City of Grandview
Wastewater Treatment Plant

On any given day anywhere in the world, if you were to read a newspaper or watch a news broadcast, the chances are there would be a story dealing with a health tragedy or an environmental event. To minimize what in the past has ranged from small events to large scale and well publicized tragedies, world health and environmental organizations have been established. In this country the environmental lead is headed by the Environmental Protection Agency and on the health front is the Center for Disease Control.

You might be asking yourself what does this have to do with Grandview and more specifically with its wastewater treatment plant. Wastewater treatment plants exist for a two prong single purpose, and that is to protect the environment and public health. It's that simple and that direct, protect the environment and public health. The employees at Grandview's treatment plant understand that mission and are very good at achieving it.

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF GRANDVIEW'S WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

- In 1947 through 1964 Grandview's first treatment plant was located in what is now known as Dykstra Park.
- In 1964 land was purchased south of the Yakima River and utilizing the natural basalt rock basins a lagoon system was built. This system in its early stages was never fully successful as it was plagued with odors and a low degree of water treatment.
- In 1968 a pretreatment clarifier, solids thickener and filter were added to the lagoon system. This mechanical portion aided in removing solids which reduced odors and enhanced water quality. Even though water condition improved, exceptional water quality on an annual basis was not sustainable.
- The next phase of treatment plant improvements occurred in 1977. At that time a larger pretreatment clarifier was built along with 3 spray fields. Also added were a recirculation pump station and a spray field pump station. All of these structures are still utilized in operations today.
- The City of Grandview continued to grow and so did the treatment plant. In 1991 twenty aerators were added to one of the lagoons that

were built in 1964. Other improvements at that time included a 48,000 gallon chlorine contact basin for disinfection of up to 40,000,000 gallons of water a year. This water was then pumped through a new pipe net work to Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife land for habitat improvement.

- With growth from industrial and domestic water users came additional needs for more treatment plant improvements. Only this time, the City entered into its single largest and most expensive venture in its history. Spending $14,000,000 and with phased construction that lasted 5 years (1997 to 2002), Grandview entered the age of sustainable biological treatment. The new modern biological treatment plant is able to achieve in 15 days what the 1964 lagoon system with all of its mechanical components could ever achieve, no matter how much time was allowed.
- In 2003, 2006, and 2007 operators of the new treatment plant earned state awards for outstanding operations.
- In 2005 a letter was offered by Washington State Department of Ecology that recognized plant operation efficiency with so few employees.
- In 2007 Grandview's biosolids dewatering facility was recognized as one of the most efficient in the nation.

On a regular basis Grandview is used by the Washington Department of Ecology as an example of a treatment works to follow. Our industrial pretreatment program is a model from which others around the state emulate and our lab procedures are pointed to by the Department of Ecology for reference.