



WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE FAQ

Q WHY HAS THE DISTRICT BEEN EXPERIENCING SEWER ISSUES? ARE THE SEWER ISSUES CAUSED BY SEWER LIFT STATION PUMP FAILURES?

A The District has had 7 force main breaks in the last 13 months, 3 of which have occurred in January 2026. There has not been a sewer lift station pump failure recently. The lift station pumps are not the cause of the force main breaks.

Q HAVE THE SEWER FORCE MAIN BREAKS BEEN REPORTED TO THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES?

A Yes, the appropriate authorities have been contacted and communicated with during every sewer force main break. Including: Environment and Climate Change Canada, Ministry of Environment and Parks, Northern Health and Health Emergency Management BC. The District filed Dangerous Goods Incident Reports (<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/spills-environmental-emergencies/spill-incidents>) for the following 2026 Force Main breaks:

January 6 - DGIR #260069 (11th Avenue)

January 16 - DGIR #260225 (on 5th Avenue at Lift Station #3)

January 25 - DGIR #260313 (on greenspace west of Dirt Bike Park)

Q HOW ARE RESIDENTS NOTIFIED?

A Residents are notified of any confirmed sewage incidents through official municipal notices, including updates on the District Website's News & Notices page (<https://districtofstewart.com/district-hall/news-and-notice>) District Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/TheDistrictofStewart/>) community bulletin boards (downtown & Health Centre) and also H2Notify, to ensure timely and accurate information sharing.

Q WHAT IS THE DISTRICTS CLEAN-UP PLAN TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF RESIDENTS?

A Initial clean-up was completed as guided by Northern Health and the Ministry of Environment & Parks. Ongoing monitoring of all sites will be conducted, including in the spring. Any signs of sewage contamination will be cleaned up.



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Q WHAT IS THE STATUS OF OUR SEWER SYSTEM?

A There are no known open or unaddressed sewer exposures at this time. Any incidents that may arise are reported, contained, and remediated in compliance with Environment & Climate Change Canada, Ministry of Environment & Parks, and Northern Health.

Q WHAT PLANS ARE IN PLACE FOR THE WASTEWATER SYSTEM?

A Council and Staff are exploring plans for a Force Main replacement.

Q IF I HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS HOW CAN I FIND ANSWERS?

A The District provides information notices on its Facebook page, Website, and community bulletin boards. If you have questions or concerns: phone the District of Stewart Municipal Office directly at (250) 636-2251 Monday through Friday from 8:30AM to 4:30PM. Alternatively you can email info@districtofstewart.com or visit <https://districtofstewart.civicweb.net/Portal/CitizenEngagement.aspx>