

# Connections

July/August 2014



## PUMP IT! – Reliable Service Tips, Part III

Previous newsletters gave you a peek at your home wastewater system and into the District's gravity-fed collection system. Now, learn what's in store for your wastewater as it journeys to the wastewater treatment plant.

### Pump Stations

Wastewater is initially collected by gravity. When gravity is not enough, pump stations are used to get wastewater from a lower to higher elevation on its way to the treatment plant.



View down into a pumping station

The District owns and operates more than 60 pump stations. Nearly all flow in the District will pass through at least one pump station, if not more.

### How It Works

Raw sewage flows into an underground concrete vault, commonly known as a wet well. When the sewage level rises to a defined elevation, a pump lifts the sewage upward through a pressurized pipe system called a sewer force main. The sewage is then discharged into a gravity manhole, where the cycle starts all over again until the sewage ultimately reaches the treatment plant.

Unfortunately, clogged pumps are all too common and can lead to sewage back-ups into the gravity system and into homes, or overflow of the wet well, which is problematic for the environment and public health.

Even partially clogged pumps have consequences, including increased power consumption and maintenance costs.

Right: Submersible effluent pump



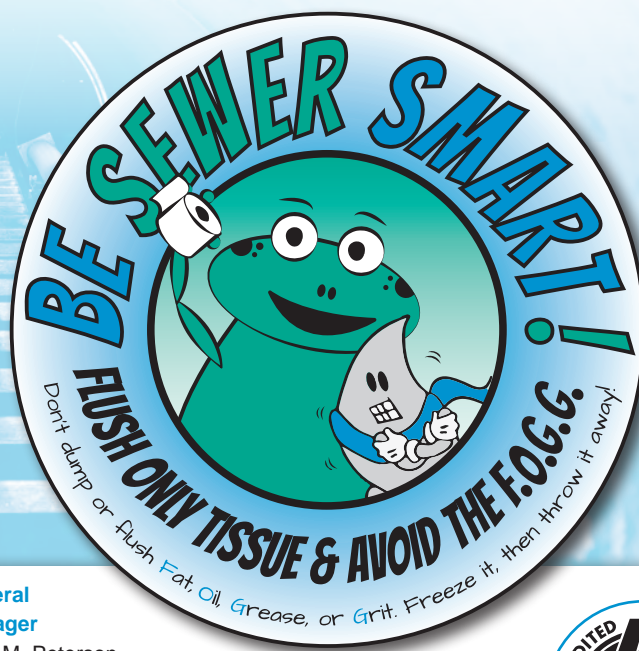
### Our Costs Are Your Costs

Clogged pumps increase operations costs, which can directly affect sewer rates. To do your part to support our sewer system, make sure NOT to flush any of the following items:

- Cloth rags
- Paper towels
- Dental floss
- Hair
- Latex
- Hygiene products
- Cleaning wipes
- Diapers

All of these items have the potential to clog pumps and cause a sewage spill. Plus, they will end up in the landfill once they've been cleaned out of the sewer collection system (at a cost to our ratepayers). So, please consider saving time and money by putting them directly into your trash can!

For the full list of reliability tips, visit: [crwwd.com/service-tips.html](http://crwwd.com/service-tips.html).



#### Hours of Operation

Monday-Friday,  
8 am - 5 pm  
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](http://www.CRWWD.com)

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## Discovery Corridor Wastewater Transmission System

### Contractor and Schedule Announced

Tapani, Inc. has been selected as the construction contractor for the Discovery Corridor Wastewater Transmission System (DCWTS). Tapani is a Battle Ground based construction company with a long history working on local wastewater projects.

Construction on DCWTS began in June and will continue in stages. The pipeline is expected to be operational by 2016.

Visit the project website to see an interactive map of the project or to sign up for the project notification list: [crwwd.com/projects/dcwts](http://crwwd.com/projects/dcwts).



### Did you know?

Want to see the most surprising thing we've ever pulled out of your sewer system? Scan this code or visit "What not to flush" on our website to find out!

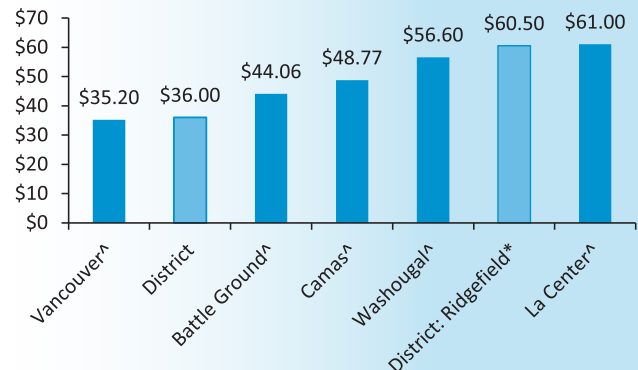


## High Quality Sewer Service at Lower Rates

The District is proud to offer some of the lowest sewer rates in Clark County. We keep costs to our customers low by being as efficient as possible across our three core service areas: operations and maintenance (including treatment), repair and expansion, and business management.

We bill our customers at a flat rate because it is much more efficient to administer, which translates into lower operating costs. It also reflects the actual cost of service, which is only minimally influenced by the amount of use by any particular individuals. Visit the FAQ page on our website if you'd like to know more about our billing structure.

Single-Family Residence  
Typical Monthly Sewer Bill For Family of Four  
(Includes 8 ccf Sewer Usage)



\*Ridgefield customers' rates have lowered, though are still higher than the rest of the District while we build infrastructure to connect this area to the Salmon Creek Treatment Plant. In the long run, pooling this infrastructure will result in lower, more consistent rates in Ridgefield and across the District.

^Rates are within city limits and do not include out-of-city surcharges; rates do include utility taxes.

**Preventing clogged pipes helps reduce maintenance costs: keep rates low by keeping fats, oils, grease, grit (FOGG) and wipes out of your drains.**

### The Frog and the F.O.G.G.



If you do, it **CONGEALS** terribly into a disgusting mass of **SLIME** that **CLOGS** the **SEWER** and can cause all kinds of plumbing problems!

