

From this...

To this...



## What lies ahead

People invest in clean water and a healthy environment through their monthly sewer rate, which covers the cost of operating, maintaining and improving this vital infrastructure. Over the next several years, King County will continue building new facilities and upgrading existing ones to ensure the system operates reliably and meets environmental standards to protect our natural resources for the next generation to enjoy.



## Wastewater Treatment Facts

- Population served:** 1.5 million
- Service area:** 420 square miles
- King County sewer lines:** 353 miles
- Sewer pipe diameter:** 12 inches to 14 feet
- Pump stations:** 42
- Regulator stations:** 19

### RESOURCES RECOVERED ANNUALLY

- Methane gas sold:** 2.1 million therms
- Electricity produced:** 0.23 million kilowatt hours
- Biosolids production:** 116,000 wet tons (28,400 dry tons)
- Reclaimed water production:** 300 million gallon

## Come see for yourself

To schedule a treatment plant tour, request information, or schedule a speaker for a meeting or event, please call us at 206-684-1280 or e-mail us at [website.wtd@kingcounty.gov](mailto:website.wtd@kingcounty.gov).

Alternative formats available.  
Call 206-684-1280 or TTY Relay: 711



**King County**  
Department of Natural Resources and Parks  
**Wastewater Treatment Division**

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Department of Natural Resources and Parks  
**Wastewater Treatment Division**

# YOUR WASTEWATER DOLLARS INVEST IN PUBLIC HEALTH, THE ENVIRONMENT AND OUR QUALITY OF LIFE.



*Creating Resources from Wastewater*

## The history of our mission

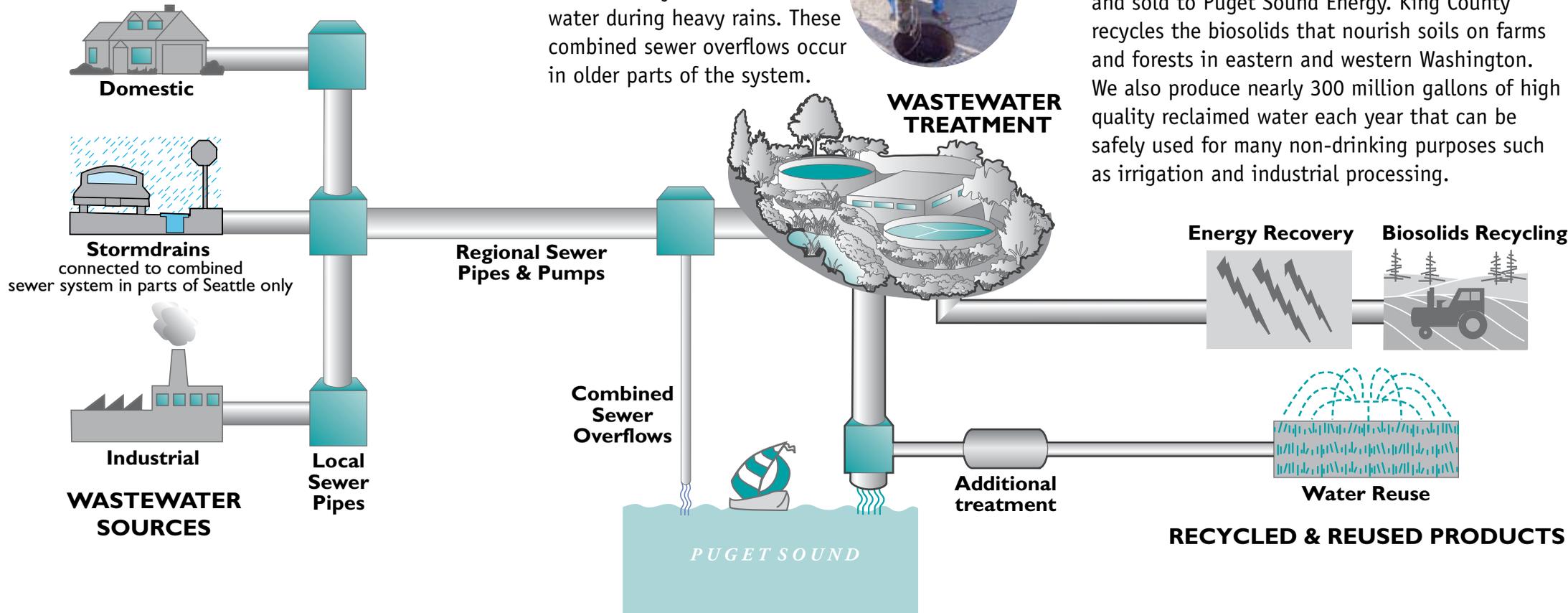
In 1958, King County citizens voted to create a regional wastewater system to clean up pollution in Lake Washington and other water bodies. Fifty years later, we've seen a dramatic improvement in area water quality. In partnership with local sewer utilities, jurisdictions, businesses, and residents, King County will continue its mission to protect public health and the environment by treating wastewater and recycling and reusing resources created through the treatment process.





King County has a vast underground system of tunnels and pipes.

**EACH DAY**, residents, businesses and industries in King County's wastewater service area generate more than 220 million gallons of wastewater. Local cities and sewer districts collect it directly from their customers and send it to King County's regional conveyance system.



**USING AN** extensive network of pipes and pumps, King County brings the wastewater to one of its regional plants where it is treated and discharged into Puget Sound. The county also operates two smaller local plants that serve the City of Carnation and a portion of Vashon Island. King County is also working to reduce the amount of stormwater mixed with wastewater that sometimes flows directly into bodies of water during heavy rains. These combined sewer overflows occur in older parts of the system.



A forestry project using our biosolids to build healthy soils.

**IN ADDITION** to treating wastewater, King County creates resources from the wastewater it treats. Methane gas produced as a byproduct of the solids treatment process is harnessed and used to create heat and electricity. Some of it is scrubbed and sold to Puget Sound Energy. King County recycles the biosolids that nourish soils on farms and forests in eastern and western Washington. We also produce nearly 300 million gallons of high quality reclaimed water each year that can be safely used for many non-drinking purposes such as irrigation and industrial processing.

# Our Plants



Learn more about us:  
**Wastewater Treatment Division**

Our Web site:  
<http://www.kingcounty.gov/wtd>  
Phone: 206-684-1280,  
or 711 TTY