

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, protecting water quality is key to a thriving Puget Sound region and sustains our health, recreation, economy, and marine wildlife, including salmon and orca

WHEREAS, collecting wastewater from homes and businesses and cleaning it is a daily essential service that is foundational to our experiencing excellent water quality

WHEREAS, this work has been provided regionally at the watershed level for the past 65 years starting on September 9, 1958 when voters responded to pollution in Puget Sound and Lake Washington by creating Metro, now known as King County Wastewater Treatment Division

WHEREAS, water quality in Puget Sound has improved greatly during this time because of investments in wastewater treatment, along with many other measures such as habitat enhancement, and continued investments will build on this success

WHEREAS, King County Wastewater Treatment provides services to nearly 2 million people in 34 local jurisdictions and local sewer agencies, including portions of Snohomish and Pierce counties

WHEREAS, the essential service of collecting and cleaning wastewater is conducted around the clock by more than 700 skilled professionals at the King County Wastewater Treatment Division who have proven their dedication during the most challenging of times, including major storm events, a pandemic, natural disasters, and other emergencies

WHEREAS, these wastewater professionals continue to innovate and improve our regional wastewater system, and that this work ensures we can meet the challenges of climate change; population growth; emerging pollutants of concern; environmental sustainability; and workforce development

WHEREAS, King County Wastewater Treatment Division has joined other clean water agencies across the U.S. in celebrating August as National Water Quality Month in recognition of the essential role wastewater professionals play to the betterment of our lives and our environment

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dow Constantine, King County Executive, do hereby proclaim August 16, 2023 to be

Wastewater Professionals Day

in King County. I call upon the people of the Puget Sound region to consider the harmful substances they put down their drains, pipes, and toilets and collaborate in the public mission held by wastewater professionals to protect the water quality we collectively rely on.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dow Constantine". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Dow Constantine
King County Executive