



King County
Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Wastewater Treatment Division

Sunset and Heathfield Pump Stations and Force Main Upgrade

Construction Update: Vasa Creek restoration beginning Friday with erosion control work; creek and bank work to follow

King County has contracted EarthCorps to begin restoration work on Vasa Creek near where two sink holes appeared during construction of the sewer force main in August, 2018. We are doing this work to meet our agreement with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to mitigate damage done to fish life in Vasa Creek when the sink holes opened up. EarthCorps will begin some erosion control work tomorrow (Friday September 11) and follow with work in the creek and banks beginning next week.

What's being done

EarthCorps, on behalf of King County, will rebuild the stream banks near the bridge on 164th PI SE. They will create a low-flow stream channel with floodplain benches, similar to those upstream and downstream of the bridge. These habitat improvements will improve fish passage in Vasa Creek so local salmon and trout can travel up the creek to spawn even when the water level is low. EarthCorps will also remove [invasive vegetation](#) along this stretch of Vasa Creek and will plant native, non-invasive vegetation that will keep water in the stream cool and provide animal habitat.

King County worked on a plan for the restoration and monitoring with guidance from the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. During the restoration work, the project team will monitor water turbidity (cloudiness), a component of water quality. King County's Mitigation and Monitoring program will maintain and monitor the new stream channel according to guidelines set by the permitting agencies and the restoration plantings as required by the City of Bellevue.

What to expect

- **Project duration:** work in Vasa Creek should last approximately three weeks. The creek work will be done first and will be followed by vegetation removal and replanting.
- **Work hours:** 8 AM – 4:30 PM.
- **A temporary stream diversion** will dewater the working area. Fish in the work area will be relocated to other portions of the stream.
- **Potholing** (digging holes to locate underground utilities) around the project site to ensure we do not disturb utilities or pipes during construction.
- **Minimal noise:** work crews plan to complete the restoration either by hand or with small earth moving equipment to backfill stream bed gravels.
- **Minimal traffic impacts:** We will store materials and equipment on the shoulder of 164th PI SE, but we do not anticipate any lane closures.



Help keep our crews safe

All work being carried out by King County crews is being done with approved permits and safety plans. Please help keep our essential workers safe by avoiding crews in the field and contacting us with your questions.

For more information:

- Visit www.kingcounty.gov/sunsetheathfield
- Call the project hotline at 206-296-7800
- Email Caryn Sengupta at caryn.sengupta@kingcounty.gov



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