



**Kitsap County
Public Works**
614 Division Street (MS-26)
Port Orchard, WA 98366

Kitsap County Celebrates National Public Works Week

For immediate release May 6, 2005

Page 1 of 2

—NEWS RELEASE—

Subject: Kitsap County Celebrates National Public Works Week

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Kitsap County will join with other agencies nationwide to celebrate National Public Works Week, May 16-22, 2005. The County's Board of Commissioners at their May 9th meeting will issue a proclamation urging all citizens and civic organizations to acquaint themselves with the issues involved in providing our public works. National Public Works Week is a great time to recognize contributions which public works employees make every day to benefit our health, safety, comfort and quality of life.

Kitsap County Public Works has planned events to celebrate National Public Works Week. One of the most popular events from last year, the Equipment Show, is returning this year. Held at the County's new Public Works Utility Annex Wednesday, May 18th, the show offers an up-close and personal look at the big rigs of Public Works.

The equipment show is open 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Visitors will see a striping machine, a sign truck, a survey truck and survey equipment, paver, vector truck, TV rig, signal lift truck and more. Special time (9:00 a.m. to noon) has been set aside on the 18th for school field trips and group visits. The annex is located in the Olympic View Industrial Park and has easy access and parking for busses. Visit <http://www.kitsapgov.com/sw/> for driving directions.

During National Public Works Week employees are providing classroom presentations in local schools. There are openings available, and teachers should call Public Works' Open Line (360•337•5777) to sign up. These 40 minute classroom presentations provide great insight and help children learn the vital role of Public Works in their community. The sessions include:

- **The Sewer Safari** — Learn about wastewater treatment.
- **It's a Jungle out There** — A look at road signs and road markings, and the equipment used to make them.
- **Underground River Safari** — See the remote technology used to keep storm water drains clear. This includes video from remote controlled in-pipe cameras.
- **Can we worm our way into your classroom?** — Put worms to work and watch as they make great compost from food scraps.

Tours are offered at three County facilities during the week. Visitors need to call The Open Line to reserve space on tours.

On Tuesday (5/17) between 9:00 a.m. and noon residents can tour the Moderate Risk Waste (MRW) facility. The facility, located across the street from the Public Works Utility Annex, accepts residential household hazardous waste (batteries, fluorescent tubes, cleaning, gardening products, automotive products, fluorescent tubes, etc.) The tour shows how the products are collected, packaged and shipped. Tours last about 30 minutes and are available Tuesday only. Call The Open Line to arrange a group tour that morning.

Tours are also offered Monday (5/16), Tuesday (5/17) and Friday (5/20) at the Central Kitsap Treatment Plant, located on the Brownsville Highway in Central Kitsap. The treatment plant cleans over one billion gallons of wastewater each year, and removes 700 tons of biosolids from the water. The one-hour tour includes a discussion of treatment

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Page 2 of 2

processes and a tour of the facility. Visitors will also tour the plant laboratory where tests are done to ensure treated wastewater meets or exceeds all environmental standards.

Residents will also be able to tour the Olympic View Transfer Station, located near the Public Works Utility Annex. See for yourself the trash generated each day in Kitsap County. This innovative facility processes 800 tons of garbage daily. The trash is compacted in containers, then loaded on railroad cars. The railroad cars carry our trash to the Columbia Ridge Landfill in Oregon.

National Public Works Week (NPWW) is a celebration of the tens of thousands of men and women in North America who provide and maintain the infrastructure and services collectively known as public works. Instituted as a public education campaign by the American Public Works Association (APWA) in 1960, NPWW calls attention to the importance of public works in community life. The Week seeks to enhance the prestige of the often-unsung heroes of our society—the professionals who serve the public good every day with quiet dedication. Visit the APWA website (www.apwa.net) for more information about National Public Works Week.

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