King County Protecting Our Waters Doing our part on rainy days

# King County is preventing pollution caused by excess stormwater in the sewer system on rainy days

FACT SHEE1

The 2018 Combined Sewer Overflow Long Term Control Plan

### What's the Long-term Control Plan?

Since 1979 King County has been reducing Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) that get released into our local water bodies. State and federal law requires that we reduce these overflows to no more than one overflow per outfall pipe per year.

King County has done planning for decades for projects that reduce CSOs. The Long-term Control Plan explains which CSOs we will fix, using what solution, as well as the costs and construction schedule for future CSO control facilities. We update our plan every five years as required by the Department of Ecology.

Both King County and the City of Seattle manage CSOs within Seattle. King County and SPU are working to collaborate on CSO solutions whenever possible.

## Why Update the Long-term Control Plan?

We update our Long-term Control Plan to make sure our future work will be both technically smart and meet current legal requirements.

This next update is looking at what's changed since the last time we updated in 2012. It will reflect environmental, social, and financial goals to meet current



At the storage pipe entrance for the Denny Way/Lake Union CSO Control Project.

needs. This includes the requirements in a Consent Decree - a legal document from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that directs us to control all our CSOs by 2030.

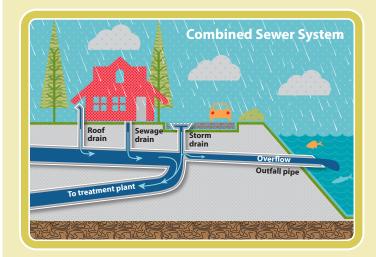
To support the Long-term Control Plan, King County is doing the Water Quality Assessment and Monitoring Study, which gathers decades of data, new studies and estimates of the effect planned projects will have on water quality.

#### WHAT ARE COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOWS?

In Seattle, many of King County's underground pipes carry both sewage and rainwater to treatment plants to be cleaned. These combined pipes and the treatment plants help keep us healthy and make for cleaner rivers, lakes and Puget Sound.

However, during large storms, more rainwater enters the pipes than the combined sewer system can handle. To keep the sewer system working and to prevent sewer backups, the excess water and sewage is released into our local water bodies through CSOs. These are pipes that send the overflows into lakes, rivers and Puget Sound. While CSOs are safety valves for the sewer system and prevent sewer backups in our homes and streets, these overflows are harmful to the environment and public health.

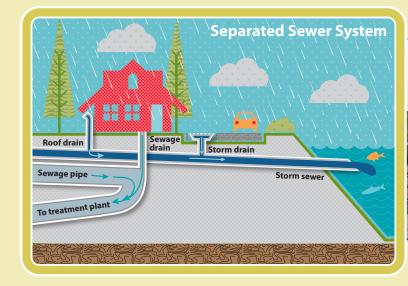
Visit the King County/SPU CSO notification site to check if a CSO is occurring at: <u>www.kingcounty.gov/csostatus</u>.



# The 2018 Long-term Control Plan Update will explore a variety of solutions to control CSOs in Seattle by 2030 (see map on back). These include:

SOLUTION

Build separate pipes; one to carry sewage to a treatment plant and another to carry stormwater to the nearest water body.



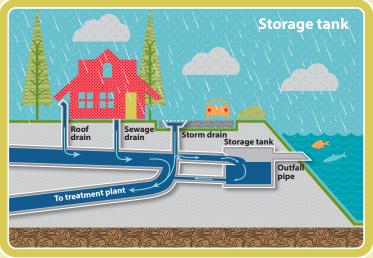


Open cut sewer pipe installation as part of a local sewer upgrade.

# SOLUTION Build underground storage tanks and tunnels to store water during storms.



King County's six million gallon underground North Creek Storage Facility, completed in 2004, under construction.

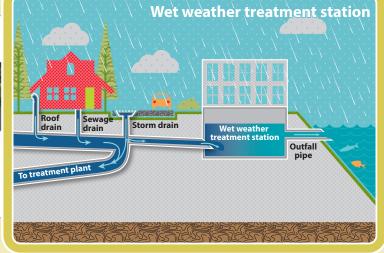


SOLUTION

Build wet weather treatment stations to clean the overflows locally, instead of sending them to regional wastewater treatment plants.



Future King County Georgetown Wet Weather Treatment Station, Seattle.



## SOLUTION

Build Green Stormwater Infrastructure that uses natural drainage to allow stormwater to soak into the earth rather than enter the sewer system.





Roadside rain gardens slow, filter and absorb runoff, diverting it from the combined sewer system.

### **Project schedule**

#### 2015

Assemble background data

#### 2016

- Develop alternatives
- Evaluate alternatives
- Project solicits and incorporates public feedback

#### 2017

- Present alternatives
- Analyze alternatives
- Estimate alternative costs
- Prepare preliminary draft plan update
- Project solicits and incorporates public feedback

#### 2018

- Identify recommended alternatives
- Develop schedule and identify impacts
- Project solicits and incorporates public feedback
- Produce draft plan update
- Produce final Plan update

### Locations of King County CSOs to be controlled (as identified in the 2018 Long-term Control Plan)



# Your thoughts are important to us!

You'll have numerous opportunities to review and provide feedback on the 2018 LTCP Update throughout late 2016 and 2017. Get in touch now, so we can let you know when we need your input.

Learn more at our website and sign up for email updates at: <u>www.kingcounty.gov/csoplan</u>

If you are interested in learning more about the project, or if you want to share your ideas, contact: Dana West, King County Wastewater Treatment Division Community Services, dana.west@kingcounty.gov, 206-477-5536 or TTY: 711.

# Alternative formats available 206-477-5371 TTY relay: 711

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