

Connections



November/December 2013

Clark Regional Wastewater District
8000 NE 52 Court
PO Box 8979
Vancouver, WA 98668
Phone: 360-750-5876
Fax: 360-750-7570

Hours of Operation:
Monday-Friday
8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Closed Sat, Sun, &
Holidays

*Emergency? Call us
@ 360-750-5876
24 hours per day/
7 days per week*

Commissioners:
Norm Harker
Neil Kimsey
Denny Kiggins

General Manager:
John M. Peterson, P.E.

Freeze the Grease!



Would you like to receive a free "Freeze the Grease"

kit? Simply provide your mailing address to Kim Thur at (360) 993-8822 or by email to kthur@crwwd.com.

Smart Bunnies Know
Flush Only Tissue in the Toilet



2013: A Busy Year of Outreach

The District is continuously striving to be part of the greater Clark County community. Through various public events and activities, the District extends itself throughout the year to interact with customers. "We want to engage the customers and stakeholders we serve and make a more personal connection," said John Peterson, District General Manager. This is possible due to the dedication of District employees.

The District is grateful to have elected officials and staff who care about the community. Each year staff volunteer their time and participate in numerous events. In 2013, staff gave more than 200 hours of their time.

Some of the events the District participated in this year included the following:

- Hazel Dell Parade of Bands



- Fire District 6 Open House
- Felida Children's Parade
- Clark County Public Safety Fair
- Ridgefield Parade
- Ridgefield National Night Out

- Port of Ridgefield Picnic

In addition to the outreach efforts of staff, they also have been involved in numerous charitable activities in the community, supporting local organizations. One of the hidden gems at the District office is the District Garden.



Staff volunteer their time and efforts to plant and maintain a small garden, tending to its needs after hours and donating all the produce to the Whipple Creek Food Pantry.

Additionally, staff participate in an ongoing canned food drive benefiting a local food bank, as well as an annual school supplies drive for local foster children.

All of these community outreach efforts help the District be more connected with the customers we serve. We primarily do this because it is important for us to get to know our customers, to understand what they value and how we can better provide the services that they need.

Visit us online at www.CRWWD.com

PO Box 8979 • Vancouver, WA 98668 • Phone: (360) 750-5876 • Fax: (360) 750-7570



Smart Bunnies Know: Flush Only Toilet Tissue

Just because a product says “flushable” on the label doesn’t mean it belongs in the toilet. The fact is, toilet tissue is the only product that’s truly fit to flush.

Many products are flooding the markets with promises of convenience and easy disposal. But products such as wipes, towelettes, diapers, cleaning cloths, paper towels, dental floss, plastic bags, clumping kitty litter and medical supplies should NEVER be flushed down the toilet, no matter what the package might say.

Unlike toilet tissue, these products do not break down in the wastewater treatment system. They just clog pipes and pumps, make an unpleasant mess, cost thousands of dollars to remove and put the environment at risk. District Maintenance workers unplug on average two pumps daily because of these products.



The District’s “To Flush or Not to Flush” informational booth that staff utilize at public safety events throughout the year to educate our customers on this growing problem

Our wastewater facilities are designed to serve customers and protect the community’s natural resources. Super-absorbent, engineered materials, such as those found in wipes and diapers marketed as flushable, are too thick and dense to be broken down by natural treatment processes.

As a result, wipes, cloths and other materials that do make it into treatment plants have to be removed and taken to a landfill for disposal. This is a very expensive and inefficient way to get it there, not to mention a waste of energy, water and money.

Be smart. Flush only toilet tissue and human waste. Treat other items as trash and put them safely where they belong - in your garbage.

\$1/Month Rate Increase

Effective January 1, 2014, the rate for sewer service will be \$36 per month for a single-family residence. The \$1 per month increase is the second step in a rate plan that was enacted in 2012. Following seven years without a rate increase, the Board adopted the current plan, which called for four years of inflationary level increases. This is necessary to ensure the District has adequate funding to continue to provide reliable and predictable service. Under the approved plan, rates are scheduled to increase \$1 per month annually through 2016. Following these necessary adjustments, District customers will still benefit from some of the lowest rates in the state.

Updated 2014 Budget Schedule

The District’s updated schedule of public budget meetings is listed below for your information and reference.

- October 22: Budget workshop #1 will review operations and maintenance (O&M) expenses
- November 12: Budget workshop #2 will review the District proposed 6-year infrastructure Capital plan
- November 26: Budget workshop #3 will review non-O&M rate-funded expenses, capital budget expenditures funded from connection fees and overall 2014 budget
- December 10: Budget public hearing at 5 PM
- December 23: Board action on 2014 budget

Free Leaf Disposal

For Vancouver and Clark County residents only

With this Coupon
October 1 - December 20, 2013

Prevent street flooding — Don't place leaves in the street.
Instead, use this coupon for free leaf disposal at:

H & H Wood Recyclers
8401 NE 117th Avenue
360-892-2805

West Van Materials Recovery Center
6601 NW Old Lower River Road
360-737-1727

McFarlane's Bark
8806 NE 117th Avenue
360-892-6125

This coupon must be presented at the drop-off site and is for **LEAVES ONLY**, up to 5 cubic yards. Yard debris or mixed loads will be charged at the regular price. Leaves must be emptied from plastic bags.

(See reverse side for map of above locations and hours of operation.)

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 your participation in this program is provided by Clark County Public Works and Environmental Services.