

City of Poulsbo

Office of Mayor Rebecca Erickson



April 20, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Sewer System Backup and Spill near Bond Road/SR305

A City of Poulsbo Public Works Department crew spent the morning of Friday, April 20, helping to minimize a sewage spill resulting from a sewer system backup in the Bond Road/SR305 area.

The sewer system backup is believed to have been caused by construction debris from ongoing development in the Olhava corridor, as well as foreign debris such as plastics, wipes and garbage.

Having received notification at approximately 6:50 a.m. of a discharging sewer manhole, a Public Works crew immediately dispatched to the scene ascertained that a pipe was plugged. While some crew members diverted the flow from that area to a different pipe to minimize the amount spilled, others worked to unplug the pipe. The plug was removed by 8:30 a.m. and cleanup efforts ensued.

Agencies including the Department of Health and Department of Ecology, which handle notification to the public and signage to minimize exposure to these issues, were immediately notified. The amount spilled is estimated at 2,000 gallons.

Public Works Assistant Superintendent Keith Svarthumle advises residents to think before they flush and to avoid flushing fibrous items that can clog the city's sewage system and pumps. He said common culprits that cause clogs include fats, oils, grease, and flushable wipes, which can result in sewage overflows.

Those with questions or wanting to report utility issues that seem out of the ordinary are encouraged to contact the Poulsbo Public Works Department at 360-779-4078.

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