

King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks Wastewater Treatment Division CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

THE COMMUNITY

Located on Puget Sound in Washington State, King County covers 2,134 square miles and is nearly twice as large as the average county in the United States. With more than 1.8 million people, it also ranks as the 14th most populous county in the nation.

King County is the largest business center in both Washington state and the Pacific Northwest, with cutting-edge companies and an unmatched spirit of innovation. The county is home to some of the most successful businesses in the country, including Amazon.com, The Boeing Company, Costco, Expedia, Microsoft, Nordstrom, Starbucks, Safeco and many more. The highly educated workforce, exceptional quality of life, entrepreneurial culture and central location attract many companies to this area.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT DIVISION

King County provides regional and local services to all residents of the county and people who live in the cities, including regionwide wastewater treatment services.

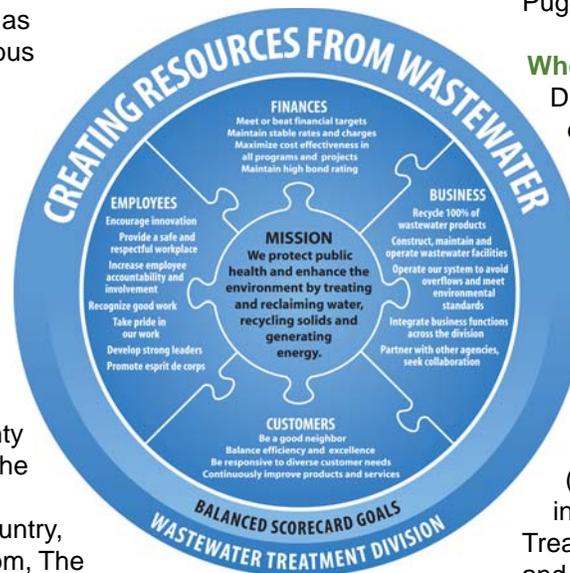
Mission

The King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) protects public health and enhances the environment by treating and reclaiming wastewater, recycling solids and generating energy.

residents in King County, parts of Pierce and Snohomish counties and Vashon Island. The division also maintains and operates the equipment and facilities that collect and treat wastewater before it is reused or released into Puget Sound.

Who We Are

Division employees plan, design, build, maintain and operate the regional treatment plants, pipelines, pump stations and facilities that comprise the wastewater treatment system. The major facilities are the West Point Treatment Plant (next to Discovery Park in Seattle), South Treatment Plant (in Renton) and the Vashon Treatment Plant (on Vashon Island). Currently, King County is designing and building two new plants—the Brightwater Treatment Plant (in Woodinville) and the Carnation Treatment Plant (for the City of Carnation).



Vision

WTD's vision, *Creating Resources from Wastewater*, builds on King County's successful record of providing reliable 24/7 wastewater services for more than 40 years. The vision, which focuses on the core areas of business, finances, customers and employees, guides the division's actions to turn treated wastewater into valuable, recyclable resources for the community and the environment.

What We Do

WTD creates resources from the wastewater it treats for nearly 1.4 million

NEW JOB OPPORTUNITIES

King County's WTD has a proud tradition of providing outstanding wastewater services and a reputation for innovation and excellence. Dramatic growth in the Puget Sound region during the past 20 years has meant increased demand for wastewater services.

WTD's
Vision:

Creating

Resources

from

Wastewater



King County

SYSTEM FACTS AT A GLANCE*

- Wholesale customers: 34 (17 cities and 17 sewer utilities)
- Population served: 1.4 million
- Annual budget: Operating—\$96 million; Capital—\$174 million
- Employees: 599 full-time; 34 part-time
- Electricity produced: 13.1 million kw hours
- Methane gas sold: 1.9 million therms
- Biosolids produced: 109,608 wet tons (26,144 dry tons)
- Treatment plants: 3 (2 under construction)
- Pump stations: 42
- CSO facilities: 4
- Regulator stations: 19
- Conveyance lines: 335 miles
- Sewage treated: 197.5 million gallons per day
- Septage treated: 11.7 million gallons
- Combined sewer overflow volume: 1,258 million gallons

*2006 or most recent data available



WTD uses 293 million gallons of reclaimed water annually.

WTD has responded to this demand with a \$4.5 billion capital program that has included upgrades to its two existing regional treatment plants, absorption of a smaller local treatment plant into its system (Vashon), new facilities to control combined sewer overflows and upgrades to its infrastructure of pipelines, pump stations and regulator stations.

In 2000, WTD undertook a 10-year Productivity Initiative Pilot Program to apply some of the private sector's best management practices to managing and operating the public utility. During the first five years of this effort alone, the utility saved nearly \$42.8 million for ratepayers and earned its Management Team an Excellence in Management Award in 2005 from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies.

At mid-decade, the agency focused on a new vision—*Creating Resources from Wastewater*. The vision signaled WTD's commitment to recovering and beneficially reusing the products of its wastewater treatment process, including reclaimed water, biosolids, and recovered energy and waste gases from treatment plant operations.

Using some of the best practices tools developed as a result of the Productivity Initiative, the organization re-examined the effectiveness of both its operating and capital program structure to focus on the new vision.

In late 2006, a consulting firm with extensive wastewater operations experience helped WTD conduct interviews with more than 100 internal and external stakeholders on the effectiveness of its operating program.

A similar effort was launched in spring 2007 for the capital program. Responses from more than 125 internal and external stakeholders to written questionnaires and interviews were compiled and analyzed. The division also conducted a peer review of three public agencies recognized for their effective capital delivery.

As a result, recommendations for widespread changes in how the program is structured were developed. The division's management approved implementing the recommendations in June 2007, including creating the following new staff positions:

Project Planning and Delivery Section Manager (\$92,205-116,876):

Applies management and technical knowledge to manage and oversee the work of technical subordinate supervisors and professional, technical and administrative staff. This position directs the work performed by five unit managers within the Project Planning and Delivery Section of WTD and has broad range of planning, engineering and construction responsibilities for both operating and capital projects that support wastewater treatment plants and associated facilities.

Unit Managers (5 positions) (\$87,934-\$111,462):

- **Planning and Asset Management Unit Manager**
- **Project Management Unit Manager**
- **Construction Management Unit Manager**
- **Technical Resources Unit Manager**
- **Project Controls and Contract Management Unit Manager**

These positions will supervise and direct the work of subordinate supervisors and technical, professional and administrative staff as manager of a unit within the Project Planning and Delivery Section of WTD. Assignment to any of these work units, excluding those requiring specific licensure and/or certification, may be rotated based on the business needs of the division and section.

**Resource Recovery
Section Manager**

(\$87,934-\$111,462):

Supervises and directs the work of subordinate supervisors, technical, professional and administrative staff as manager of the Resource Recovery Section. This position directs four units within the Resource Recovery Section of WTD.



WTD's \$4.5 billion capital program includes building a new treatment plant for the City of Carnation.

**Government Relations
Administrator**

(\$83,860-\$106,298):

Develops and implements programs and policies related to federal, state and local initiatives that impact WTD, including negotiating intergovernmental agreements related to wastewater treatment services.

water programs for King County's wastewater treatment plants. Leads discussions and negotiations with other jurisdictions to develop customers and new uses for the county's reclaimed water. Represents King County in a variety of planning and multi-jurisdictional efforts. This position has a key role in implementing WTD's mission and vision, *Creating Resources from Wastewater*, and in coordinating with related environmental initiatives of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks.

WTD is seeking qualified, motivated candidates who are excited about joining a talented workforce in creating the next chapter of success and innovation for the agency.

Complete job descriptions and application instructions can be found online at www.metrokc.gov/job.

**Reclaimed Water Program
Lead (Water
Quality Planner/Project
Manager)**

(\$74,483-\$94,412):

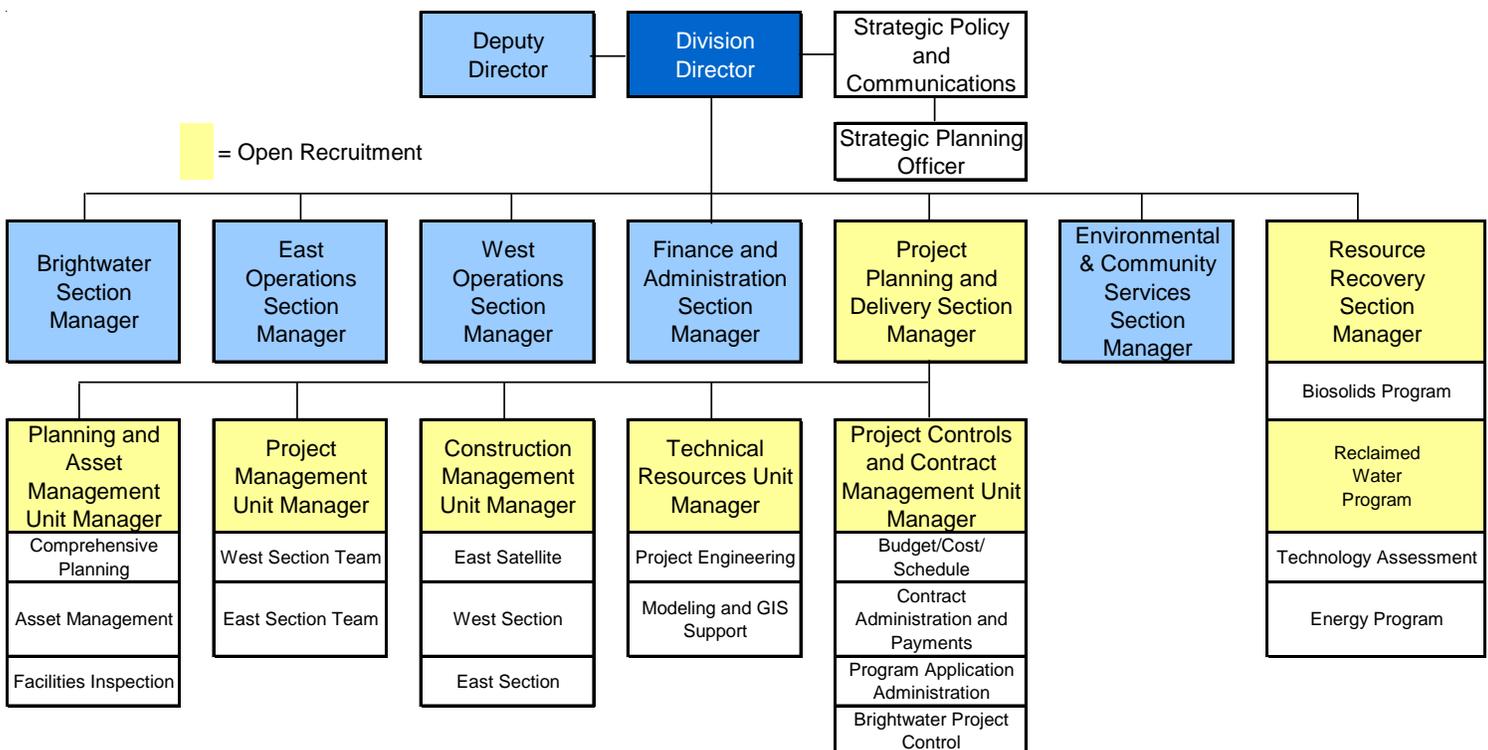
Provides planning guidance to a team responsible for developing, implementing and overseeing reclaimed

BENEFITS

King County offers an outstanding package of salary and benefits for its employees:

- Health insurance
- Dental plan
- Vision plan
- Public Employees Retirement System
- Deferred compensation
- Paid vacation, sick leave and holidays
- Life insurance plans
- Free transit pass and other transportation incentives
- Employee Assistance Program
- Employee wellness program and onsite exercise facilities
- WTD productivity pay program
- Training opportunities
- Tuition reimbursement

For details, see www.metrokc.gov/jobs/benefits.htm.



RECENT KING COUNTY WTD ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Both of WTD's regional treatment plants celebrated 40 years of providing wastewater services in 2006 and received **Platinum Peak Performance Awards** from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies for attaining five consecutive years of 100 percent compliance with effluent permit limits.
- In 2006, King County **recycled 100 percent of its biosolids**, providing enough nutrients to fertilize about 7,000 acres of farms and forests.

- Most of the **methane** produced at King County's two regional plants is captured and either reused for plant operations or sold to Puget Sound Energy as natural gas. In 2006, a **fuel-cell power project** at the Renton facility produced enough energy to power 800 homes.
- Through the use of **reclaimed water** (wastewater treated to such a high level that it can be used safely for irrigation, in industrial processes and for habitat enhancement), in 2006 King County conserved enough drinking-quality water to fill 250 Olympic-size swimming pools.
- King County and the City of Seattle joined forces in 2007 on a joint project to **clean up sediment contamination** and create a more fish-friendly environment at a superfund cleanup site along the east side of the Lower Duwamish Waterway near the Seattle suburb of Georgetown.
- The division was recognized for its **sound financial management** with an increase

in its bond rating from one major rating agency from AA- to AA and a continued high A1 rating from another. The division also ended 2006 with a greater "rate stabilization" reserve account than planned and a stronger-than-projected ratio between debt and revenue. Ratepayers' monthly sewer rates for 2007 and beyond were approved at lower-than-projected levels as a result of these sound financial management indicators.

- The division's 10-year Productivity Initiative to encourage **employee innovation, involvement and accountability** hit its halfway mark in 2005. The pilot program provides employees with financial incentives for achieving established savings targets, to be shared equally with ratepayers. Savings to ratepayers now stand at \$9.5 million, bringing total ratepayer savings since 2001 to nearly \$42.8 million.

HOW TO APPLY

- These positions are open to the general public. This recruitment may be used to fill future vacancies.
- To obtain required King County forms, contact the Application Request Line at 206-205-8782 or download from the Internet at www.metrokc.gov/jobs.
- Alternative formats available: 206-684-1280. TTY Relay: 711



King County

Department of
Natural Resources and Parks
**Wastewater Treatment
Division**

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