Connections

CLARK REGIONAL WASTEWATER DISTRICT

March/April 2023

What you need to know about PFAS

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

PFAS are a large, complex group of manufactured chemicals that are used in many everyday products found throughout the home. Widely used for its ability to resist heat, oil, stains, grease, and water, PFAS can be found in carpeting, furniture, clothing, nonstick cookware, and paper goods.

Commonly referred to as a "forever chemical", 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 "FLUORO" 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.



Fast Food Packaging

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, carpets, 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.

Be an active partner and freeze the grease! Pour fats, oils, and grease into a can, freeze it and then put it in the trash.



Get your free kit to today: crwwd.com/pollution-prevention/grease

Options available for free, safe disposal of unwanted medicine

Safely disposing of unwanted, expired or unused medications keeps them out of the environment and from unintended uses. Options are available for free safe disposal of prescription and over-the-counter medications, including medications for household pets. There are several ways you can safely dispose of your medications. They can be taken to a drop off site or conveniently returned via mail.

For more information, visit bit.ly/saferxreturn

To find a location near you or to request pre-paid mail supplies, visit **medtakebackwashington.org**

In-person Klineline Kids Fishing Derby returns for 2023

The District will be at the annual Fishing Derby this April. Over a two-day period each spring thousands of kids, families and friends gather at Salmon Creek Park/Klineline Pond to help children experience fishing, playing outside, and learning about our natural environment and water safety.

Save the date! April 14 & 15, 2023

Learn more at klineline-kf.org

We're available to present 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.

Learn more at crwwd.com/request-a-speaker

