

BELLINGHAM Water School

Welcome to the Bellingham Water School home edition!

Use these worksheets, videos, and facts to learn about Bellingham's water systems. Each one of these 5 mini-lessons take about 30-minutes to one hour and should be completed in order. For any questions about Bellingham Water School, Bellingham's three water systems (stormwater, drinking water, and wastewater), or if you want to share about your learning experience, contact us at waterschool@cob.org

Fun Fact: The City of Bellingham upgraded the Water Treatment Plant in 2018 to include a pre-treatment step to help remove algae from the water before the water passes through the filters. The pre-treatment system, called a dissolved air flotation basin, saves the City of Bellingham from having to treat an additional 70 million gallons each year because the mixed-media filters don't need to be cleaned as frequently.

Lesson 3: Water Treatment Plant and Wastewater Treatment Plant Tours

Two of the essential functions of City of Bellingham, Public Works Department is to provide residents of the City with clean drinking water and to treat waste water before it is discharged, or dumped into Bellingham Bay to re-enter the water cycle. In this lesson you will learn how the City of Bellingham filters drinking water from Lake Whatcom and treats waste water to make sure it is safe to discharge into Bellingham Bay.

Watch virtual tour video while filling out the worksheet on page 2.

- Bellingham Water School Water Treatment Plant and Wastewater Treatment Plant Virtual Tour: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KFvZrK40L_Y&feature=youtu.be In this 8 minute video you will see how the City of Bellingham filters drinking water at the Water Treatment Plant and treats wastewater at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.



Operator below the filter gallery at the Water Treatment Plant



Operator at the Wastewater Treatment Plant controlling the process



Virtual Tour of the Water Treatment Plant and the Wastewater Treatment Plant

Fill out this worksheet as you watch the virtual tour videos of the City of Bellingham's Water Treatment Plant and Wastewater Treatment Plant.

1. What body of water does the City of Bellingham draw its drinking water from? _____

2. What are some ways you have used drinking water so far today?

3. What have you sent down indoor drains to the Wastewater Treatment Plant today?

4. What are 2 similar steps at both the Water Treatment Plant and the Wastewater Treatment Plant

5. What is 1 different step that happens at the **Water Treatment Plant** that does not happen at the Wastewater Treatment Plant?

6. What is 1 different step that happens at the **Wastewater Treatment Plant** that does not happen at the Water Treatment Plant?

7. What are the "4 Ps" that are okay to flush down the toilet?

8. Where does the City of Bellingham discharge the treated wastewater? _____