

Durham County UTILITIES NEWS



THIRD QUARTER

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UTILITIES NEWS - JULY 2025

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT UPDATES

Name Change Announcement

The following lift stations have been renamed:

- Slater Road Lift Station is now Shiloh Glenn Lift Station
- Page Park Apartments Lift Station is now Wind River Lift Station

Chin Page Road Lift Station

Design is nearly 70% complete. NCDEQ will soon be reviewing Early-out packages that include Site Clearing and Procurement of Long-Lead Items.

Shiloh Glenn and Wind River Lift Stations

The county is in the process of procuring easements to the site to begin clearing and excavating in early September. The pipeline work on Miami Blvd will be starting the week of July 7.

Outfall Improvements Project

Stormwater Operations Specialists, the contractor for outfall/beaver maintenance, has performed some initial dam removals in Grandale's outfall.

WASTEWATER FACT

In some cities, wastewater is tested for public health surveillance, such as tracking flu viruses, COVID-19, or opioid usage trends.

OPEN POSITIONS

We are hiring! Pursue your passion for water quality and pivot into a career in public utilities. All of the County's open positions can be found and applied to at <u>County Careers link</u>. Contact us with any questions you may have. Currently Utilities is hiring:

- <u>Utilities Safety Specialist</u>
- Operations and Maintenance Specialist 1 Provisional
- Operations and Maintenance Specialist II

DURHAM COUNTY WEBSITE UPDATE

Durham County is currently in the process of modernizing and redoing the website. The new site is anticipated to launch in July and may result in some changes to links and the email listserv. Stay tuned for any announced changes.





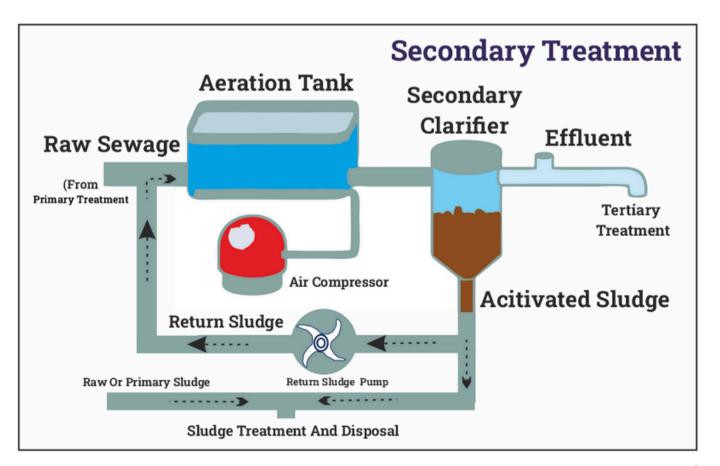


Treatment Process Highlight: Secondary Treatment

What is secondary treatment?

Secondary wastewater treatment is a crucial step in the water purification process that comes after the initial removal of large solids and grit. Its main goal is to significantly reduce the organic matter and pollutants dissolved in the wastewater.

This treatment typically uses biological processes, where microorganisms break down organic contaminants. Common methods include activated sludge systems, trickling filters, and biofilm reactors. In these systems, bacteria consume the organic waste, turning it into harmless byproducts like carbon dioxide, water, and more microbial biomass.



FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 FEE SCHEDULE UPDATE

Durham County's sewer system is essential infrastructure that demands regular maintenance, updates, and adherence to regulatory requirements. To maintain its reliability and performance, ongoing investments in improvements and upgrades are necessary. The approved fee schedule, effective July 1, 2025, is available via the link at the bottom of this page. For any questions or feedback, please contact us at utilities@dconc.gov or call 919-560-9033.

The fee schedule is broken down into the following main categories:

- Sewer Service Charges
- Rougemont Water Fees
- Reclaimed Water Fees
- Water and Reclaimed Water Connection Fees
- Development Review Fees
- Construction Inspection Fees
- Industrial User Fees
- System Development Fees



Click Here to View Full Schedule







WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE A SEWER BACKUP OR SMELL SEWER

If you experience a sewer system backup, or observe a clean out or sewer manhole overflowing; please contact the County as soon as possible by calling the Utilities Division at (919) 560-9033, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, including holidays to determine if you are one of our customers. If you are one of our customers, the County will assess the stoppage to determine if the blockage is on the County's side of the sewer line or the homeowner's side of the sewer line.

Durham County will clear blockages that occur in the main sewer line or in the sewer lateral, from the main line to the clean out pipe at the edge of the property or right-of-way. The sewer clean out is a vertical, capped, 4" pipe that provides direct access to the sewer system.

Homeowners are responsible for blockages that occur in the sewer lateral, located between the clean out pipe and the dwelling. If there is no clean out pipe at the edge of the property, the homeowner is responsible for blockages that occur anywhere in the sewer lateral.



If you smell sewer please immediately call the Utilities Division at (919) 560-9033. County staff will respond accordingly and investigate the odors.

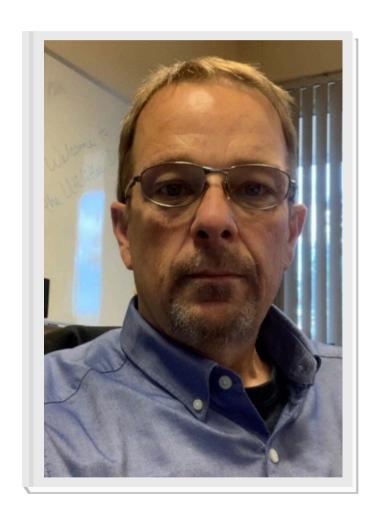






CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF SERVICE

After 35 years of dedicated service in the wastewater field, we bid a fond farewell to Wade Shaw, who is retiring this month.



Wade has been a cornerstone of our utility team, bringing invaluable knowledge, a strong work ethic, and a deep commitment to protecting public health and the environment.

From responding to emergencies in the middle of the night to mentoring new staff, and helping guide major infrastructure improvements, Wade has truly done it all. We are incredibly grateful for his years of service and the lasting impact he leaves behind.

Please join us in thanking Mr. Wade Shaw and wishing him a well-earned and relaxing retirement filled with many fishing trips!