



**King County**

Department of Natural Resources and Parks

**Wastewater Treatment Division**

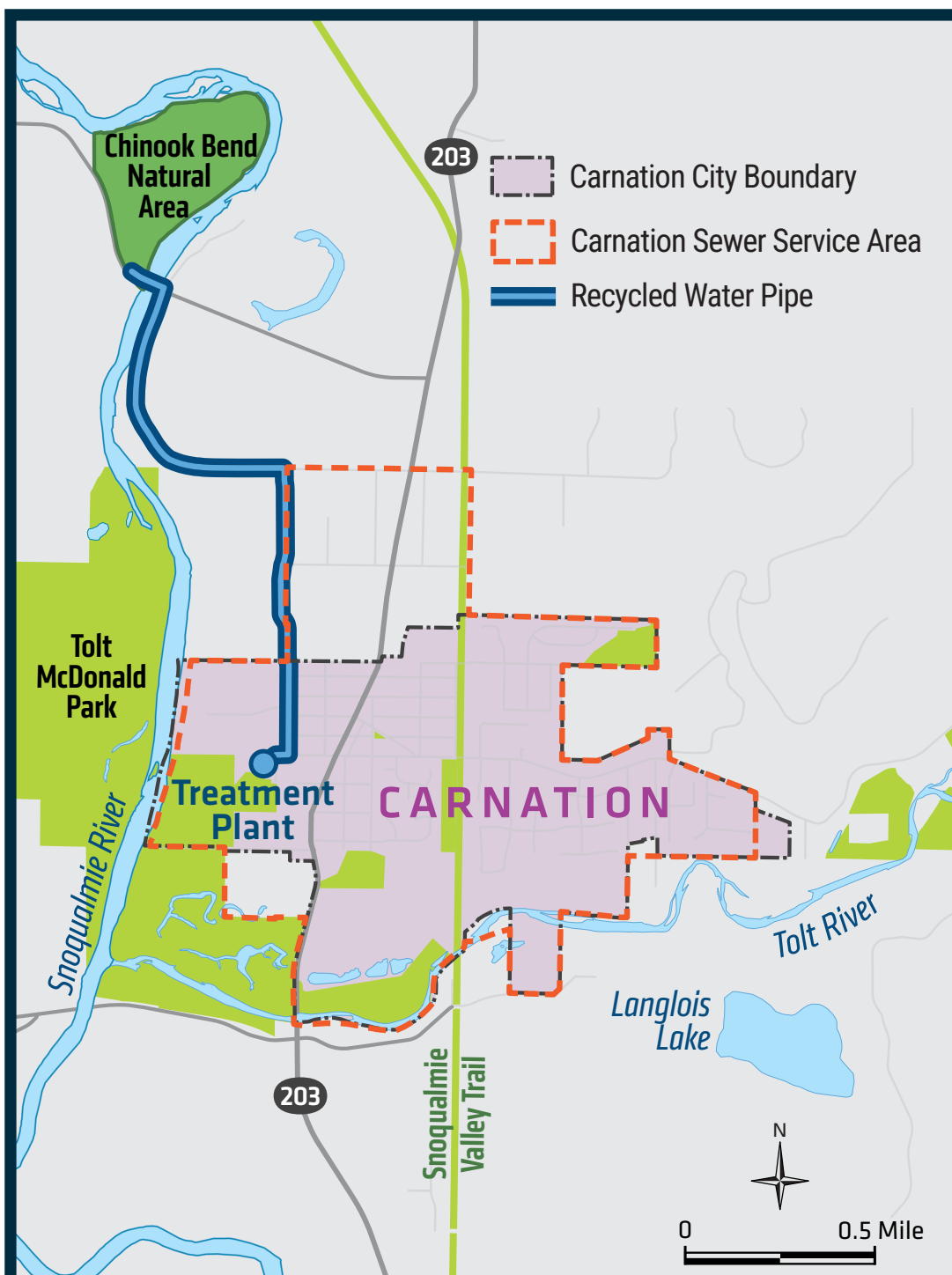
# Carnation Treatment Plant *NEWS*

2024

## Where does your water go after you send it down the drain?

If you live in King County's Carnation Treatment Plant service area, the water you send down the drain travels through pipes owned and maintained by the City of Carnation and is cleaned at our wastewater facility.

Every day, the plant treats about 111,000 gallons of wastewater (sewage). After the water is treated and cleaned, it is released to the wetlands of the Chinook Bend Natural Area.



*The Carnation Treatment Plant serves about 2,200 people every year.*

# Recycling City of Carnation's Water Since 2008



*Aerial view of the Chinook Bend Natural Area and Snoqualmie River.*

The plant began operations in 2008 to support our regional system by treating wastewater in Carnation's growing area. Today, the facility serves nearly 2,200 people in Carnation's downtown area. Our plant operators and advanced treatment system allow us to not only clean sewage but also create recycled water that can be used for almost anything except drinking.

After treatment, the water goes through additional filtration and disinfection process, making it safe for people, pets, and wildlife—even if it gets on a scrape or is accidentally swallowed. About 35 million gallons of this recycled water is released to the wetlands of the Chinook Bend Natural Area every year.

The 59 acres of land that make up the Chinook Bend Natural Area was donated to King County by the Nestle USA Corporation in 2000. We worked with partners such as the City of Carnation, Snoqualmie Indian Tribe, Ducks Unlimited, and hundreds of volunteers to restore the natural floodplain for habitat protection and public recreational use.



*Volunteers planting native plants to help restore the floodplain forest and to enhance the wetland.*



# Why Recycled Water Benefits Our Region

- **Conserves fresh water:** It saves potable water for drinking and leaves water in rivers for fish and wildlife. Recycled water can be used in various applications such as irrigation and cooling.
- **Protects the environment:** It reduces the amount of treated wastewater that we send to Puget Sound and put that water to better, local uses.
- **Builds a resilient future:** It creates water supply options for our region, making our supply more resilient to droughts and climate change.

***Curious to learn  
more about  
recycled water?***



 [kingcounty.gov/RecycledWater](https://kingcounty.gov/RecycledWater)

## Transforming Cow Pasture Into Salmon Habitat

Most of the property was covered in pasture grasses planted in the 1990s. Grazing and farming prevented native trees from growing in the floodplain, and invasive weeds, such as poison hemlock and reed canary grass, made it difficult to restore. Still, a few native trees, such as black cottonwood and red alder, survived, giving the land some potential for recovery.



Hungry beavers have also made this place their home and are busy at work. King County salmon habitat restoration managers are adapting their work along rivers and streams to account for the changes in landscapes made by beavers. The beaver population is recovering and repopulating wetlands and waterways.

This shift from cow pasture to a thriving wetland shows the success of ongoing restoration efforts.



Since then, the area has changed dramatically into a vital habitat for salmon and other wildlife. With continuous monitoring and restoration and a reliable supply of clean, recycled water, about 20% of the Chinook salmon that return to the Snoqualmie River watershed spawn in this area.

*A beaver hard at  
work chewing on  
native vegetation.*



***Watch this video to learn more about  
the region's beaver population!***

 [kingcounty.gov/beaver-population](https://kingcounty.gov/beaver-population)

# Can you spot salmon or beavers this fall?

The water you use, and the Carnation Treatment Plant all contribute to restore the area. Come explore Chinook Bend and see how it changed from pasture to a vibrant wetland!

**Visit between October and December to see salmon returning to spawn, or spot busy beavers working year-round!**

## **Chinook Bend Natural Area address:**

30200 NE Carnation Farm Rd, Carnation, WA 98014



*Beavers chewed down this tree at a King County restoration site.*



## **Stay updated with what's happening:**

To learn more about the Carnation Treatment Plant, visit our website:

 [kingcounty.gov/carnation-treatment-plant](https://kingcounty.gov/carnation-treatment-plant)



To stay informed, sign up for email or text updates:

 [public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAKING/subscriber/new](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAKING/subscriber/new)



## **Contact Us**

**24-hour emergency and odor reporting:**

206-263-1760

**Administration:**

206-263-1760



**King County**

Alternative formats available

206-477-5371 or TTY relay: 711

File: 2410\_13665E\_carnation\_treatment\_nsltr\_web.indd

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