



INDUSTRIAL WASTE PROGRAM
*Partnering with Industries
to Prevent Pollution*

King County Industrial Waste Program Newsletter - Spring 2022

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Wastewater Treatment Division celebrates women at work

The annual [Washington Women in Trades](#) (WWIT) Fair will mark its 42nd anniversary this year. The half-day event, held in May, showcases exhibits, demonstrations, contests, education and job opportunities for women interested in pursuing careers in the trades.

King County Industrial Waste program is proud to celebrate the four women on our team: Suzanne Anderson, Lydia Eng, Dana Heinz, and Peggy Rice. Between them, they make up almost 25% of the KCIW team and represent over 90 years of experience in the field! Thank you all for the work you do.



2021 Clean Water Awards

Gold, Silver, and Commitment to Compliance

KCIT's Rewards and Recognition Program recognizes industrial wastewater dischargers that meet or exceed wastewater discharge permit requirements. These award winners help protect public health and the environment by controlling the discharge of harmful substances, damage to wastewater treatment infrastructure, degradation of wastewater treatment, and reduction of biosolids quality.

This year, 57 local facilities earned environmental awards for dedication to business practices that protected regional water quality in 2021. This included 37 gold, 20 silver, and 2 Commitment to Compliance awards. The awards recognize the facility's efforts to protect communities, the environment, and the economy in our region.

[Find out who won Gold, Silver, and Commitment to Compliance awards in 2021.](#)

Image above: WTD treats wastewater at the West Point Treatment Plant in Discovery Park and releases it to the Puget Sound.

Companies that violate clean water rules receive penalties - 2021 violators

King County is legally required to report on companies who do not comply with their permit. KCIW publishes a violators advertisement once a year in the Spring for violations and enforcement actions occurring during the previous calendar year. [Read the latest enforcement ad](#), which was published in the Seattle Times in April 2022.

Reminder: Late submissions are a frequent and preventable reason for violations and fines. Plan ahead, file your applications and reports on time.

Violations Resulting in Significant Non-Compliance (SMR) Status and/or Penalties	Reasons for Publication and Additional Comments
King County Solid Waste Division (KCSWD) - Cedar Mills Regional Landfill (CML) ... (violations) ...	KCIW was informed in 2021 for violating permit water quality loading limits. The non-compliance with permit water quality loading limits was a result of a permit violation. KCIW is not taking further enforcement action at this time.
Violations Resulting in Penalty Only	Reasons for Publication and Additional Comments
Bluebonnet Inc. - 20th Street ... (violations) ...	In all cases, the facility was found to be in violation of permit water quality loading limits. The report was submitted to KCIW but no further action was taken. See listed below.
Danville Material Products Inc. - 12th Street ... (violations) ...	
East Seattle LLC ... (violations) ...	
Seagull School District - Elementary to Construction Project ... (violations) ...	
North Star Lumber Products Inc. ... (violations) ...	
Calwest Inc. ... (violations) ...	
Woodville Custom Earth ... (violations) ...	

TIPS: Submitting KCIW self-monitoring reports (SMRs)

If you have a permit from KCIW, you are required to submit accurate monitoring and sampling data on time and in the right way. The submission requirements for your facility, including what you need to report on and how often is documented in your discharge approval document. Here are some tips for getting this done:

- All self-monitoring reports are due on the 15th of the month following the reporting period, regardless of your submittal frequency (e.g. monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually).
- If your facility did not actively discharge during the reporting period, the self-monitoring report should state “No Discharge”.
- You can contact King County and ask for an extension to avoid being late.
- All reports must be signed by an authorized representative of the facility.

Ways to submit:

1. Our preferred method: Email attachment sent to info.KCIW@kingcounty.gov.
 - The self-monitoring report must be scanned and signed. DocuSign is KCIW's preferred method for signing the SMRs; however, if you don't have a DocuSign Account, a scanned copy of the signed document (called a “wet” signature) is acceptable. In both cases, you should retain your SMRs in accordance with the requirements of your permit.
 - Please submit self-monitoring reports to us at: info.KCIW@kingcounty.gov. While some compliance investigators may request you copy them on your submittals, use the general

email address as the primary recipient. Sending reports only to your investigator may delay its official receipt by KCIW.

2. Submit by regular U.S. mail.
 - Make sure you allow enough time for the report to be delivered before the report is due.
3. Our least preferred method: Submit by fax to 206-263-3001

Ask a KCIW specialist! What are you curious about?

Is there something you've always wanted to know about our Industrial Waste Program but have never asked? This is your invitation to ask us!

Send an email with your question to info.KCIW@kingcounty.gov and we'll try to answer it in the next newsletter.

Here's a topic to get you started:

What is the difference between surcharge and compliance sampling?

Compliance samples – In addition to self-monitoring by companies, KCIW collects compliance samples to verify whether the wastewater discharge at an industrial facility is in compliance with federal categorical limits and/or King County local discharge limits for various pollutants of concern. These are the limits that protect the local sanitary sewer systems and the King County regional wastewater conveyance and treatment systems. As a delegated pretreatment program, KCIW is required to collect and analyze samples from all Significant Industrial Users (SIUs) at a minimum of once per year per the federal pretreatment regulations [40 CFR 403.8(f)(2)(v)]. Typically, KCIW collects and analyzes two rounds of samples from SIUs per calendar year for regulatory confirmation.

Surcharge samples – Businesses, such as some food processors and breweries, that send “high-strength” or more concentrated waste to the sanitary sewer system pay an extra surcharge based on how much organic material is in their wastewater. High-strength organic waste contains a higher concentration of total suspended solids (TSS) and biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) than typical wastewater. BOD is a measure of organic material that uses up oxygen in the water. Surcharge samples are collected by KCIW's Specialists and are used with the volumes of



discharge from a given industrial facility to assess the mass loading (in pounds per day) of biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) and total suspended solids (TSS) that a facility sends to the King County wastewater treatment system. If the BOD and TSS of an industrial user's discharge is greater than a threshold found in residential wastewater, KCIW collect a surcharge treatment fee. This fee helps cover the cost of treating this high-strength waste at the wastewater treatment plants.

[More information about KCIW's fees and surcharges](#)



Monthly Brightwater Community Treatment Plant Tours

Have you ever wondered what was happening at the end of the sanitary sewer pipes? Visit Brightwater in Woodinville to find out how your wastewater gets cleaned! Tour the treatment plant and learn what else you can do every day to protect our water. Participants must be at least 9 years old.

Upcoming dates:

- Saturday, April 30th 10:00am - 12:00pm - Register [here](#)
- Sat May 21st 10:00am - 12:00pm - Register [here](#)
- Future dates will be posted on the King County WTD's [Education program events page](#)

Reminder: Continued remote staffing for IW (and many other County offices)

In June 2020, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) announced that many DNRP employees would continue to telecommute, even after the pandemic. [DNRP's move to a remote workforce](#) is an effort to reduce our carbon footprint and save public money.




While KCIW conducts most activities with our customers by phone, email and during our periodic visits to facilities, customers can still request to meet with us in person during regular working hours: **8 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday.**

To set up a meeting with a staff member:

- **Call KCIW at 206-477-5300 or TTY: 711**
- **View [staff phone list](#)**
- **Email us at info.kciw@kingcounty.gov**

[Sign up to receive this newsletter by email](#)

Questions about the industrial Waste Program? Contact us by phone 206-477-5300 , email info.KCIW@kingcounty.gov or on the web: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/industrialwaste>.

