



Planned Development

Expansion of the WRRF is necessary to connect residential and commercial zoning that has historically been approved by Gallatin County (i.e., the expansion is not increasing development beyond what already has been approved by Gallatin County).



1% Resort Tax

The Resort Tax Board recently approved putting the following usage of the 1% Resort Tax before the registered voters of the Big Sky Resort Tax District:

- 60% of project costs, up to a maximum of \$27 million, towards construction of an expansion and upgrade to the Big Sky County Water and Sewer District (BSCWSD) Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF).
- 100% of project costs, up to \$12 million, towards construction of a wastewater lift station and forcemain to convey wastewater from a future Canyon Area Sewer District to the WRRF, along with a treated water pipeline from the WRRF back to the Canyon Area for reuse and potential groundwater discharge and/or aquifer recharge. This project would only be funded if a Canyon Area Sewer District forms and requests an agreement with the BSCWSD to take wastewater from the Canyon. BSCWSD agreed to own and operate the future Canyon Area lift station and pipelines (raw wastewater from the Canyon Area to the WRRF, and treated water from the WRRF back to the Canyon Area for reuse or potential groundwater discharge/recharge/reuse).



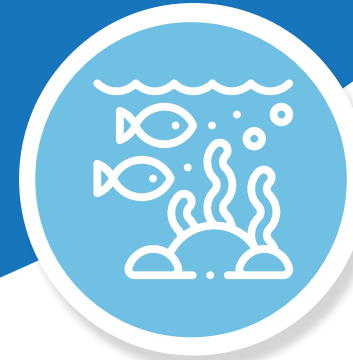
Wastewater infrastructure is vital piece of protecting our environment and supporting our economy



Wastewater Treatment

Taking raw wastewater from the Canyon Area, treating it to Class A-1 standards, and returning it to the Canyon Area for reuse and potential groundwater discharge/recharge will be a vast improvement for the Gallatin River watershed over the current situation, where approximately 100,000 gallons per day of Gallatin County-approved septic tank effluent and Montana DEQ approved Level II treatment system effluent is being discharged to the groundwater.

- Treated water from BSCWSD's forthcoming WRRF Upgrade will result in approximately 99% less bacteria, 90% less nitrogen, and 90% less phosphorus entering the groundwater in the Canyon Area.
- This project would be a benefit to the environment and would not alter zoning or land use that has been previously permitted by Gallatin County. Land use, zoning, and resulting development density can only be changed by Gallatin County and there is no intent to pursue this.
- The availability of water and water rights in the Canyon Area will ultimately limit growth in the Canyon Area, this is a real constraint and will prevent the area from significant densification.



Algal Blooms

The causes of the algal bloom on the Gallatin River in 2018 are not directly identifiable. As has been the case for the last 20 years there was no change in the discharge of treated water from the BSCWSD's plant, no treated water has ever been discharged from our facility it has all been reused for irrigation purposes. The algal bloom was also present in area upstream from Big Sky. Regardless of the cause(s), the BSCWSD is committed to doing its part to reduce nutrient releases in the area where it has control and jurisdiction.

Our staff work diligently to continuously improve water, wastewater and reuse water operations and management. None of our staff are moonlighting as realtors, they are too busy operating and managing water and wastewater infrastructure.