Clark County Clean Water Commission

October 9, 2024

Hybrid Meeting





CLEAN WATER COMMISSION

CWC Members:

Tracy Ceravolo Gee Creek Watershed

Alejandra Cortes Salmon Creek Watershed

Glen DeWillie, Vice Chair Lacamas Watershed

Ted Gathe, Chair Burnt Bridge Creek Watershed

Vacant TBD Watershed

Vacant TBD Watershed

Kate Perkins North Fork Lewis River Watershed

Rudy Salakory Vancouver Lake / Lake River Watershed

Phil Struck Salmon Creek Watershed

Clark County Staff Liaison: Alice Millward

Program Assistant Phone: 564.397.5267 Email:alice.millward@clark.wa.gov

2024 Regular Meetings:

Feb. 7, 2024 April 3, 2024 June 5, 2024 Aug. 7, 2024 Oct. 2, 2024 Dec. 4, 2024

2024 Special Meetings:

New CWC Orientation
July Bus Tour
October Vancouver Lake Symposium

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, October 2, 2024 - 6:00 pm Public Service Center (PSC) Conference Room #698 1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver, WA 98666

1. CALL TO ORDER - Chair Gathe

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

- a. Roll Call and Introductions
- Approve August 7, 2024, Meeting Summary **

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS SUBMITTED:

The public is encouraged to participate in this hybrid meeting in following ways:

- Attend in person at the PSC Conference Room #898
- Submit comments to cleanwater@clark.wa.gov by 12pm on 10/02/2024
 By phone ±1 (213) 262-7043 Meeting ID: 947510131#
- By phone ±1 (213) 262-7043 Meeting ID: 9475101314
 By computer: Join the meeting here

- a. 2024 CWC Work Plan
 - 1) Rate Study Support Work Group
 - Vancouver Lake Symposium Work Group (Gathe Lead)
 - 3) Code Revision Work Group

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS / ACTIONS

- 4) Environmental Justice and Watershed Health Work Group
- b. 2025 CWC Work Plan
 - 1) Recap of 2023 Annual Report Work Session

5. NEW BUSINESS / ACTIONS

- a. 6-Year Clean Water Capital Plan Jeff Schnabel **
- Letters of Support for 4 Grant Applications (2SFAP, Cougar, CBP3)
- c. RFP Updates: Bioretention, SMAP, Suds Creek
- d. Possible Increase of CWC Membership and Nonvoting Members **

6. CLEAN WATER DIVISION UPDATES

- a. Manager's Update Devan Rostorfer
 - 1) Rate Study Recap
 - 2) Video of Bus Tour
- Staff Liaison Report Alice Millward
 - 1) 2025 Commissioner Recruitment Process Update
 - 2) Miscellaneous Updates

7. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION / COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

ADJOURN – Chair Gathe



Note: An audio/video recording of this meeting will be available through the county website at: https://www.clark.wa.gov/public-works/clean-water-commission





Approval of Minutes

- August 7, 2024



October 9, 2024

Public Comment



Unfinished Business / Actions



Vancouver Lake Symposium Work Group





Thursday, Oct. 17

Vancouver Water Resources Education Center



Rate Study Work Group



Community Listening Sessions



We want to hear from you!

What Clean Water services are most important in our community?

Learn how Clean Water services are funded.

¡Queremos saber de usted! ¿Qué servicios de agua limpia son más importantes en nuestra comunidad? Conozca cómo se financian los servicios de Agua Limpia.

Мы хотим услышать ваше мнение! Какие услуги по обеспечению чистой водой являются наиболее важными в нашем сообществе? Узнайте, как финансируются услуги «Чистая вода».

Ми хочемо почути від вас! Які послуги з чистої води є найважливішими в нашій громаді? Дізнайтеся, як фінансуються послуги з чистої води.

Stormwater Rate Study

- Wednesday, September 11 @ 5:30-7:30 p.m.
 Washington Grange #82, 7701 NE Ward Rd., Vancouver, WA 98682.
- Monday, September 16 @ 6:00-8:00 p.m.
 Virtual Meeting, Online only.
- Thursday, September 19 @ 5:30-7:30 p.m.
 Salmon Creek Elementary School, 1601 NE 129th St. #3168,
 Vancouver, WA 98685.



Scan with your camera phone to go

Spanish Language Services Available







Coverage by Columbian

Clark County Council to review report on county stormwater rates, possible increase

Updated 1 day ago

Third and final listening session on issue set for Thursday



A Clark County Public Works crew replaces filter cartridges in an underground vault on Hazel Dell Avenue. Public Works' clean water division is proposing new stormwater rates to keep pace with required services. (Contributed by Clark County Public Works)



Bus Tour highlighting Clean Water Division

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TDDjxUBiEAo



Protecting waterways with Clark County Clean Water



ClarkCoWa 2.9K subscribers



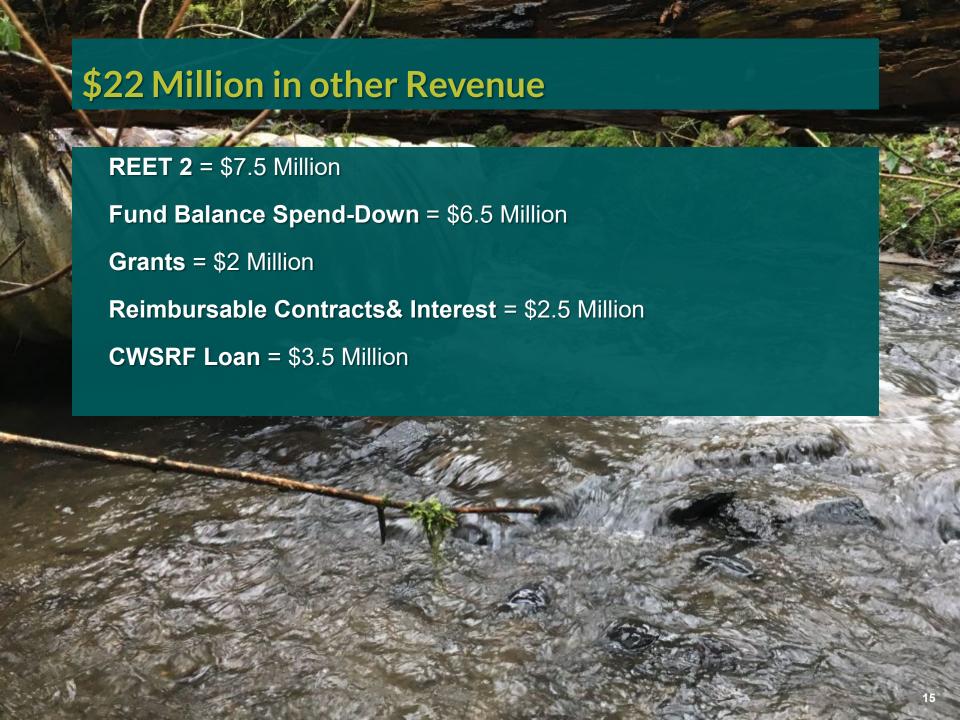


120 views Sep 13, 2024

Learn about the services Clark County Clean Water provides to protect and restore water quality by watching this recap of a bus tour given to county leaders.









Clean Water Levels of Service

Mandated Services

Base level of service

Clean Water Act

Stormwater Permit

Compliance

Recommended Services

Proactive level of service

Prevent infrastructure failure

Extend life of infrastructure

Improve infrastructure function

Mitigate public safety risks

Help save money overtime

Additional Services

High level of service

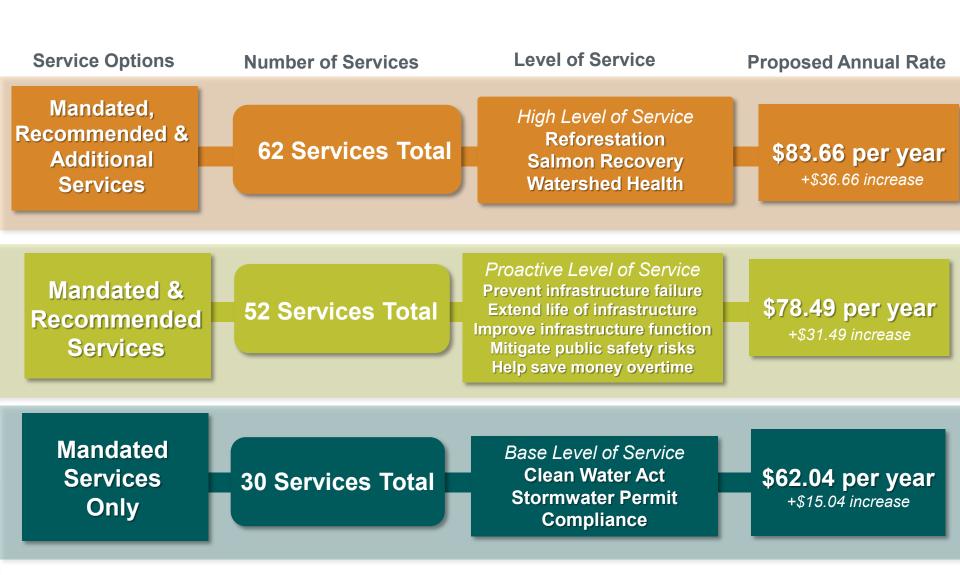
Reforestation

Salmon Recovery

Watershed Health

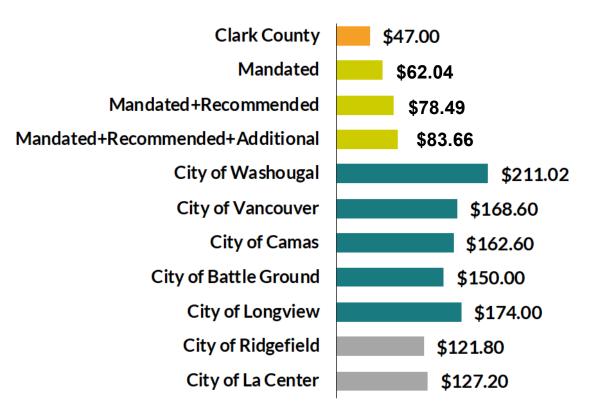
More Stormwater Retrofits

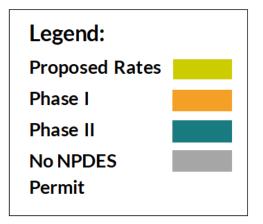
Final Stormwater Rate Recommendation



Clark County has lowest Stormwater Rates

2023 Annual Stormwater Fee Rates











REQUESTED ACTION - Option B

Proposed Stormwater Rates and Charges

Land Use Category	Annual Stormwater Rate Inside UGA	Annual Stormwater Rate Outside UGA
No. 1 Single-family residential small lots	\$78.49	\$58.45
No. 2 Single-family residential large lots More than 0.5 acre to 1 acre 5 acres to 20 acres More than 20 acres	\$72.98 \$67.47 \$61.96 \$56.45	\$52.94 \$47.43 \$41.92 \$36.41
No. 3 Multi-family residential lots	\$78.49 X number of residential dwellings	\$58.45 X number of residential dwellings
No. 4 Non-residential lots ex. commercial, industrial, institutional, churches, hospitals, airports, utilities, schools, golf courses, roads, railroads, and associated rights-of-way	\$78.49 X number of base units or portion thereof	\$58.45 X number of base units or portion thereof
No. 5 State highway	Subject to RCW 90.03.525	Subject to RCW 90.03.525



Commission Letter of Support

- Recommends all service level rate increase.
- Moving beyond mandated regulatory services.
- Inspection, maintenance and operation of infrastructure.
- Proactive asset management and longerterm capital plan.
- Assistance through the development, construction, and building process.
- Lake management activities.
- Additional monitoring services.
- Increased education, outreach, and technical assistance.



www.clark.wa.gov

1300 Franklin Street PO Box 9810 Vancouver, WA 98666-9810 564.397.5267

September 27, 2024

Clark County Council 1300 Franklin St. Vancouver, WA 98666

Dear Clark County Council,

The Clark County Clean Water Commission (the Commission) wants to thank you for your time and consideration on the 2025-2029 Stormwater Rate Study and sharing your input on what clean water services are the most important to provide to residents (and ratepayers) in Clark County.

Recommendation

At the Public Hearing on October 1, 2024, where council will consider the 2025-2029 Stormwater Rate Study and fixing of stormwater rates and charges, the Clean Water Commission strongly recommends that Clark County Council adopts the top stormwater rate for mandated, recommended, and additional services, which is up to \$86.48 for 2025 to 2029.

Justification

Adoption of this rate top rate of \$86.48 will enable the Clean Water Division to implement 62 new, improved, or enhanced stormwater services over the next five years. This includes improved delivery of mandated services required under the federal Clean Water Act and Washington State's Phase I National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Stormwater Permit. It will also enable the County to make new, proactive investments to address aging infrastructure, by beginning to inspect the over 500 miles of underground pipe for the first time in County history. Additionally, the new stormwater rate will address community feedback from the County's stormwater survey that prioritized the need to implement enhanced services beyond stormwater compliance and infrastructure asset management—such as implementing more nature-based solutions, wetland restoration projects, and focusing more on salmon recovery, lake management, and reforesting the County's watershed



Next Steps

- Multifamily Rate Reductions
- Re-calculate single-family residential & commercial
- WSDOT stormwater fees?
- Re-schedule public hearing for rate adoption

Note: GMA Compliance hearing on October 22



Environmental Justice & Watershed Health Work Group



2025 CWC Work Plan and 2023 Annual Report Recap



Recommendations for 2025



- Support rate increase to move beyond mandated services only.
- Focus on reducing watershed nutrient loading.
- Collaboration with Public Health on septic systems.
- Annual Workplan Collaboration:
 - Planning Commission, DEAB, Climate Advisory Group, other County Advisory Boards





2025 CWC Work Plan

Council Chair Medvigy Discussion, Questions, Priorities:

- 1. Increased lake management Vancouver and Lacamas lakes
- 2. Increased septic systems inspections, maintenance and enforcement.
- 3. Education and outreach on nutrient loading and phosphate filtration.
- 4. Concerned about over-usage of water and negative impacts on local aquafer.
- 5. Creation of a civilian volunteer program similar to police ride along program for Clean water.



2025 CWC Work Plan

Councilor Marshall Discussion, Questions, Priorities:

- 1. Positive discussion and collaboration between governmental entities.
- 2. Vancouver Lake very complex and complicated issue.
- 3. Outcomes from lake algae treatments.
- 4. Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery.
- 5. She would like to learn more about the outcomes from various lake algae treatments.
- 6. Impacts of septic system: Interested in future legislation for sewer system connection funding.
- 7. Septic system more collaboration with Health Dept., Conservation District, and Clean Water.
- 8. More construction stormwater enforcement due to impact.
- 9. Reintroduction of beavers
- 10. Hopes for another bus tour in the future.

2025 CWC Work Plan

Councilor Bowerman Discussion, Questions, Priorities:

- 1. Emphasizing excellence on mandated services before expansion to other services.
- 2. Increased emphasis on collaboration with others.
- 3. Questions on Lake Treatment and aeration of lakes.



New Business / Actions



2025-2030 Stormwater Capital Plan and Program Update

Clark County Clean Water Commission

Jeff Schnabel

October 9, 2024



2024 Stormwater Capital Summary

Post-Construction Establishment -

- Reforestation
 - Schriber Reforestation

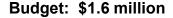
Construction phase – 7 projects

- Water quality
 - NE 78th Street at NE 13th and NE 16th Avenue
- Reforestation
 - Salmon Creek Greenway @ Cougar Creek
- Repair
 - Merritt's Hideaway SWF
 - Philbrook Farms Tract D (Phase 1 controlled-access fence)
 - Wilding Park SWF*
 - Mayer's Terrace SWF*
 - Lindemann Easement SWF*

Design phase - 9 projects

Planning activities

- Reforestation planning
 - Salmon Creek test plots
- Sub-basin retrofit planning
 - LaLonde Creek









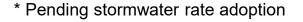
2025-2030 Project Matrix and Priorities

Priorities

- Required capital repair projects (>\$25,000)
- Water quality treatment in lower Salmon Creek tributaries (Cougar, Suds, Tenny, 114th Street, LaLonde)
- Reforestation of county lands
- Property acquisition for stormwater benefit

Project Matrix

- Budget and schedule adjustments since 2024 adopt
- Two new projects from LaLonde sub-basin retrofit study
- Eight new required repairs including Philbrook Farms, Velvet Acres, and Frasier Pond*
- Ramping into major repairs for detention ponds and aged-out treatment*

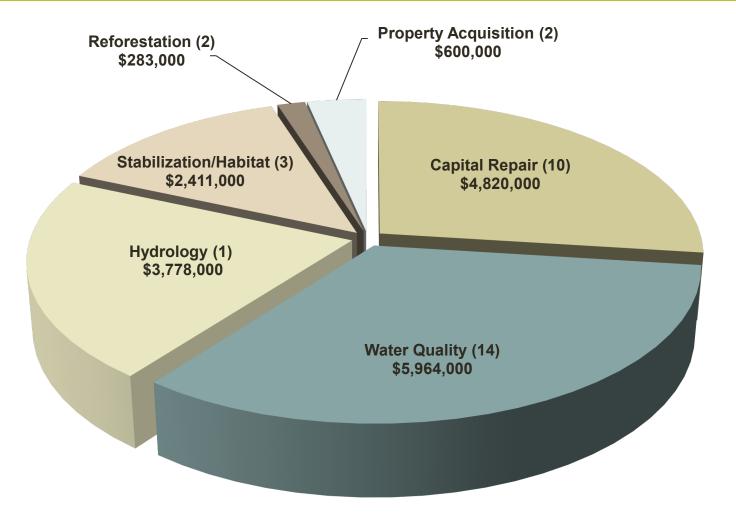






32 projects \$17.9 Million 2025-2030 Total

Project Types

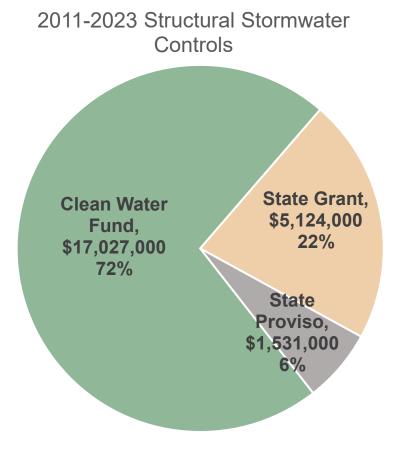




Funding

2025-2030 Funding

- > Clean Water Fund
 - **\$5,500,000**
- ➤ Real Estate Excise Tax 2 (REET 2)
 - **\$7,500,000**
- **≻**Grants
 - **\$1,500,000**
- **≻**Loans
 - > \$3,400,000 (20-year at 0.4%)





2025 Look-ahead - projects

Construction phase – 5 projects

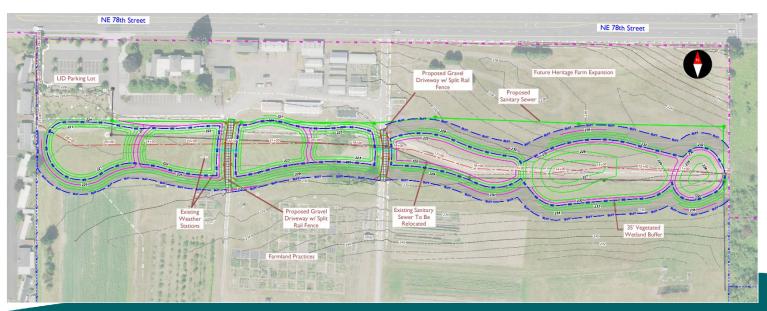
- Restoration/Hydrology
 - Heritage Farm Wetland Restoration
- Water quality
 - Hwy 99 (102nd to 104th Street) WQ
 - NE 99th Street (I-5 to Hazel Dell Ave) WQ
 - NW 99th Street (NW 11th Ave to Cougar Creek) WQ
- Reforestation
 - Schriber NW

Post-Construction Establishment

- Reforestation
 - Schriber Reforestation

Design phase - 8 projects

Budget: \$5.4 million





2025 Look-ahead - planning

- Evaluate impacts of final 2024 Municipal Stormwater Permit
 - ➤ Increased point requirement 1000 (January 2023 December 2027)
 - 400 Constructed/Completed; 600 Design (60%)
 - Changes to point calculations and sweeping credits
- Continue sub-basin retrofit planning
 - Support lake and watershed plan implementation
- Reforestation program planning
- Asset management*
 - Capital repair/replacement
- Resume long-term capital planning (20-year)*



*pending stormwater rate adoption

Thank You!

Comments and Questions

Clark County Public Works
Clean Water Division
1300 Franklin Street
Vancouver, WA 98666
cleanwater@clark.wa.gov



Thank You!

Comments and Questions

Clark County Public Works Clean Water Division 1300 Franklin Street Vancouver, WA 98666 cleanwater@clark.wa.gov



Vote on Support Letters:

6-year Capital Plan *
NE Hwy 99 (78th to 86th) *
NE Hwy 99 (Hazel Dell Place to 102nd)
Cougar Creek
CBP3 Grant



RFP Updates

Stormwater Code & Manual Vancouver Lake Management Plan Bioretention Maintenance Stormwater Management Action Plan Suds Creek Design Services



RFPs / Professional Services Contracts



Vancouver Lake Management Plan Implementation – In Progress



Stormwater Code and Manual Update – *Done!*



Bioretention Maintenance Plan – *Done!*



Design Services Support & Stormwater Management Action Plan - *November 2024*



Division Manager's Update



2024 Bus Tour Video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jJRNeg3RXGk



Discussion: Possible Increase of CWC Nonvoting Members

(Possible Vote)



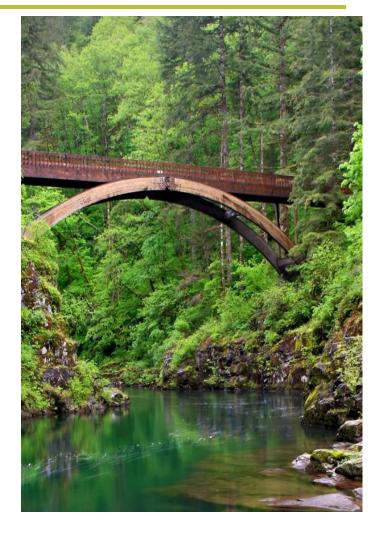
Staff Liaison Report



Staff Liaison's Report Overview

New Commissioner Recruitment

- Miscellaneous Updates
 - Attendance (Quorum / In Person)
 - 2024 Annual Report





Roundtable Discussion Commissioner's Comments



Meeting Adjourned

Thank you!



Appendix Slides

2023 Annual Report Aug. 21, 2024, Work Session with Council



Clark County Clean Water Commission

2023 Annual Report & 2024 Work Plan

Ted Gathe, Chair Devan Rostorfer, Division Manager

August 21, 2024



Clark County Clean Water Commission

The Clean Water Commission is a nine-member volunteer citizen board serving in an advisory capacity to the Clark County Council on issues related to the Clean Water Division. The Clean Water Commission works with staff to review the program, implement stormwater treatment improvements, support water quality monitoring efforts, and enhance public education and outreach.



History of the Clean Water Commission

- Born from Clean Water Fee
- Represent balanced interests
- Recommendations on
 - Stormwater Management
 - Program service levels
 - Policy
 - Budget
- Create incentives
- Evaluate effectiveness
- Three-year appointed terms.
- Open, public meetings.
- Must live in Clark County.

13.30A.040 Clean water commission.

SHARE

There is hereby created a clean water commission composed of nine (9) citizens appointed by the board of county commissioners. The clean water commission shall represent a balanced interest in storm and surface water treatment and regulation. The commission shall make recommendations to the board of county commissioners on such matters as the focus of the SWMP, program service levels, financing, and policies on surface and stormwater issues. The commission shall report to the board its recommendation for creating an incentive program through which service charges may be adjusted in circumstances where property owners significantly reduce the impacts of stormwater runoff. In addition, the commission shall report annually to the board of county commissioners on the effectiveness of the stormwater management program. In order to make an annual report to the board of county commissioners, the commission shall establish the criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the program and set forth the criteria in the annual report. The annual report shall include a plan for the upcoming year in addition to evaluating the effectiveness of the program in the preceding year. Also, the report shall include a summary of revenues and expenditures by watershed, zip code or other easily identifiable geographic means. The terms of the appointees shall be staggered and be for three (3) years. Members may be reappointed to serve additional terms. (Sec. 3 of Ord. 1999-11-09)

Compile Chapter



Current Mission, Vision and Values

Mission

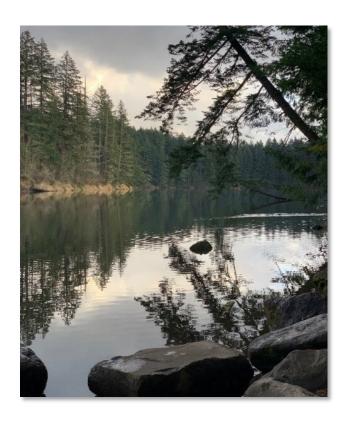
The Clean Water Commission's mission is to collaborate with Clark County residents, government entities, businesses, and non-profit organizations to enhance water quality, improve flow, and protect the ecological integrity of our watersheds.

Vision

A Clark County with self-sustaining and healthy watersheds that benefit the county's human communities, wildlife, and environment.

Core Values

Stewardship Cooperation Transparency





Current Commissioners



Name	Term Expires	Watershed
Glen DeWillie	12/31/24	Lacamas Watershed
Tracy Ceravolo	12/31/25	Gee Creek Watershed
Alejandra Cortes	12/31/26	Salmon Creek Watershed
Rudy Salakory	12/31/26	Vancouver Lake / Lake River Water
Phil Struck	12/31/26	Salmon Creek Watershed
TBD	12/31/24	TBD
Sandra Martin-Boehm	12/31/24	West Slope
Kate Perkins	12/31/25	Lewis River
Ted Gathe	12/31/25	Burnt Bridge Creek



2023 Annual Report





Clean Water Commission

ANNUAL REPORT



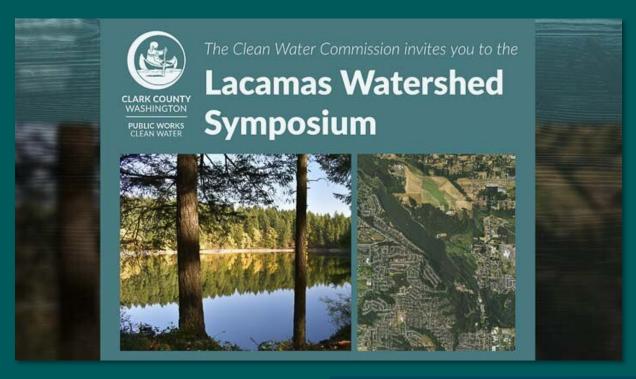




Clean Water Division 2023 REPORT

Approved April 3, 2024











City of Camas Mayor Steve Hogan



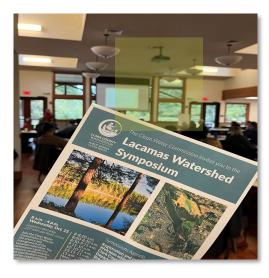
2023 CWC Accomplishments

Lacamas Symposium

- Special meeting of CWC & County Council.
- Over 100 participants
- Local, county, state & federal policy leaders attended.
- Presentations on science & data.
- Focus on implementation.













2023 CWC Accomplishments

New recruitment process

- Focus on diversity.
- Engaged 20+ community organizations.
- 10k+ interactions on social media
- Appointed 5 new members.



Are you interested in protecting water quality and healthy streams? We are accepting applications to fill three positions the Clean Water Commission!

The Clean Water Commission is a nine-member group that makes recommendations to the Clark County Council about services and policies protecting watershed health throughout the community. The commission collaborates with residents, agencies, businesses and nonprofit organizations. The commission meets 6:30-8:30 p.m. on the first... See more





2025 Recruitment is Live!







INTERVIEWSSEPTEMBER 16



APPOINTMENT OCTOBER 2024



Other 2023 Accomplishments

- Letters of Support for Grants
 - Heritage Farm
 - Cougar Creek
 - Follow the Water Lawn Care Education & Outreach
- Revitalized energy & expertise in Commission
- New Division Manager
- Updated Commissioner Onboarding



Thank you, Alice Millward!

Clean Water Commission
Staff Liaison





2024 Work Plan



2024 Clean Water Commission Work Plan

Focus:

- Clean Water Rate Study
- Vancouver Lake

Intrinsic Goal:

Environmental Justice & Watershed Health









Rate Study Support

Regular updates from Clean Water Division

- **February** Rate Study Kickoff
- **April** Survey on Clean Water Priorities
- June Mandated, Recommend & Additional Service Gaps
- August Final Funding Gap & Draft Stormwater Rates





Rate Study Letter of Support

- Moving beyond mandated regulatory services.
- Inspection, maintenance and operation of infrastructure.
- Proactive asset management and longer-term capital plan.
- Assistance through the development, construction, and building process.
- Lake management activities.
- Additional monitoring services.
- Increased education, outreach, and technical assistance.



www.clark.wa.gov

1300 Franklin Street PO Box 9810 Vancouver, WA 98666-9810 564.397.5267

April 19, 2024

Clark County Council 1300 Franklin St. Vancouver, WA 98666

Dear Clark County Council,

The Clark County Clean Water Commission (the Commission) wants to thank you for your time and consideration on what clean water services are most important to you and the ratepayers in Clark County. As a Commission, we recognize that the Council is nearing a critical decision point regarding the current Clean Water fee and what services the Clean Water Division will provide into the future.

While the Clean Water fee has previously helped the County comply with stormwater permit requirements under the Phase I National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) in the past, the fee has not keep tace with the County's increasing permit requirements or the need to address emerging risks that threaten our stormwater system.

Aging infrastructure, a changing climate, and rapid population growth are just some of the major risks we must consider when deciding what services, the Clean Water Division will provide into the future, and how much funding is needed to provide these vital services.

The County's 20-year population projection is set to exceed 700,000 residents by 2045, and understanding the County's infrastructure shortfalls in projected growth areas will be paramount. At the same time, the County's resources to manage existing stormwater infrastructure are becoming more stressed, which can increase flooding risk and other challenges with degraded water quality. With the Department of Commerce's new mandate to address climate change as part of the County's Comprehensive Plan update, it is important that the Clean Water Division is simultaneously planning to manage stormwater and provide clean water services in a manner that will systemically ensure that critical infrastructure such as hospitals, emergency services, schools, bridges, roads, and homes, are not at risk during intense periods of rain that overwhelm aged and undersized stormwater systems.



Rate Study Next Steps

Community Listening Sessions

- September 11
- September 16
- September 19

Final Work Session

September 25

Rate Adoption Hearing

October 1



2024 Bus Tour

































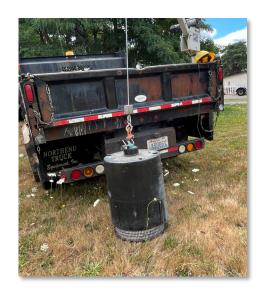
July 2024 Bus Tour

















Thank you for attending!





Focus on Vancouver Lake

- Friends of Vancouver Lake
- Legislative Proviso
- Re-engage Technical Advisory Group (TAG)
 - *Meeting #1* = June 12th
 - Meeting #2 = September 18th



First Vancouver Lake Treatment in history









Remainder of 2024

- 2024 Rate Study Support + Vancouver Lake Symposium
- > 2025-2030 6-year Capital Plan Review
- **2025** Budget Review
- 2025 Stormwater Management Plan
- △ 2025 Clean Water Commission Work Plan
- **2025-2029** New Permit Requirements



Next Meetings

2024 Meetings

- October 2, 2024
- October 17, 2024 Vancouver Lake Symposium
- December 4, 2024

2025 Meetings

- January 2025 Onboarding
- February 5, 2025
- April 2, 2025
- June 4, 2025
- August 6, 2025
- October 1, 2025
- December 3, 2025



Clean Water Commission

2025 Recommendations to Council



Recommendations for 2025



- Support rate increase to move beyond mandated services only.
- Focus on reducing watershed nutrient loading.
- Collaboration with Public Health on septic systems.
- Annual Workplan Collaboration:
 - Planning Commission, DEAB, Climate Advisory Group, other County Advisory Boards



2025 Council Priorities

for Clean Water Commission





Thank you!

Clark County Clean Water Commission

Clark County Public Service Center

1300 Franklin Street • PO Box 5000

Vancouver, WA 98666-5000

