

# Connections

Jan/Feb 2025



## Collection System 201

This article is the third in a series that shows how the District collects, moves and treats wastewater (or sewage). This issue discusses the next step in the collection process, or how sewage travels safely from your home or business through the collection system and to the treatment plant.

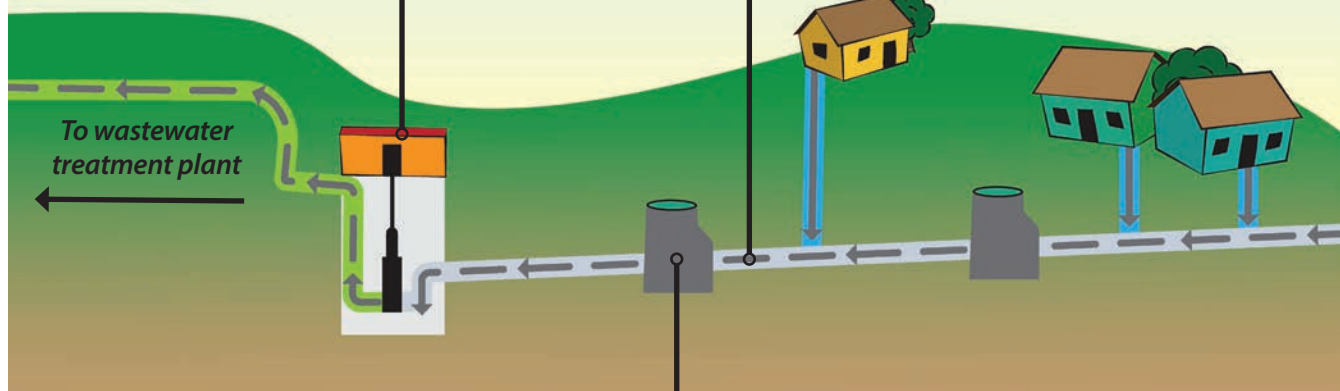
In some instances, sewage travels more than 15 miles before reaching the treatment plant. The District monitors, inspects and maintains more than 800 miles of sewer pipe and 75 pump stations to ensure reliable service and prevent backups and spills.

**Pipes:** The sewer lateral from your home or business connects to a sewer main, which is an underground pipe that carries wastewater. These pipes are often located under the street and increase in size as they collect more flow. The sewer pipes rely on gravity to take wastewater downhill.

**Pump stations:** These stations use electric pumps to create pressure to move wastewater uphill through a pressure sewer pipe. The size and number of pumps varies with the amount of flow received at the station. Emergency power is available when needed.

### KEY

- Pressure sewer pipe
- Sewer lateral
- Sewer main



**Manholes:** Manholes provide access to pipes for inspection, maintenance and repair. They also connect segments of pipe and allow for changes in pipe direction. The District maintains more than 10,000 manholes.

Next in our series: *Wastewater Treatment 101 & 201*

### 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)

8000 NE 52nd Court, Vancouver, WA 98665 • Write: PO Box 8979, Vancouver, WA 98668 • Phone: (360) 750-5876 • Fax: (360) 750-7570

**2025 rate increase:  
What you need to know**

In order to continue to provide a high level of service, the District base rate will increase by \$1.50, to \$46.50 per month in January 2025.

This increase is part of the District’s four-year plan to address the rising costs of goods and services by raising rates a small amount each year through 2026.

This plan allows us to continue providing reliable service and keep rate increases small and predictable. District rates remain competitive and are some of the lowest in Clark County.

Residential Rate Schedule			
	2024	2025	2026
Base Monthly*	\$45.00	\$46.50	\$48.00
\$ Change	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$1.50
% Change	3.40%	3.30%	3.20%
Ridgefield	\$60.06	\$60.61	est. \$61–\$62

*\*Battle Ground and Vancouver ratepayers, please check the District website for rates in your area.*

**District supports affordable senior housing project**

The District is playing a key role in bringing 65 new units of affordable housing to Clark County. In an effort to promote affordable housing, the District Board of Commissioners waived \$355,000 in System Development Charges for the Felida Park Senior Housing + PACE project, located at 12314 N.W. 36th Ave.

The development from non-profit Specialized Housing, Inc., broke ground Oct. 23 and will serve those 55 and older who make less than half of the area median income, roughly \$41,000/year.

The District is able to waive fees for the project thanks to its successful application for funding through the state’s Connecting Housing to Infrastructure Program (CHIP). The CHIP program reimburses local governments or public utilities that waive system development charges for affordable housing projects. This means **there will be no impact to ratepayers**, as the District will be reimbursed for the charges by the state.

The Felida Park Senior Housing development will also include a PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) center. PACE is a Medicare and Medicaid program that provides medical and social services to people 55 and older, including primary care, dental care and nursing home care.

The housing development is scheduled to be complete in 2026.



**What not to flush**



Meet Reggie the Rag-ball. Reggie was a 100-pound ball of wipes, paper towels, dental floss, hair, latex products and other trash that had caused a major clog in our sewer system.

To avoid expensive clogs in the future, please flush **ONLY** toilet paper. To see a list of items that should go in the garbage and **NOT** down the drain, visit [crwwd.com/pollution-prevention/flush](http://crwwd.com/pollution-prevention/flush)