# Industrial Pretreatment Newsletter

Published for industries regulated by the King County Industrial Waste Program (KCIW)



## 🗿 King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks Wastewater Treatment Division Industrial Waste Program

Winter 2015

KCIW works with companies to make sure the water they use is treated properly. This protects communities, the environment, and the economy.

## Fire in Fremont Quick reporting and careful sampling to prevent pollution

A building containing two industrial facilities caught fire on September 30, 2014 in Seattle's Fremont neighborhood. Both businesses had permits to send treated industrial wastewater to the West Point Treatment Plant. A significant amount of water was used fighting the fire. Some of this water was contained and treated on site. However, some of it likely entered the sewer and the stormwater systems without treatment.

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The emergency coordinators of ASKO Processing followed their established Emergency Plan. They worked with the fire department to contact the National Response Center, the Washington

State Department of Ecology, the Washington Emergency Management Division, Seattle Public Utilities, and King County's West Point Treatment Plant. Incident response/waste disposal companies PSC/Stericycle and NRC also assisted.

Each business had a chemical inventory on file as part of its Industrial Waste Permit. KCIW program staff reviewed the inventories to understand the risks from the untreated water. The biggest concern on the inventories was metals, which can harm biosolids.

At the treatment plant, staff collected samples from the water entering the treatment plant, the material entering the solids treatment process and the





# KCIW Updates



## **New Staff Engineer**

KCIW welcomes a second staff engineer to its pool of 16 staff. Hamid (Ed) Abassi joined King County on December 29, 2014. Ed brings 27 years of experience with the Department of Ecology. During the last 10 years, Ed has issued stormwater NPDES permits to some of the most complex industrial facilities in the region. Some of these facilities also have permits with KCIW. Ed's extensive knowledge of state environmental regulations and familiarity with many of the large facilities KCIW regulates will be invaluable to the program.

## West Point Permit Highlights

West Point Treatment Plant's new NPDES permit includes minor changes in the pretreatment section.

- KCIW is required to identify the combined sewer overflow (CSO) that is downstream from each discharger in annual pretreatment reports to Ecology.
- The program can consider the impacts of CSOs on receiving waters when establishing local limits for individual permittees.
- KCIW staff will provide information regarding industrial inputs for a copper reduction assessment for the Elliot West CSO Facility.

## **Special Studies**

In October, the program completed an 18-month long sampling study to evaluate the loadings of biochemical oxygen demand



When heavy rains fill the "combined sewers," relief points (outfall pipes) send the extra sewage and stormwater out into rivers, lakes or Puget Sound.

(BOD) and total suspended solids (TSS) in the Brightwater service area. The program also installed equipment to measure pH to learn more about the possible wastewater impacts from the large number of smaller wineries. The program plans to publish the data and its findings in early 2015.



KCIW works with a large number of smaller wineries

This material is provided in alternative formats upon request by calling 206-477-5300 and TTY relay: 711



Businesses can provide additional data to King County Industrial Waste (KCIW) for use in determining compliance with regulations. Businesses can ask for a portion (or "split sample") of King County's samples to perform their own analysis. King County will average the business's data with King County's own data. But, the business's data must be valid.

Protect your data using proper procedures for storing, handling, and transferring samples. Failing to do so could result in costly testing and invalid data. Businesses are responsible for following approved methods for handling the sample and conducting the analysis on split samples.

 Store, deliver and analyze your samples within EPAapproved protocols and time frames. The procedures vary depending on type of sample and the container used. The sealed containers King County uses for split samples may require different handling procedures than the containers businesses use for self-monitoring. Discuss options with your laboratory.



- Use "chain of custody" (COC) procedures through all the stages of collection and analysis. KCIW provides a COC form with a split sample. KCIW and the business's representative enter their information in the signatory blocks. The original page is kept by KCIW and the duplicate is given to the business for their records. In 2015, the COC form will include a third signatory block for businesses to use when transferring custody of the sample to an analytical lab.
- Protect the integrity of your sample sealed with custody tape. KCIW will seal split samples. If there is any evidence of tampering with the tape, the analytical results will be invalid.

KCIW has invalidated data from split samples in the past because companies did not use approved testing methods and/or failed to follow chain of custody procedures. When a company's data are not valid, KCIW uses its own data to determine compliance.

## **Industrial Waste Advisory Committee**

Terry Beals, Sound Transit Kevin Burrell, Environmental Coalition of South Seattle (ECOSS) Wendee Cook, Exotic Metals Forming Co. Ken Falcone, Cargill, Inc. Donna Hoskins, Sanofi-Aventis U.S. Julie Howell, Seattle Public Utilities Bobby Johnson, Darigold, Inc. - Issaquah Mark LaFata, Precor, Inc. Tim Lew, Pepsi-Cola Co. Steve Simacek, Hytek Finishes Gail Spencer, Vigor Shipyards Heather Trim, Futurewise Doris Turner, Boeing Commercial Airplane Group -Renton Chris VanHoof, City of Bellevue Scott Woerman, Landau Associates

## **About the Industrial Pretreatment Newsletter**

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# IN CASE OF A SPILL TO THE SEWER, CALL



# In cases of human health and safety emergency......911

Mon. – Fri. 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.:	
King County Industrial Waste Program	206-477-5300
After 5 p.m. and weekends:	

# West Point Treatment Plant ......Brightwater Treatment Plant ......Brightwater Treatment Plant ......

Or, for any of the above, call TTY Relay: 711

Your company/facility and local utility emergency contacts:



Department of Natural Resources and Parks Wastewater Treatment Division Industrial Waste Program

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#### (FREMONT FIRE-Continued from page 1)

dewatered biosolids leaving the facility. This complex process lasted months. Solids continuously enter large tanks called digesters, and biosolids are continuously removed. It can be close to 1 to 2 weeks before the peak of the contamination comes out in the treated biosolids and it can be 3-4 months before the last remnants of a large sudden discharge are finally removed.

Luckily the tests were normal, and the biosolids were safe. If the biosolids had been polluted, King County would have had to dispose of them, perhaps in a landfill. Clean-up costs could be passed on to the businesses that send material into the sewer. By quickly notifying the West Point Treatment Plant, ASKOs emergency coordinators ensured that wastewater staff could respond immediately to protect the quality of the treatment



Digesters at the West Point Treatment Plant in Magnolia.

could respond immediately to protect the quality of the treatment process.

King County biosolids are used to enrich soil for agriculture, forestry, and landscaping. Keeping metals and other chemicals out of the wastewater system is critical to creating high quality biosolids at wastewater treatment plants.

## Keep Water Clean at Work and Home Check out www.FlushingAwesome.com



# KCIW - Looking ahead at 2015

The King County Industrial Waste Program (KCIW) is planning or continuing a number of initiatives during 2015. These focus on protecting the environment, regulations, fees and customer service.

Projects to protect wastewater treatment plants, biosolids and water quality

- Conduct a comprehensive survey of the Wastewater Treatment Division's entire service area to identify new industrial users.
- Work with local jurisdictions to clarify authority and roles in pretreatment.
- Begin collecting samples for a two year study to evaluate local limits and to identify guidelines for the winery sector in the Brightwater service area.

## Projects to improve methods and customer service

- Streamline the process for issuing construction dewatering permits. The changes will include a general permit for projects with low risk and less than 25,000 gallons per day.
- Continue to evaluate the allocation formula used in the surcharge program. This program charges an additional fee to pay for the costs of treating high strength wastewater.
- Reorganize the permits group to enhance technical assistance to industrial users and improve responsiveness. A second staff engineer started work in late 2014.
- Review KCIW communication activities with an eye to providing timely and relevant information in an effective way.

# **Cleaning the Duwamish**

In November, 2014, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a cleanup plan to reduce risks to people's health and the environment from toxic chemicals in the Duwamish River.



The EPA classified the Duwamish River as a Superfund pollution site in 2001.

King County is working closely with the Superfund program and doing additional work to restore the Duwamish. KCIW works with industries to reduce pollution in the Duwamish River and participates with other agencies in the Lower Duwamish Source Control Working Group. Learn more at www. kingcounty.gov/OurDuwamish.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## Inside This Issue: Emergency response poster to pull out and post at your worksite



# **Reduce risks from emergencies**

Most businesses have hazardous materials that can be contaminated from fire fighting or flood waters. This can be hazardous to employees, emergency personnel and the environment. Business owners are liable for any contamination and clean-up caused by hazardous products or waste.

## Here are some ways to prevent expensive and complicated clean-ups:

- Avoid stockpiling hazardous materials. Order what you need.
- Store chemicals and other materials properly under cover with secondary containment.
- Maintain onsite grease traps and oil/water separators.
- Clean up spills. Have a spill plan and train employees to use it.
- Maintain onsite drainage facilities.
- Have an updated and detailed Emergency Response Plan and practice emergency preparedness.
- In case of a spill to the sewer, call King County.
- Post the poster in the center of this newsletter in your worksite.

Creating Resources from Wastewater



Secondary containment prevents chemical spills