



April 22, 2024

Earth Day is April 22

At King County WTD, we think it's important to treat every day like its earth day. Learn more about our sustainability programs [here](#).

At [South Treatment Plant](#) we are working on several projects that will continue to help protect human health and the environment. For us, sustainability means reusing valuable resources and managing cost-effective operations and capital investments that ensure a healthy natural environment and vibrant communities for everyone.



Aerial view of South Treatment Plant in Renton

Projects we're working on at South Plant include

Biogas and heat system improvements

The wastewater treatment process produces gasses. Our biogas system captures these gases and converts them into energy for heat and other uses.

Influent pump building seismic upgrades

Living in the Pacific Northwest puts us at risk of large seismic events. These upgrades will help protect the plant so that wastewater treatment processes can continue even in the event of an earthquake.



Dewatering building truck loading bay ventilation improvements

We want to keep our workers safe and reduce smells escaping the plant. This project will improve ventilation and reduce ammonia odors on-site and for neighbors.

Loop Compost Pilot

We are testing out ways to safely produce Class A biosolids (fertilizer) from wastewater for use in public spaces and home gardens. Currently, WTD produces Class B biosolids that require permits and are used on commercial farms and forests.

Learn more about capital projects at South Plant [here](#).

We've been doing this for a while

We recycle water at all of our treatment plants. After being disinfected, recycled water is 99% cleaner than when it came into the plant. South Plant has a partnership with Starfire Sports Complex to provide recycled water that's used to water their sports fields. Recycled water is also used on-site at South Plant to cool equipment and water grounds, including watering crops at the plant's own [CitySoil Farm](#).

Our plants not only clean wastewater, they support the health of the surrounding communities we serve by offering natural areas and other green spaces for the public and wildlife to enjoy. [Waterworks Gardens](#) is a public park attached to South Plant that also filters and cleans storm water from the plant's 50 acres of roads, parking lots, and hard surfaces.

What's new at South Plant?

Last year we sent out a survey to South Plant neighbors. We asked about their experience of living/working near the plant. One hundred people responded! We are so appreciative of your feedback, thank you. We will be sending out a follow-up newsletter and sharing it on our website this Spring. Keep an eye out so you can learn more about what we heard from the community and what we are doing with that information.

Come work with us

We are hiring! Find your career, with competitive pay, benefits and a pension plan today by applying at: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/kingcounty>



Jim Pitts (left) working with employees in the Operator in Training Program

Have you heard of our Operators in Training Program? We are looking for the next generation of talent in the wastewater industry. Learn more about the program by [watching this video](#).

How to stay informed

Visit our treatment plant website to sign up for email updates and learn more:
<https://kingcounty.gov/depts/dnrp/wtd/system/south.aspx>

Call or email Hodo Hussein:

(206) 477-5552 hodhussein@kingcounty.gov

Interpretation and translation services are available to you at no cost. If you need them please contact

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