



# Ronald Wastewater Review

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

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## District Annexation of 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE at NE 197<sup>th</sup> Street

Ronald Wastewater District recently completed installation of sewer mains on 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE just south of NE 197<sup>th</sup> Street. We have also just completed annexing this area. Ratepayers in an annexed area have the right to vote for elected sewer Commissioners.

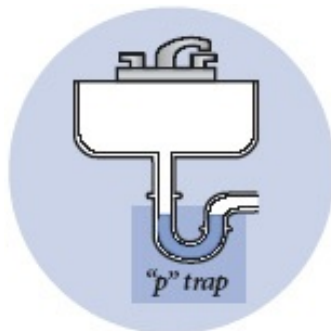
While the District serves all of the City of Shoreline, approximately 40 % of the area receiving sewer service is not annexed into the District. The Commissioners have been working to get the vote of the ratepayer on the question of annexation. The Commissioners of Ronald Wastewater District believe you as a ratepayer should be able to vote to select your elected sewer Commissioners.

## Tips For Reducing Household Odors

The “p” trap under every sink, tub and floor drain is a water barrier that keeps sewer odors from coming back into your house. Normal use will keep the “p” traps full of water.

Don’t make any plumbing hook-up straight into the house side sewer—always install a “p” trap. Periodically run water through drains that aren’t used often, such as floor or garage drains or utility sinks. Make sure all plumbing vents go outside the house. Standard plumbing per code will ensure proper venting.

After water drains from a sink or tub, the “p” trap remains filled, thus preventing gases from entering your home.



## Pump Stations

It’s mind-boggling to consider the amount of domestic wastewater generated and transported on a given day in the United States. That’s because almost every human living in an urban area contributes domestic wastewater in some way. On its trip from your house to the treatment plant, wastewater generally flows through collection system pipelines by gravity. When wastewater reaches a low point in the surrounding terrain, wastewater pump stations become a necessary means to transport the wastewater to a higher point so that it can continue its gravity flow. Pump stations are used in a collection system when simple gravity flow is not cost effective, attainable, or hydraulically reliable.

The District owns and operates 14 pump stations of varying sizes and types. The majority of pump stations are the dry-well type. Dry-well stations, in their varying forms, are identified by pumps housed in a dry environment, sometimes called the dry-pit or dry-well. The dry-well contains the pump motors, controls and valves and is accessible for maintenance.

Most pump stations feature a minimum of two pumps. A separate wet well is part of the pump station and collects the wastewater inflow so that it can be pumped to a higher point in the system.

District crews check each pump station twice a week to perform any required maintenance.

# Why Are Good Eating Habits Also Good For Your Sewer

Just as a nutritionist will probably say you that eating fatty and greasy foods is not good for healthy living, fat and grease is also not good for sewers.

A life style of eating fatty and greasy foods can contribute to cholesterol build- up in your arteries. Fat and grease affects sewers in much the same way. Pouring fat and grease down the drains and toilet is the wrong way to dispose of these materials. While fat and grease will disappear from sight when poured down the sink or toilet, they will coat the inside of the sewer pipes rendering the inside diameter of the pipe smaller and smaller until eventually there will be no room for anything, including water, to pass through.

This blockage can occur both in the sewer pipes inside the house as well as in the sewer pipes outside in the yard and in the streets. When these blockages occur outside of the house they create problems such as sewer overflows and contamination which can affect not just the homeowner, but the neighbors as well. This can become a costly situation. So dispose of fat and grease in an old can or milk carton and throw it in the garbage.

## On The Lighter Side

It was a sunny mid afternoon in the early spring. My co-worker and I were on a routine job assigned to operating our flush truck. Our flush truck is used to clean the sewer lines through the use of high water pressure, about 1500 psi being sent through 1000' of water hose. We had stopped along the street at a fire hydrant to fill our truck's water tanks.

A nearby school had just let out and a small boy walked toward our truck. He said nothing, he just stopped as if frozen in his tracks as he peered up at our large white truck which towered above him. Then he caught sight of the large hose used to fill the water tanks which was full of water because our flush truck was being filled with water. Still he said nothing. He then walked over to the middle of the hose as it lay on the ground. He knelt down and grasped the hose with both hands and tried to squeeze it. He looked up as he said, "Mister that sure is stiff water!"

## RONALD WASTEWATER DISTRICT 2007 BOARD MEETINGS

The regular meeting dates of the Board of Commissioners shall be typically on the first thru third and / or fourth or fifth (as needed) Tuesday of each month starting at 6:00 p.m. at the District office. 17505 Linden Avenue North Shoreline, WA 98133.

Should you like to attend any of the above Board Meetings, please contact our office in advance (206) 546-2494 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



## Planning & Development and IT

Beginning in 2007, the Planning & Development and IT Department will be adding a third analyst to the staff. This will better enable Ronald Wastewater District to help contractors and ratepayers by providing information and services in a timely fashion.

The Planning & Development and IT Department issues permits, performs inspections, issues Certificates of Sewer Availability, performs project reviews, provides sewer information, drawings and as-builts, and maintains the District information technology system.