- Consider outdoor gear alternatives like a waxed canvas rain slick.
- Choose cooking alternatives like stainless steel, cast-iron or pans with a ceramic coating

Learn more about a PFAS-free household and personal care products at bit.ly/PFASFree.

Take Care of The Products You Have

Prolonging the life of the waterproof, non-stick and stain repellent products you already have helps keep PFAS out of our water systems.



Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday
8 a.m. - 5 p.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



Take Care of The Products You Have *Continued*...

Wash your outdoor gear less often: Washing machines break down the waterproof coating on clothing and fabrics, which ends up in our wastewater. Instead, gently wipe off mud with a damp cloth and air-dry your clothes.

Vacuum and dust more often: PFAS used on furniture, carpet and clothing can accumulate on surfaces. Remove dust by vacuuming and cleaning surfaces more often.

Safer nonstick cooking: Cook at lower temperatures and always wash your nonstick pans by hand – never in the dishwasher.

Service Update

The District continues to provide services 24/7. Some services, including public access to the office, may continue to be impacted while we work to return to normal operations. The District will adjust as needed to comply with state and federal guidelines. The District is committed to keeping our customers connected to essential services during the COVID-19 pandemic emergency. Customers experiencing financial hardship are encouraged to contact customer service at **(360) 750-5876 x 601**

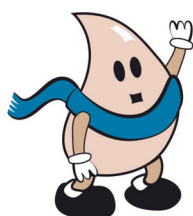
New Local Options Available For Free, Safe Disposal of Unwanted Medicine

Clark County Public Health is teaming up with the nonprofit Medication Education & Disposal Project (MED-Project) to provide free disposal of expired, unwanted or unused medicine safely and conveniently. The MED-Project has activated 12 drop-off sites in Clark County.

Learn more at bit.ly/SafeRxDisposal.

We're Available to Present Virtually to Your Group!

Does your neighborhood association, business association or other community group want to know more about the wastewater system or process? Our staff enjoys explaining how sewer services touch many aspects of our lives, including public health, environmental health and economic development. If you are interested in having a virtual speaker at one of your meetings, please contact **Kim Thur** at **(360) 993-8822** or by email at kthur@crwwd.com.

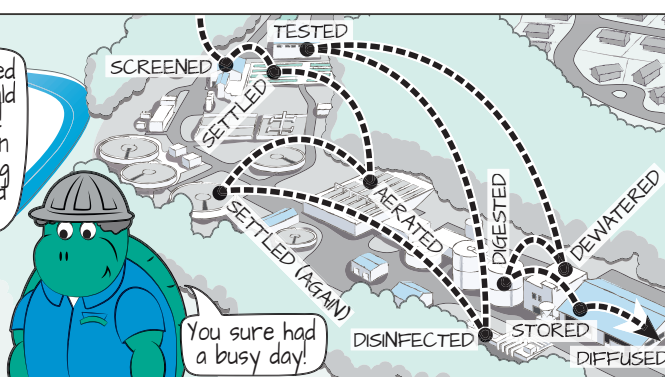


Freeze the grease

Pour fats, oils and grease into a can and put it in the trash. The District offers a free kit to help. Get your free kit today bit.ly/CRWWDGrease.

FROG & the F.O.G.G.

So that's the treatment plant! We learned so much! I never knew wastewater could be so interesting ... and COMPLICATED! Screening, settling, digestion, disinfection ... and all the close monitoring and testing that lets us capture valuable water and return it safely to the environment!



You sure had a busy day!

