



CITY OF THE DALLES
Department of Public Works
1215 West 1st Street
The Dalles, Oregon 97058

PRESS RELEASE

DATE: September 27, 2022

TOPIC: Sanitary Sewer Overflow Due to Vandalism, Warning Signs Still Posted

CONTACT: Public Works Department (541) 296-5401

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY

On Friday September 23, 2022, a City of The Dalles Wastewater Collection crew conducted a routine weekly inspection at the manhole at the 9th Street Bridge over Mill Creek. They found the lock had been broken and vandals had thrown rocks and concrete pieces into the manhole, causing a plugged sewer pipe. Sewage overflowed directly into Mill Creek and into the Columbia River. The sewer pipe was cleared and the pipe was repaired on the day the problem was found. No more sewage is overflowing.

Out of an abundance of caution, signs will remain in place at locations of public river access on the Oregon shore of the Columbia River, from The Dalles Riverfront Park to West Mayer Park boat launch. The signs say: "Warning - Contaminated Water - No water contact" and give phone numbers to call for information. These signs will remain in place at least until Thursday September 29, 2022 to allow time for water quality testing.

The next status update will be through a press release that is scheduled to be sent by noon on Thursday September 29, 2022.

For information about Washington shore public river access, contact the Klickitat County Health Department at (509) 493-1558.

The Department is in communication with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and local health department officials to coordinate response. Questions can be directed to the Public Works Department office at (541) 296-5401.

For updates go to the City website thedalles.org

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