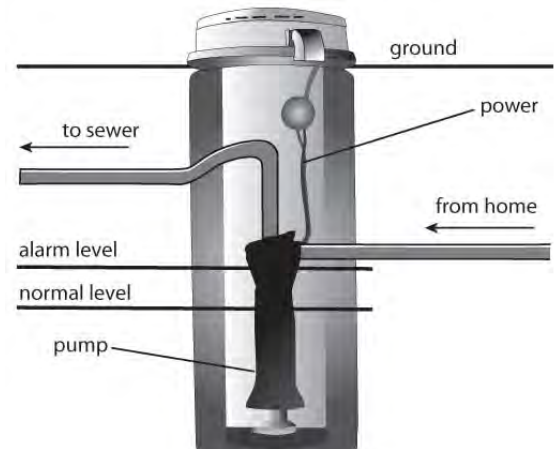




Fact Sheet: Residential Grinder Pumps

King County plans to install temporary devices, *grinder pumps*, to the sewer pipelines serving eight homes on the east side of 14th Drive SE in Bothell. Your property or residence is included in the group of homes that will be connected to a grinder pump station. This system will help residents to continue using facilities during large storms that exceed system capacity and will help protect against sewer backups.



Concept drawing of a grinder pump

How do grinder pumps work?

On 14th Drive SE, multiple homes will be served by two separate grinder pump stations attached to residential side sewer pipes. Even if the County's pipelines are full, the station will continue pumping wastewater to the North Creek Interceptor pipeline located under 14th Drive SE. A *check valve* installed with the system prevents flows from backing up into homes.

While these units require little maintenance, some conditions will result in an audible alarm and flashing light on the station's electrical panel. In the event of a power outage, there is limited storage capacity and residents are encouraged to reduce water use until power is restored.

Care of the grinder pump station

All property owners and residents should be aware of best practices to follow with pressure sewer systems to ensure safe, reliable service with minimal maintenance. Dispose of these items either in the trash, or for chemicals and fuel products, at an appropriate disposal site.

Trash	Disposal site
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glass • Metal • Gravel and sand (including aquarium rocks) • Coffee grinds • Kitty litter • Seafood shells • Sanitary napkins, tampons, tampon applicators, and wipes • Disposable diapers • Socks, rags, or cloths • Plastics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explosive or flammable materials • Lubricating oil, grease, cooking oil, and paint • Strong chemicals • Gasoline or diesel



Maintenance and Troubleshooting- What to do if there is a problem

Maintenance and repair of the unit will be provided by the County, but will require homeowners at the location of the unit to provide access whenever needed to the unit.

<i>Problem</i>	<i>Response</i>
Power outage	Reduce water usage and call 206-684-2404 immediately.
Alarm goes off	Press the button located under the alarm panel and monitor light; if it does not go off in an hour, call 206-684-2404 to report the problem.
Unit smells	Run clean water down a sink for 10 minutes; if the odor does not go away, call 206-684-2404.
Wet spots appear around the pumping unit or discharge pipe	If there are wet spots, but no recent rain has occurred, call 206-684-2404.
Alarm goes off when it rains	Check for stormwater connections from roofs and driveways to the sewer and redirect flows.
Remodeling, landscaping, or other activities results in broken pipe	Call-206-684-2404 immediately.