

# the Flow

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## King County Brightwater Project

by Commissioner Margaret Wiggins



Brightwater is the newest wastewater treatment plant being built by King County and is located in unincorporated Snohomish County on SR-9 just north of SR-522 in Woodinville. This new 114-acre treatment plant will help to reduce the stress on the Puget Sound ecosystem that is showing increased levels of pollution. Fewer septic systems will be permitted, as more housing will be

connected to the new system.

Siting the Brightwater Treatment Plant, which began in 1999, was a long and involved process. The Plant is currently on schedule for completion in 2010. In addition to the treatment plant facilities, the site

will include many acres of publicly accessible open space, trails and salmon habitat restoration designed to fit into and enhance the surrounding neighborhood.

Forty of

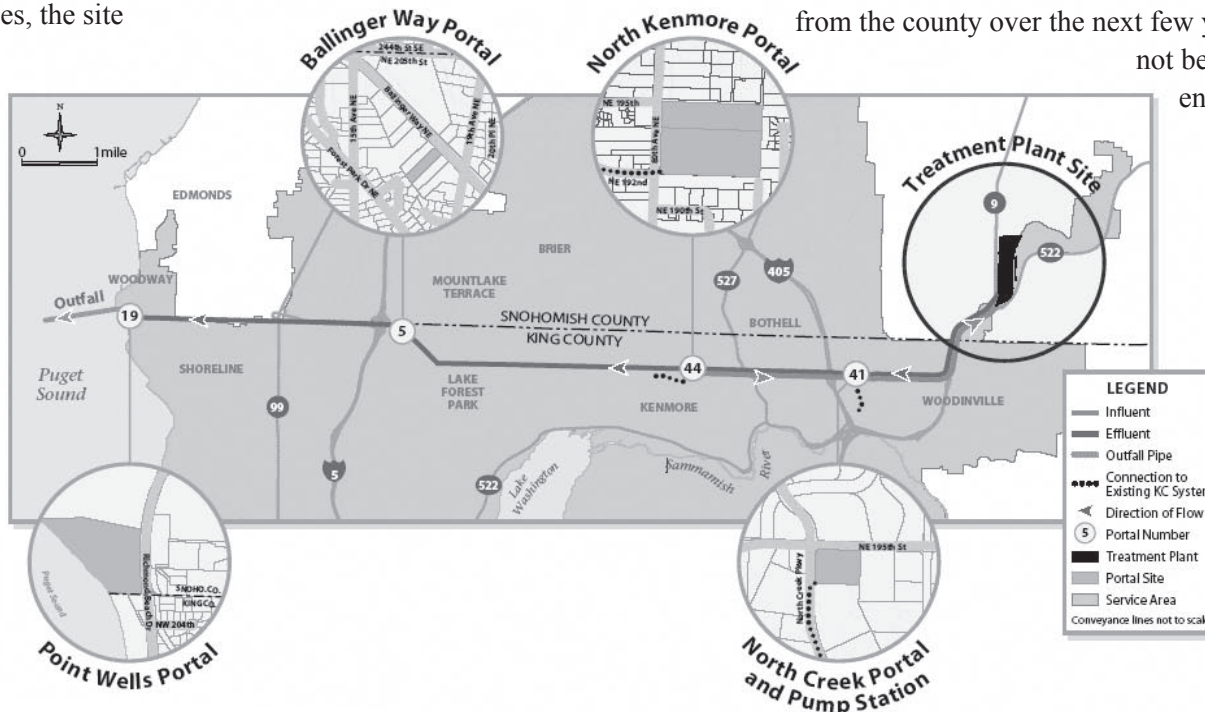
these acres are at the north end of the site and are called the North Habitat Area which includes native wildlife habitat, restored salmon streams, an educational field house, trails and boardwalks.

From the new plant, there will be a large tunnel running deep underground to the Puget Sound. There will be four portals to access the tunnel located between the treatment plant and the outfall in Puget Sound (see map below). The price of the new plant has been a moving target with a generally upward trend. The Plant will be paid for by new sewer connections through a capacity charge paid directly to the county and through rate increases for everyone already hooked to a sewer system line. The King County Council was able to hold off on a rate increase for the year 2008, but large increases are expected

from the county over the next few years. It may

not be cheap, but the end result will be

a great benefit to the Puget Sound region for years to come. For more information on the Brightwater Project go to: <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/WTD/brightwater>.



*The Commissioners and Staff of Northshore Utility District wish You and Your Family a Safe, Healthy and Happy Holiday Season!*

# NUD Customers Received Over 38K in Rebates



In 2006, 419 of you took advantage of the various incentive programs offered by the District and received \$38,600 in rebates. In addition, many also took advantage of the free low-flow showerhead exchange available at the District office.

These rebates and water saving devices are offered to our customers through the “Regional 1% Water Conservation Program.” The District takes part in the program as a wholesale customer of Seattle Public Utilities. These rebates and free water saving devices are provided by Seattle Public Utilities. The District pays for them as part of the wholesale cost of water.

There are a total of four programs for which our customers are eligible:

- ◆ *Wash Wise High Efficiency Clothes Washer Program* – Depending on the washer you purchase, rebates can range from \$25 to \$100.
- ◆ *Multi-family Toilet Replacement Program* – This \$80 rebate is for replacing an older toilet with a new water-efficient toilet. New toilets use 1.6 gallons per flush (GPF) and older toilets use between 3.5 and 7 GPF.
- ◆ *Water Efficient Irrigation Improvement Program (residential and commercial)* – There are rebates for upgrades made to existing systems (\$100-\$450), new systems (\$50) and commercial rebates for both new and old systems with an assessment.
- ◆ *Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional Efficiency Program (Water Smart Technology and Commercial Pre-Rinse Spray Heads)* – These rebates have many categories, from toilets to medical equipment, ranging from \$80 to a maximum of 50% of the project cost.

We hope these programs will encourage all of our customers to take advantage of the great water saving products that are available to help conserve our water and cut down on water bills. For a complete listing of all rebates available, go to: [www.savingwater.org/rebates.htm](http://www.savingwater.org/rebates.htm). ◆

## Phones 4 Life

Northshore Fire Department’s Kenmore Station, located at 18030 – 73rd Avenue NE, is a drop-off site for unused cell phones for the *Phones for Life* program. Phones for Life, Inc. is the leading, nation-wide non-profit organization seeking to improve the lives of senior citizens, victims of domestic violence and adults with serious disabilities through cell phone technology. Phones for Life is the only non-profit organization currently distributing free cell phones with minutes. Phones for Life relies on cell phone donations by individuals, corporations and schools nationwide. For more information, call us at (425) 486-2784 or visit [www.phones4life.org](http://www.phones4life.org). ◆

## Tips to Help Prevent Water Pipes from Freezing

- ◆ Insulate exposed pipes and faucets.
- ◆ Disconnect and drain outdoor hoses.
- ◆ It is recommended to drain in-ground lawn sprinkler systems. Check manufacturer’s instructions for the best way to do this.
- ◆ Keep garage doors closed to shut out the cold air.
- ◆ Block off outside air vents where plumbing is present.
- ◆ Keep the water meter box lid closed. Cold air could get into the box and increase the chance of freezing the water in the meter. If the inspection cover or meter box lid is missing, please contact our Operations department at 425-398-4400.

*If Your Water Pipes Freeze...* Wrap the frozen pipes with towels and repeatedly pour hot water over the towels until the pipes thaw. Once the pipes are thawed, remove the rags and rewrap the pipes with dry insulation material to prevent refreezing.

*Find Your Main Water Cut-off Valve... Look for this now!* Imagine the panic, if water was pouring through the house from a broken pipe. Locate the main water cut-off valve, mark it, and make sure everyone in the house knows where it is. If you are unable to find the shut-off valve, and you have water leaking from a broken pipe, we can help you shut off the water. Just call the District at 425-398-4400. ◆

Northshore  
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Commissioners:

Don Ellis  
President

Trudy Rolla  
Secretary

Bruce Gardiner  
Commissioner

Margaret Wiggins  
Commissioner

Kinnon Williams  
Commissioner

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Board of  
Commissioner  
Meetings  
are held at the  
District Office the  
first and third  
Monday of each  
month at 6 p.m.

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