



KINGSTON REGIONAL STORMWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

Responses to Questions from August 09, 2023 Public Meeting

August 18, 2023

What pollutants will the facility treat?

The BioPod™ vaults will treat a wide range of contaminants that are often present in urban stormwater including suspended sediments, bacteria such as fecal coliform, potentially toxic metals such as chromium and copper, potentially toxic organic chemicals such as hydrocarbons and pesticides, and nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen. The filter media typically removes at least 50% of these contaminants, and in most cases removal efficiency rates are in the range of 80% or more. Additional information on BioPod™ treatment efficiencies can be found at

https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/ezshare/wq/tape/use_designations/BIOPODoldcastleGULD.PDF.

How frequently is maintenance and how long does the treatment media last?

Maintenance will occur approximately once per year and will consist of removing and replacing part or all of the 2-inch mulch layer that sits on top of the filter media. This mulch layer can become degraded due to clogging with sediment and other debris. Replacement of the 18-inch-thick filter media layer would occur approximately every 15 years. County staff will be inspecting the facilities several times per year to monitor performance and maintenance requirements. BioPod™ maintenance recommendations are described in more detail at https://oldcastleinfrastructure.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/BioPod_InspMaint_Guide_Aug-2022.pdf.

Does the facility treat the recently discovered chemical that is highly toxic to salmon?

The chemical 6PPD and its byproduct 6PPD-quinone (6PPD-q) are chemicals recently discovered to come from tires and enter waterways through roadway runoff (stormwater). This chemical has been linked to high mortality rates in coho salmon on the west coast of the United States. The Kingston regional treatment system has received a “high treatment” rating from the Department of Ecology for removal of 6PPD-q. The control and treatment of 6PPD-q is an issue that the County’s Stormwater community is closely tracking. Additional information on 6PPD-q issues and treatment can be found at <https://ecology.wa.gov/waste-toxics/reducing-toxic-chemicals/addressing-priority-toxic-chemicals/6ppd>.





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What is the process for development and redevelopment to connect to the facility?

The new water quality vaults have been sized for development and redevelopment in the drainage basin and all future projects will be required to connect to the new facility. The method to connect along with the cost will be explained through the permitting process by the Department of Community Development once the project is complete.

