

Department of Natural Resources and Parks

Wastewater Treatment Division

News Release

Feb. 7, 2020

King County investigates potential pipe leak at North Beach Pump Station, closes beach at Blue Ridge

SUMMARY

King County Wastewater Treatment Division is investigating a potential leak at the County's North Beach Pump Station next to privately-owned Blue Ridge Park in north Seattle. A small section of beach next to the park has been temporarily closed after water quality sampling showed high levels of bacteria. Signs have been posted warning people to avoid contact with the beach as a precaution to protect public health while the County continues its investigation.

STORY

A small portion of the beach adjacent to privately owned Blue Ridge Park in north Seattle is closed to public access while the King County Wastewater Treatment Division investigates a potential leak at the County's North Beach Pump Station.

The County has been testing water quality in the area as a precaution. All monitoring results have been reported to Public Health – Seattle & King County, which has recommended temporarily closing the beach due to high bacteria counts in recent samples.

The area is posted with signs, and the Washington Department of Ecology has been notified. The beach will remain closed until bacteria levels in water quality samples have returned to safe levels.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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About the King County Wastewater Treatment Division

King County's <u>Wastewater Treatment Division</u> protects public health and enhances the environment by collecting and treating wastewater while recycling valuable resources for the Puget Sound region. The division provides wastewater treatment services to 17 cities, 17 local sewer districts and more than 1.7 million residents across a 420-square-mile area in King, Snohomish and Pierce counties.