



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Lake Stevens Opens New Decant Facility

Facility Protects the Environment, Saves Money and Reduces Carbon Emissions



The new 70,000 square foot facility is located off of Grade Road in Lake Stevens.

Lake Stevens, Wash. – The City of Lake Stevens celebrated the opening of a new decant facility the last week of April. The facility protects the environment by processing and disposing of pollutants from sewers, storm water drains and other utility projects. It also saves utility ratepayers money and reduces the City's overall carbon footprint.

"This is another example of how we can effectively manage our utilities to benefit our community and the natural environment," said Lake Stevens Mayor Brett Gailey.

A decant facility removes pollutants such as oil, gasoline, and heavy metals from liquid or solid waste. Pollutants are filtered out, then dried and disposed of as solid waste. A byproduct of the process is clean topsoil that can be used in other projects.

A local facility also allows for more efficient operation of the stormwater and sewer systems. The ability to process waste locally means utility crews can increase maintenance to prevent backups or spills associated with plugged lines or basins.

The City used to pay a company to take its waste to King County for processing. Having a local facility will remove an estimated 550 tons of hydrocarbons per year in truck trips that are no longer needed. It also saves utility ratepayers an estimated \$700,000 per year in tipping fees.



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Truck unloads waste for processing at new decant facility.

The City of Lake Stevens spearheaded the project and owns the land on which the facility is located. Construction on the facility was jointly funded with the Lake Stevens Sewer District. Ongoing facility costs will be offset by utility revenues and tipping fees from other agencies.

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Lake Stevens (pop. 33,000) is a city in Snohomish County, Washington, named for the lake that it surrounds. Lake Stevens' vision is to be a sustainable community with a vibrant economy with unsurpassed infrastructure and providing residents an exceptional quality of life. More information about Lake Stevens can be found at www.lakestevenswa.gov.