

# WASTEWATER BACKUP PROTECTION FOR SOUTH PARK

King County  
Protecting Our Waters

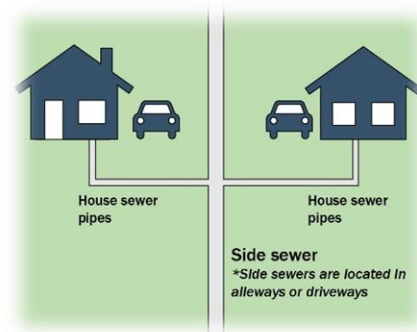
SUMMER  
2023



## How Your Sewers Work

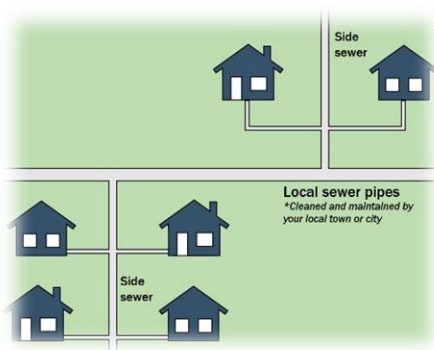
### Side Sewer Pipe

*Side sewer pipes* are found underneath your driveway or alleyway. They carry wastewater to a sewer line under your local street. Property owners are responsible for installing, inspecting, maintaining, and repairing their side sewers.



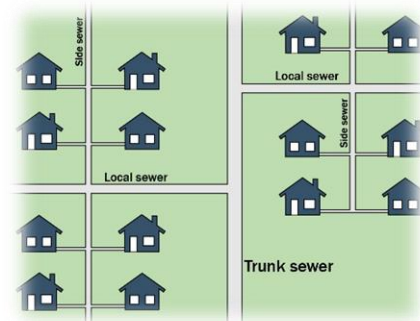
### Local Sewer Pipe

*Local sewer pipes* run underneath your city streets and arterial streets. Usually, local sewer pipes are maintained by a city or sewer district. King County coordinates with local sewer agencies to connect local sewer lines with King County's regional wastewater system, but King County does not manage or maintain local sewers.



### Trunk Sewer Pipe

*Trunk sewer pipes* are one of the main sewer lines in the wastewater collection system. They collect and carry wastewater from your local sewer pipes to an *interceptor sewer pipe* (see next glossary item), or directly to the regional wastewater treatment facility. Trunk sewer pipes are to local sewer pipes as arterial streets are to neighborhood streets.



### Interceptor Sewer Pipe

*Interceptor sewer pipes* receive wastewater from several trunk sewer pipes and carry it to a regional wastewater treatment facility. These are the largest sewer pipes in the system. They are also the last type of sewer pipe wastewater flows through before arriving at a treatment facility. An interceptor sewer pipe is like a highway that wastewater takes to reach its destination.



# WASTEWATER BACKUP PROTECTION FOR SOUTH PARK

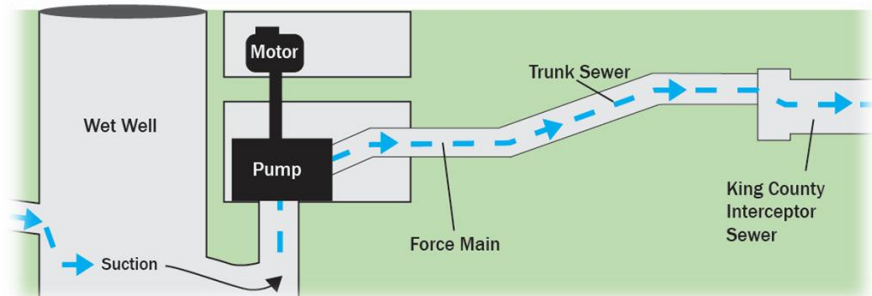
 King County  
Protecting Our Waters

SUMMER  
2023



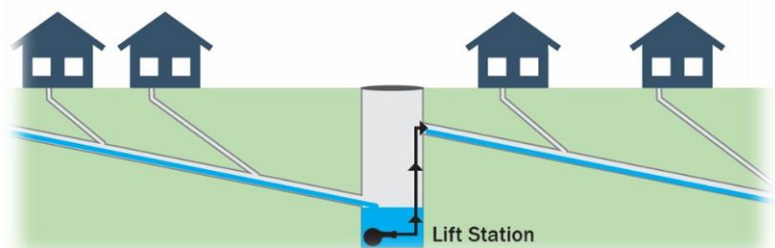
## Force Main

A *force main* is a pressurized sewer pipe that carries wastewater uphill from a sewer pump. Force mains are used when wastewater needs help making it up a steep hill or slope. Force mains are specially designed to avoid odor problems.



## Pump Station

*Pump stations* pump wastewater uphill. Stations vary in size and type depending on the quantity of wastewater to be handled, how far it needs to go, and how far the wastewater must be pumped before it reaches another pump station or starts to flow downhill.



## Gravity Sewer Pipe

*Gravity sewer pipes* use gravity to convey wastewater. Gravity sewers require less energy than *force mains*.

## Lift Station

*Lift stations* are facilities designed to move wastewater from lower to higher elevation, particularly where the elevation of the source is not sufficient for gravity flow or when the use of gravity conveyance will result in excessive excavation depths and high sewer construction costs.

## Siphon

A *siphon* carries wastewater through a pipe under a roadway, waterway or around a utility or other obstacle. A siphon carries wastewater downhill, so it does not require pumping, minimizing energy use.

