

**Wastewater Discharge at Brechin and Millstone Overflow Locations**

The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) is currently upgrading a section of the Departure Bay Forcemain that required immediate repair to reduce the risk of failure. During forcemain construction, the Departure Bay Pump Station is currently operating at a reduced pumping capacity due to the work that is presently underway. During extreme or sustained wet weather events, a temporary overflow of untreated wastewater may occur when system capacity is exceeded. Public notices are posted at the Brechin and Millstone overflow locations (see map) alerting the public of the risk while the necessary upgrades are underway.

This morning, the system's capacity was exceeded due to sustained wet weather. Untreated wastewater is being discharged into the ocean at the Brechin and Millstone overflow locations. The notice will be updated when the overflow has ceased.

To help mitigate overflow events, several measures have been put in place including response teams on call 24 hours a day, closure of the south Brechin boat ramp and installation of a lock block wall with a floating containment boom. Debris from the containment area will be collected and removed daily during an overflow event.

The Departure Bay Forcemain was constructed in 1974 to convey wastewater from the Departure Bay Pump Station to the Greater Nanaimo Pollution Control Centre. It carries wastewater from over half of the population in Nanaimo and is the largest of all forcemains operated by the RDN. The section currently under construction runs along Meadow Lane, Kite Way, Planta Road and Hammond Bay Road. Once the upgrade is complete this December, the system will return to its full capacity.

For information about wastewater in our region, visit [rdn.bc.ca/wastewater-services](https://rdn.bc.ca/wastewater-services).

**For more information, please contact:**

Regional and Community Utilities

Regional District of Nanaimo



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