

Learn more about
 wastewater treatment on
 Vashon Island

Take our
 survey!

King County WTD's goal as
 a community partner is to:

- share information about our clean water services
- provide educational opportunities
- keep you informed about operations and maintenance activities

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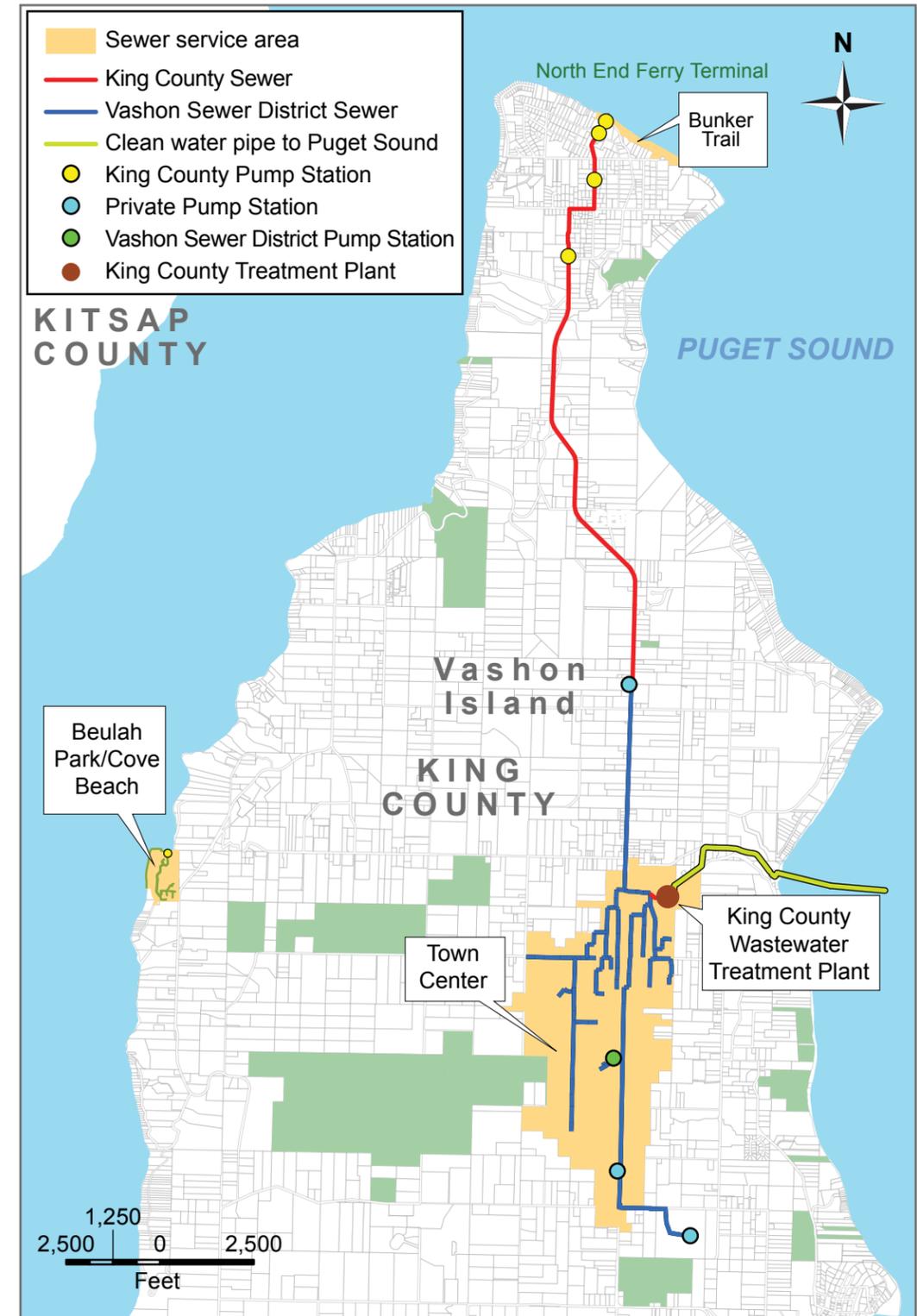
SPRING 2022

PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT ON VASHON ISLAND

24/7, 365 days a year, King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) is working hard to protect public health and the environment by treating wastewater. Wastewater is the water that goes down the drain in your home or business.

On Vashon Island, King County operates a treatment plant, four pump stations, and four miles of underground pipe. If your home or business is connected to this system, the water you use travels down your drain to pipes operated by the Vashon Sewer District. The Sewer District's pipes connect to King County's Wastewater Treatment Plant. After treatment, we send the clean water into Puget Sound.

We estimate that the total population served by King County's wastewater treatment system on Vashon Island is approximately 1,150 people.



We want to hear from you

Now through May 31st, King County WTD is collecting feedback about your communication preferences. Please tell us the best way to reach you, so that we can share information that is most relevant to our neighbors! You can fill out the enclosed survey and return in the mail or take the survey electronically using the URL or QR code to the right.

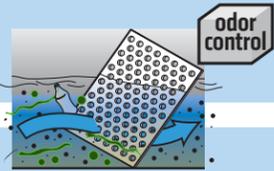


<https://publicinput.com/VashonTownCenterSurvey>

How the Vashon Treatment Plant works

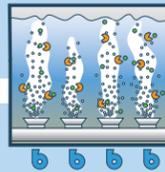
Wastewater is pumped through King County and Vashon Sewer District pipes to the County's Treatment Plant on SW 171st St.

1 Trash removal



Screens are used to **remove** large debris and trash.

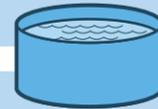
2 Oxidation Ditch



Wastewater **travels** to a tank where microorganisms and bacteria **eat** organic material and contaminants.

The solid material is rich in microorganisms and bacteria. Solids are **cycled** back and forth between the oxidation ditch and the clarifier. Most of the solid material is **reused** to help break down contaminants.

3 Clarifier Tanks



Wastewater goes to big tanks where the solid material **settles** to the bottom of the tank, leaving clear water at the top.

4 Disinfection



The clear water is **disinfected** using ultraviolet (UV) light

5 Clean Effluent



Clean water leaving plant!

Wastewater coming into plant

Clean water is **released** into Puget Sound.

Solids to South Plant

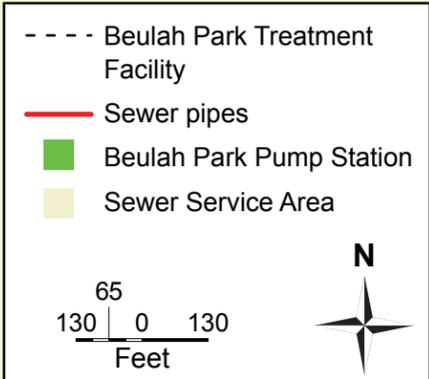
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A small amount of solid material is periodically removed from the bottom of the clarifier to prevent buildup. This excess waste is loaded into tanker trucks and taken to South Treatment Plant in Renton for recycling.

How the Beulah Park/Cove Beach community septic system works

The residents of Beulah Park and Cove Beach are part of a community septic system. King County WTD operates the community septic system. It is not connected to the Vashon Treatment Plant. Instead, wastewater is treated using a series of septic tanks, sand filters, ultraviolet disinfection, and slow percolation through soil.



1 Water goes down the drain at each home and into a series of sewer pipes.



2 King County's vacuum pumps on 137th Ave SW pull sewage through the pipes.



3 Sewage is treated using a series of sand filters and septic tanks. Pollutants settle out in the tanks. Solid material is consumed by good bacteria in a sand filter. UV light is used to disinfect treated water.



4 Water is 98% cleaner than when it entered septic tanks. It is pumped to the Beulah Park drain field. The water continues to be cleaned by slowly moving through the soil.

Want to learn more about how this all works? Take our survey so that we can stay in touch and continue to share information about your sewer system!

SURVEY QUESTIONS



King County

Department of
Natural Resources and Parks
Wastewater Treatment Division

<https://publicinput.com/VashonTownCenterSurvey>

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Please choose the answer(s) that best represent your thoughts. We will use the survey results to give you information that matters to you and your community. After filling it out, please tear this page out and follow the instructions on the back of this sheet to mail your survey back to us. No need to include a stamp – we've prepaid for postage.



1. What topics would you like to hear more from Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) about?

- Vashon Treatment Plant
- Beulah Park drain field protection
- Loop biosolids recycling
- How to manage stormwater
- How to take care of your sewer or septic system
- Other ways you can protect water quality
- Other: _____

2. How often would you prefer WTD to communicate with you?

- Annually
- Quarterly
- Monthly
- Only to provide construction and maintenance activity notices

3. How would you prefer WTD to communicate with you?

- Mailers
- Email/listserv updates
- Phone calls
- Virtual/in-person meetings
- King County website or blogs
- King County social media
- Physical materials at community hubs
- Onsite signage at infrastructure sites
- Other: _____

4. Are you interested in receiving more information from WTD? If yes, please provide your contact information.

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

5. Is there anything else you'd like us to know?

TAPE HERE

TAPE HERE

The Vashon Treatment Plant consistently receives recognition from the Washington State Department of Ecology and National Association of Clean Water Agencies for its outstanding performance in protecting water quality.



FUN FACT #1

In **2021**, the plant **treated** an average of



165K

GALLONS

of wastewater a day. That's about the same amount of water that the **Vashon Community Pool** holds.

FUN FACT #2

In 2021, the most water we **treated in one day** was 805,000 gallons. That would be like **filling**



4.5x

Vashon Community Pools

FUN FACT #3

We can **treat** up to



1.4

Million Gallons

per day during the storm season! That's about 7.5 Vashon Community Pools!

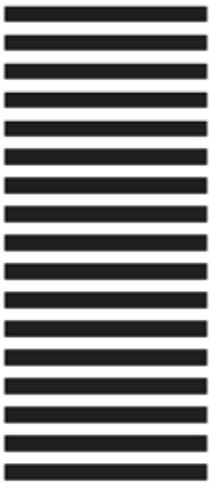
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