

The Sewer Series

Protecting Rosalia's Water Quality

Rosalia uses an aerated lagoon wastewater treatment system. Treating wastewater improves water quality so that it can be returned to the environment as a nonharmful substance.

Over 300 houses and businesses are connected to and supported by Rosalia's wastewater system.

What is water quality and why is it important?

- Water quality is measured by observing waste products and byproducts (such as ammonia and bacteria) and the treatments (such as oxygen levels and temperature control) used to counterbalance harmful elements.
- There are standard water quality levels that must be maintained in a sewer treatment system. These are set by state and federal programs such as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- If the wastewater system becomes biologically imbalanced or overburdened by too much flow water quality may drop impacting not only Rosalia's residents, but the surrounding region!



What happens if water quality drops?

- Overflow may end up in Pine Creek, posing a risk to public health, recreation, and biological habitats.
- Washington State Ecology or other environmental advocate groups may serve Rosalia with an official violation. This puts the Town at risk of fines, lawsuits, and other official consequences.
- To repair violations, mandatory rate increases may be imposed.

How do we keep it clean?

Improvements to the sewer collection system can help increase efficiency and effectiveness of the system, keep water quality high, and reduce the risks of a violation.

Small actions can help Rosalia's water quality and reduce impacts on the sewer collection system, such as:

- Only flush items down the toilet that are biodegradable
- Never put oil or synthetic materials down your sink, toilet, or garbage disposal

Trivia!

- What is the main type of organic or inorganic treatment used in Rosalia's lagoon system?
- What do you call a sewer expert?

Stay in the know!

Check back each month to learn more about Rosalia's wastewater system.



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