

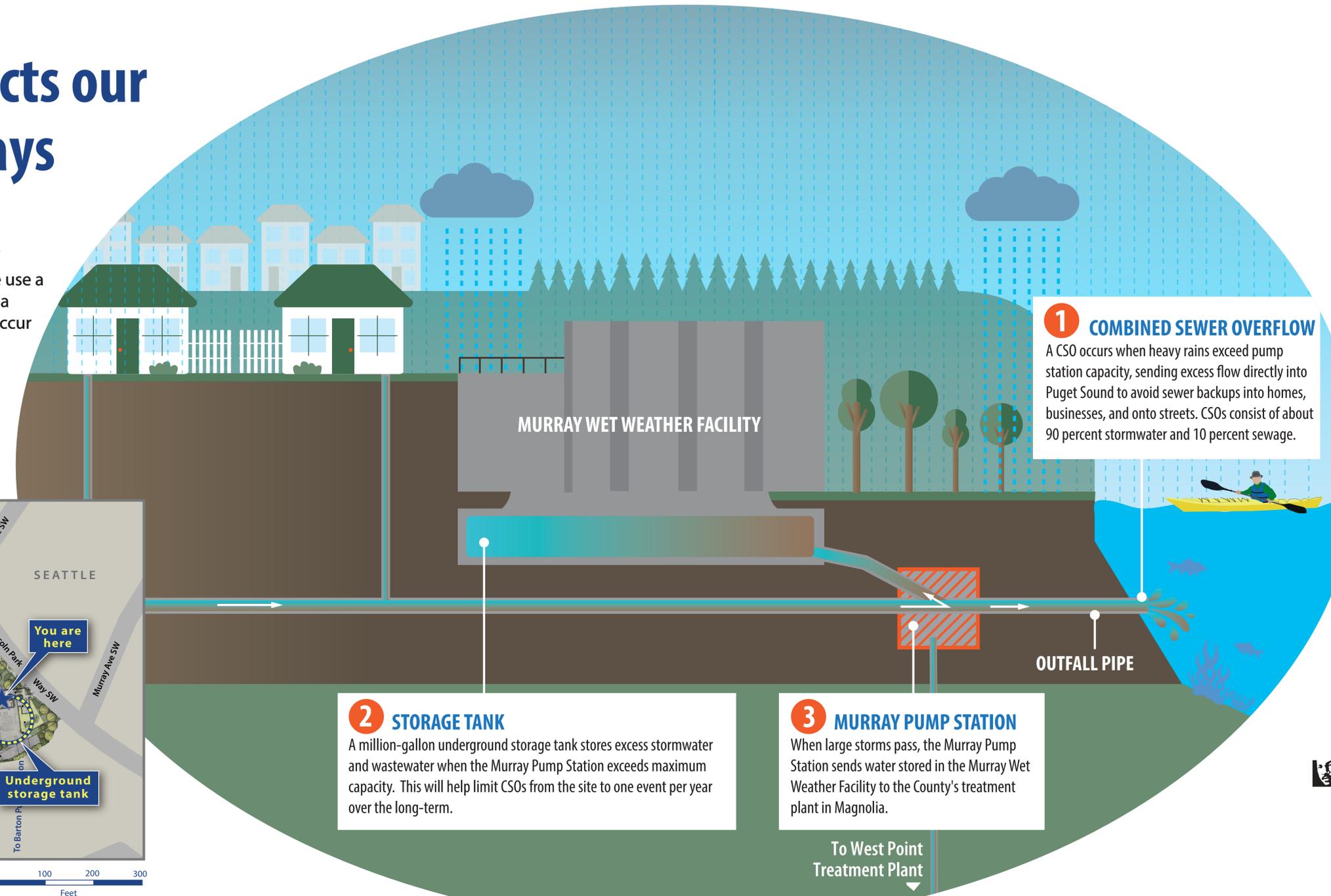
# King County protects our waters on rainy days

## What is a CSO?

Like many cities around the country, the older parts of King County's wastewater system in the City of Seattle use a single set of pipes to carry sewage and stormwater to a treatment plant. Combined sewer overflows (CSOs) occur when heavy rains exceed the capacity of the pipes, sending untreated stormwater and wastewater into Puget Sound. While CSOs help prevent sewer backups into homes, businesses, and onto streets; they can be a source of bacterial pollution. State regulations require no more than one untreated CSO discharge event per year on a long-term average from the outfall pipe in Lowman Beach Park.



MURRAY WET WEATHER FACILITY



**1 COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW**  
A CSO occurs when heavy rains exceed pump station capacity, sending excess flow directly into Puget Sound to avoid sewer backups into homes, businesses, and onto streets. CSOs consist of about 90 percent stormwater and 10 percent sewage.

**2 STORAGE TANK**  
A million-gallon underground storage tank stores excess stormwater and wastewater when the Murray Pump Station exceeds maximum capacity. This will help limit CSOs from the site to one event per year over the long-term.

**3 MURRAY PUMP STATION**  
When large storms pass, the Murray Pump Station sends water stored in the Murray Wet Weather Facility to the County's treatment plant in Magnolia.

## Keeping pollution out of Puget Sound at Murray

The Murray CSO Control Facility is a Wet Weather Storage Facility. Prior to construction of the Murray Wet Weather Facility, untreated CSO events sent about five-million gallons of untreated stormwater and wastewater into Puget Sound each year. Now when the Murray Pump Station reaches maximum capacity during storms, a million-gallon underground storage tank at the Murray Wet Weather Facility holds excess stormwater and wastewater that would otherwise overflow into Puget Sound. Once the storm has passed, water is pumped from the Murray Pump Station to the County's treatment plant in Magnolia.

 **King County**  
**Protecting Our Waters**  
*Doing our part on rainy days*