



Ronald Wastewater Review

A quarterly publication of news and information for customers of Ronald Wastewater District

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District's Projects

Completed at Less Than Bid Price!

Ronald Wastewater District has been taking advantage of the favorable and low construction prices to complete some maintenance projects. "Not only are the ratepayers getting a great big bang for their buck, the projects are being completed at less than the bid price," says Board President Brian Carroll.

The District recently finished a complete rehabilitation on its largest sewage pumping station on the corner of 10 Ave NE and NE 185 St. The project was completed for \$5,669 less than the bid price, a 1% savings.

Several Capital Improvement Projects have also been completed at less than the bid price. "We are pleased that our engineering firm has been thorough in their design work, which has prevented the need for project change orders," says Carroll, "and this has kept construction costs down. Not only that, but we are also able to replace side sewers for our ratepayers in the project area at no additional cost to them."

The project along NE 155 St between 12 Ave NE and 15 Ave NE came in under the bid price by \$38,293, a 9% savings. The project that included work on N 185 St between Meridian Ave N and 1 Ave NE and portions of the Richmond Beach area came in under the bid price by \$14,233, a 3.4% savings.

"During our last project," said General Manager Michael Derrick, "when we replaced some sanitary sewer mainlines and side sewers in portions of the Briarcrest and Richmond Beach Neighborhoods, the contractor encountered very wet running sand in Richmond Beach Drive NW. This unexpected condition caused the project to go over the bid price by \$38,036." He said, "It was one of those unfortunate experiences that cannot be anticipated. One part of the soil under the road was dry, a few feet down the road the soil was wet and flowing."

The Board of Commissioners has in good times and bad times kept a close eye on controlling costs here at Ronald Wastewater District. Especially now, during difficult economic times, are they particularly conscience of where the money goes.

For 60 years, Ronald Wastewater District has been working together with you, our ratepayers, to be excellent environmental stewards.

District Outreach

Ronald Wastewater District is coming soon to your neighborhood with community outreach and education meetings. The purpose of the outreach meetings is to inform community members about capital projects in each neighborhood and to respond to neighbors' interests and questions related to Ronald's mission and operations.

The following is the current meetings schedule. More neighborhoods and meetings will be added in the weeks and months to come. Watch your neighborhood association calendar for meeting details, visit our website at ronaldwastewater.org or call the District at 206-546-2494 for more information.

- **Ballinger** - September 21st 2010 at 7:00 PM (Lake Forest Park Montessori - 19935 19th Ave NE)
- **North City** - Winter 2011 (time and location to be announced)
- **Richmond Beach** - November 9th 2010 at 7:30 PM (Richmond Beach Congregational Church - 1512 Northwest 195th St.)
- **Highland Terrace** - November 16th 2010 at 7:00 PM (Highland Terrace Elementary School - 100 North 160th St.)
- **Richmond Highlands** - Winter 2011 (time and location to be announced)
- **Hillwood** - Spring 2011 (time and location to be announced)
- **Innis Arden** - Spring 2011 (time and location to be announced)

The District has already had community meetings with the Briarcrest, Echo Lake, and Ridgecrest neighborhoods.



Thanksgiving do's and don'ts:

Avoiding the plumber

Plumbers across the District will be giving thanks this Thanksgiving, mostly because of clogged kitchen drains and garbage disposal problems. The problem is that during the hours and hours of cooking, either too much waste gets thrown down the disposal, items are discarded that cannot be broken down, or grease is poured down the drain clogging the sewer line.

Thanksgiving Day, and the day after, plumbers typically receive three to five times the normal volume of calls. On average, the four day Thanksgiving weekend represents a 21% increase above any other Thursday through Sunday period of the year.

So, how can you avoid an emergency phone call to the plumber? Here is a list of holiday (and everyday) do's and don'ts:

KITCHEN SINK DON'TS

- **Don't:** Dump grease directly down drain (Just as grease solidifies in the pan when it cools, it also does that in your drain and the District's sewer system, clogging sewer lines).
- **Don't:** Force large amounts of food down the garbage disposal at once (Give the unit plenty of time to grind the food). Don't Place stringy foods such as celery or rhubarb in the garbage disposal.
- **Don't:** Place heavy foods like pasta, potatoes peels, rice or coffee grounds in the disposal (They are too heavy to move freely through the drain).
- **Don't:** Use the toilet, sink, or garbage disposal as a trash can.

KITCHEN SINK DO'S

- **Do:** Collect used grease in a container, like an old coffee can, and throw away in the garbage.
- **Do:** Wipe greasy dishes with some newspaper or a paper towel before rinsing them off. Put the paper in the garbage.
- **Do:** Limit the use of garbage disposals. Use the garbage can or compost the vegetable scraps instead. If you must use the garbage disposal, keep hot water flowing while the disposal is running. Let water continue running for 60 seconds or so, long enough to flush any food or grease from the system.
- **Do:** Keep the area around your sink relatively clean. It's too easy to accidentally knock such objects as dish rags, coins, silverware, jewelry, and glass into the sink and garbage disposal.
- **Do:** Call the District at 206-546-2494 with any questions, or visit the District's website at www.ronaldwastewater.org for more information.

Sources: theplumber.com, sun-sentinel.com, City of Redding



Projects Update

ECHO LAKE TRUNK LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT (Construction Complete – Fall 2010)

The area west and south of Echo Lake has a land use designation that allows an increase in housing density. Ronald Wastewater District is replacing the Echo Lake Trunk Line in order to increase sewer capacity in this area before additional development occurs.

The project will involve replacing approximately 1,700 linear feet of 14"-15" concrete sewer mainline with 18" high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe installed by pipe bursting.

This project is located both on private property and public right of way beginning north of the YMCA at Echo Lake and continues along the western and northern shore of Echo Lake to Stone Ave N. Another portion of the project will be from the center of the cul-de-sac on N. 204th PL. north and east to a manhole along N. 205th Street close to Wallingford Ave N.

ECHO COVE BYPASS PROJECT (Construction Complete – Fall 2010)

Ronald Wastewater District is re-routing sewage flows around the Echo Cove Condominiums via a new 18" sewer main. This project involves installation of six (new) sewer manholes, two connections to the existing sewer system, and reconnecting a side sewer to this new sewer main north of N. 195th Street.

This project is located on Aurora Ave, N. 195th St. right of way and the Echo Cove Condominiums. The new sewer main begins at the north end of the Echo Cove Condominiums adjacent to Echo Lake and continues west along N. 195th St., then south through the Echo Cove parking lot, to the south entrance of Echo Cove. The sewer main continues south in Aurora Ave. to the southern edge of the YMCA property.

