A Word About Our New Name and Look
Kitsap County Surface and Stormwater Management (SSWM) was rebranded to Clean Water Kitsap. It’s a new name, new look, the same commitment to clean water and effective stormwater management.

Stormwater Management – A Multi-Partnership Approach
The program works to protect people, property and natural resources by reducing flooding and stormwater runoff, preserving groundwater quality, restoring fish habitat, and preventing stormwater pollution.

The Built Environment – Reducing the Impact to Local Waterways
Poorly functioning stormwater systems are upgraded or replaced; existing facilities are inspected and cleaned. Roads are swept and catch basins cleaned to remove potentially toxic sediments from flowing into waterways during storms.

The Land – Working Towards Better Ground
Landowners were a key partner in 2013 to protect streams and Puget Sound – installing 38 rain gardens in their yards, building 7,000 feet of fencing on their farms, improving 1,700 feet of streams and habitat in their backyard.

The Water - The Same Commitment to Water Quality
The final destination of clean water is local surface and groundwater, and Puget Sound.


Your yearly stormwater management fees pay for this comprehensive clean water program – reducing flooding, protecting groundwater, enhancing fish habitat and preventing stormwater pollution. See inside for program highlights.
Improving the Stormwater System

The Capital Facilities and Retrofit Programs implement small and large construction projects to reduce flooding, improve water quality, upgrade fish passage, and enhance habitat.

Project Highlights

Fish Passage Improvements in the Clear Creek Basin, Silverdale
Fish will have an easier time accessing upstream habitat. Culverts at Mountainview and Shadow Glen Roads were replaced. The culvert at Sunde Road was removed, and with neighborhood support, the road removed and replaced with a walking/emergency access vehicle bridge. Clear Creek Elementary students helped celebrate and have a new place to walk for environmental field trips.

Steele Creek Regional Pond Construction, Brownsville
When property adjacent to an undersized poor quality pond became available, Public Works saw an opportunity to slow down and treat water from over 70 acres of nearby homes and roads. A two pond system settles out pollutants and treats the water biologically with an enriched soil and native plant basin.

Incorporating Oyster Shells to Remove Toxic Metals, South County
Copper from stormwater entering our streams is potentially harmful to fish. Our neighbors to the south in Vancouver showed us a new way to cleaner runoff – so check out the bioswale at the South County Road Shop off of Lund Road.

A summary of our projects can be found at www.kitsapgov.com/sswm/maint.htm

Planning for the Future

Clear Creek Floodplain Restoration
This project proposes to remove two undersized culverts, enhance over 3,200 feet of stream, and recreate 7 acres of wetlands, returning the creek to a more natural state.

Manchester Stormwater Park
A high capacity water quality treatment facility will be incorporated into a new public space for the community.

Preventing Pollution from Entering Our Waterways

In 2013, Kitsap County removed over 1,700 tons of potentially harmful solid material from catch basins, vaults, stormwater ponds, and roads. Lab tests show that the following pollutants were removed from the storm system:

- 529 pounds of toxic metals (copper, lead and zinc)
- 304 gallons of oil
Good News for Water Quality

Kitsap Public Health District works in areas of documented fecal pollution, with the goal of restoring surface waters for safe recreation and shellfishing. Over the last 5 years staff have worked with the communities surrounding Sinclair Inlet. Over 100 property owners fixed broken septic systems, built livestock manure bins, or fenced livestock away from streams. These actions have resulted in a cleaner Sinclair Inlet and streams, most notably Sacco and Karcher Creeks.

Septic Care for Healthy Waterways

Public Works and the Kitsap Public Health District partnered to offer three Septic Sense Workshops in 2013. Over 100 attendees learned how septic systems work, how to care for them, signs of failure and what to do when they fail. Attendees were provided information on low interest loan programs that are available to help finance repairs, and how properly functioning septic systems protect water quality and public health. Look for a schedule of 2014 workshops at www.cleanwaterkitsap.org.

Rain Gardens and More – Enhance Your Yard

In 2013 the Board of County Commissioners agreed with the Kitsap Conservation District that a broader choice of green stormwater solutions for cost-share was essential for protecting Puget Sound. The 100th program rain garden was built, with the help of the popular “Digging Days” program. Now, you can receive ½ the cost of your project to infiltrate runoff up to $1,000. To schedule a free site visit go to www.cleanwaterkitsap.org “Rain Gardens”. A special note for commercial properties – you are eligible, too.

Community Members Improve Their Backyard Streams

Kitsap residents worked to improve fish passage and habitat of over 1,700 feet of stream. The Backyard Habitat Grant Program offers up to $10,000 for each project. Check out the project at Strawberry Creek in Old Town Silverdale.

Volunteers in Our Community

WSU Kitsap Extension, with their focus on continuing education opportunities and spirit of community involvement, provided a variety of trainings and workshops. WSU trains the green industry – those that professionally design and install rain gardens – with a two day workshop in October each year. Extension provided the popular Stream Stewards Training, including the day of learning about Salmon attended by 43 citizens, who many went on to become streamside docents at the popular Kitsap Salmon Tours. Extension volunteers helped partners with stream sampling projects, Kitsap Water Festival and Salmon in the Classroom Field Trips for local students.

Engaging Kitsap Citizens

The community has many opportunities to be part of the stormwater solution:

- Learn more about Kitsap streams from WSU Extension continuing education courses
- Install a Mutt Mitt pet waste station in your neighborhood
- Receive a site visit from KCD staff to learn how you can soak up runoff and protect Puget Sound
- Enhance your backyard stream for fish, or organize a community environmental project

Over 7,000 Kitsap citizens participated in outreach programs.
Clean Water Kitsap: How Your Stormwater Fees Are Spent

The program is funded through a fee assessed to each developed property and road located within unincorporated Kitsap County. In 2013 the fee was $73.50 per year for a single-family residence.

Fund Program Allocations

2013 Stormwater Division Budget

- Maintenance and Operations: 29%
- Projects and Improvements: 24%
- Education and Outreach: 13%
- Program Management: 13%
- Debt Service: 6%
- Agency Partners: 3%

Property Tax Statement

- ASSESSMENT: 2013 $75.50, 2014 $80.00
- Noxious Weed: 2013 $2.00, 2014 $2.00
- Stormwater Management: 2013 $73.50, 2014 $78.00
- Asmt Total: 2013 $75.50, 2014 $80.00

Spills happen. Help us find them.
Call Kitsap 1 at 360-337-5777
Call pollution.kitsapgov.com

Contact Your Clean Water Kitsap partners:
www.cleanwaterkitsap.org

Kitsap County Public Works
360.337.5777 - www.kitsapgov.com/sswm
Stormwater Infrastructure Construction, Maintenance/Repair, Watershed Health Monitoring, Public Education

Kitsap Public Health District
360.337.5235 - www.kitsappublichealth.org
Septic System Information, Shellfish and Swimming Advisories, Public Health Water Quality Monitoring

Kitsap Conservation District
360.337.7171 - www.kitsapcd.org
Farm Management, Homeowner Rain Gardens, Backyard Habitat Grants

Washington State University Kitsap County Extension
360.337.7157 - www.ext100.wsu.edu/kitsap
Stream Stewards, Rain Garden Mentors, Training Professionals

Contact Your Clean Water Kitsap partners:
www.cleanwaterkitsap.org

Get 2013 and 2014 property tax statements online at
www.kitsapgov.com/tax

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