

# Connections

January / February 2021



**You can make a difference in the health of our waterways!**

## Part 5: Your garage

*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.*

### Actions You Can Take ...

The garage is where we keep many products that contain hazardous chemicals such as paint, pesticides, automotive fluids, and even the kitty's litter box. If not properly disposed, they can end up in our wastewater system and affect human health and the environment. Wastewater treatment plants are designed for human waste, not hazardous chemicals or even pet waste. But there are actions that we can take that will make a difference.

#### Properly dispose of household waste

We can make a difference by properly disposing of unwanted hazardous materials and buying safer alternatives. **Remember, never put hazardous materials down the drain or in the garbage.**

- Take unwanted household hazardous waste to a Clark County sponsored collection site or event.
- Old paint is accepted at various hardware stores in the Vancouver area.
- Recycle used motor oil. Pour contents into a clear, screw-top milk jug that can be securely closed and place it next to your curbside recycling on pick-up day.

Learn more at [bit.ly/crwwdhazardouswaste](http://bit.ly/crwwdhazardouswaste)

#### Choose safer alternatives

Make sure that you understand what hazards, if any, are associated with the product, its use, and its disposal. Look for the warning labels on the container and buy the safest and least hazardous product. Always follow manufacturer's directions for safe application and disposal.

#### Read the label before you buy

Most Hazardous

Danger, Poison



Caution, Warning

Least Hazardous

(No label)

#### Double-bag and trash kitty litter

The harmful organism, toxoplasma gondii, is found in cat waste and may be able to survive the wastewater treatment process. Never dispose of kitty litter and cat waste in the toilet – even if it is labeled “flushable.” Cat waste and kitty litter should be double-bagged and tossed in the garbage, right next to those bags of dog doo.



#### Hours of Operation

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

#### Emergency?

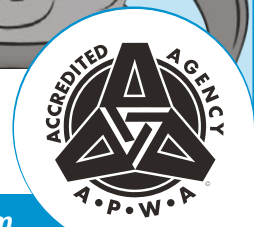
Call 24/7:  
360-750-5876

#### Commissioners

Norm Harker  
Denny Kiggins  
Neil Kimsey

#### General Manager

John M. Peterson, P.E.



Visit us online at [www.CRWWD.com](http://www.CRWWD.com)

## Service Update

The District continues to provide services 24/7. Some services, such as no 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.**

## Environmentally Friendly Resolutions for 2021

### Go paperless

Sign up to receive your bill by email or pay online. The District offers many payment options.

Learn more at [bit.ly/crwwdpay](https://bit.ly/crwwdpay)

### Green cleaning

Consider making your own “green cleaner” using inexpensive household items such as baking soda, white vinegar or dish soap. Remember to always read warning labels before mixing household cleaning supplies and never mix bleach with anything other than water.

Recipes and more at [bit.ly/crwwdgreenclean](https://bit.ly/crwwdgreenclean)



Commercial grease interceptor

### Keep our sewers grease free

This year resolve to keep grease out of your drain and our sewers. It may seem harmless to pour grease into your sink, but it can cause big headaches. Here are some important tips to remember:

- **Scrape, freeze and trash grease.** The best way to dispose of grease is an airtight container in the garbage.
- **Soap and detergents DO NOT break up grease.** They may initially break up grease but lose that ability as they travel, causing problems in pipes further downstream.
- **Garbage disposals DO NOT get rid of grease.** They only shred leftover fats but don't get rid of it.
- **Running hot tap water does NOT help.** The grease cools down and solidifies as it flows through pipes.
- **Liquid oils CAN solidify.** Olive oil, for example, can still solidify in pipes as temperatures dip often lower in the pipes inside and outside of your house.

Request a free **Freeze the Grease** kit at [bit.ly/crwwdgrease](https://bit.ly/crwwdgrease)

## FROG & the F.O.G.G.

