

## District Update / Newsletter (Draft)

- Septic system failures are becoming increasingly common in Terrebonne. Many of these systems are marginal at best, with recurring problems and expensive repair costs. Raw sewage from failed septic systems creates significant health risks and water contamination risks. It's crucial for our community to recognize that onsite wastewater systems are not a safe and sustainable solution for Terrebonne. Let's work together to develop a more reliable wastewater system to protect our health and environment.
- Thanks to all who submitted Annexation Applications. Nearly 100 applications were received and included in the annexation resolution approved by the TSD board of directors. The District is currently working through the process of getting the annexation approved at the State and County level.
- Terrebonne STEP Collection System Project is on the DEQ CWSRF funding Intended Use Plan, including \$2 Million principal forgiveness (grant).
- \$1 Million Community Project Grant Funding for Terrebonne Sewer system is included in HR 8998, thanks to Representative Lori Chavez-DeRemer ([news link](#)).
- ODOT has awarded the US 97 / Lower Bridge Way project to High Desert Aggregate & Paving, who has begun the process of installing sewer mains within the highway project limits.
- The Terrebonne Sanitary District is currently working on finalizing the sewer system design and securing funding to construct the system over the next several years.
- The latest Opinion of Probable Construction Cost (prepared in May 2024) estimates the sewer project will cost between \$4.6-\$6.5 Million.
- Assuming a \$6 Million Project Cost, a \$3 Million CWSRF loan at 1.57%, \$3 Million in grant funding, and annual operating expenses around \$100,000 per year, SDC fees are estimated to be roughly \$7,500/EDU and monthly rates are projected to be as follows, based on the number of Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs) connected to the system:

EDUs	160	180	200	220	240	260
Monthly Rate	85	77	70	65	61	58

note: each dwelling counts as 1 EDU and non-residential properties count as 1 EDU or more based on the sewer flows produced.

- Septic Tank Effluent Pump (STEP) systems are cost-effective and used by several communities in Oregon and Washington for wastewater collection, including:
  - City of Coburg, OR: <https://www.coburgoregon.org/publicworks/page/wastewater>
  - City of Donald, OR: <https://www.donaldoregon.gov/sewerdepartment>
  - City Tangent, OR: <https://www.tangentor.gov/sewer-utility>

- City of LaPine, OR:  
[https://www.lapineoregon.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/public\\_works/page/315/city\\_of\\_la\\_pine\\_design\\_standards\\_new\\_logo.pdf](https://www.lapineoregon.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/public_works/page/315/city_of_la_pine_design_standards_new_logo.pdf)
  - City of Lacey, WA: <https://cityoflacey.org/wastewater-programs/>
  - Clark (County, WA) Regional Wastewater District: <https://www.crwwd.com/pressure/step/>
  - Winchester Bay Sanitary District (OR): <https://winchesterbaysd.com/edu/>
  - Salishan Sanitary District (OR):  
<https://sites.google.com/view/salishansanitarydistrict/home?authuser=0>
- Rumors are being circulated about Terrebonne Sanitary District and the proposed sewer project. For current and accurate information regarding the District, sewer project, and estimated costs, please visit the TSD website, attend the monthly TSD board meetings, and/or contact us with questions. Call (425) 224-2458 or email your questions to [terrebonnesanitary@gmail.com](mailto:terrebonnesanitary@gmail.com)
  - Interested in Serving? The District is seeking an individual residing or owning property within its boundaries to fill Position 3 until June 30, 2025. Monthly board meetings are held on the third Thursday at 3:30 p.m. in Terrebonne, with virtual attendance options available. You may submit your letter of interest to the Terrebonne Sanitary District Board: By mail to PO Box 2171, Terrebonne Oregon 97760 By email to [terrebonnesanitary@gmail.com](mailto:terrebonnesanitary@gmail.com)