



Chevron Tank Farm Port WA Narrows Site

Response to Comments

Prepared by:

Becky Dilba

Public Outreach Coordinator

For the

Toxics Cleanup Program

Washington State Department of Ecology
Olympia, Washington

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Related Information

- Clean-up site ID: 285
- Facility site ID: 2618
- Address: 1310 Highland Avenue, Bremerton WA 98337
- County: Kitsap
- More information: [Chevron Tank Farm Port WA Narrows Site webpage](#)¹
- Public Comment Period: March 23 to June 30, 2026

Contact Information

Toxics Cleanup Program

P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600
Phone: 360-407-7170

Website²: [Washington State Department of Ecology](#)

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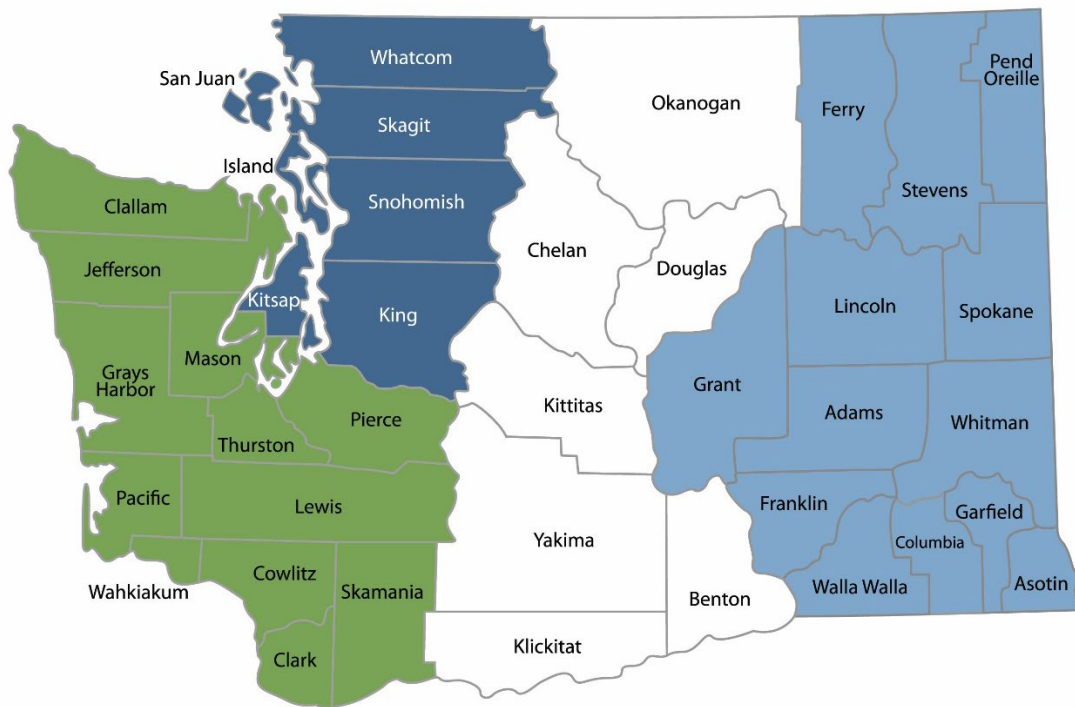
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¹ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/285>

² www.ecology.wa.gov/contact

Department of Ecology's Regional Offices

Map of Counties Served



Southwest Region
360-407-6300

Northwest Region
206-594-0000

Central Region
509-575-2490

Eastern Region
509-329-3400

Region	Counties served	Mailing Address	Phone
Southwest	Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Mason, Lewis, Pacific, Pierce, Skamania, Thurston, Wahkiakum	P.O. Box 47775 Olympia, WA 98504	360-407-6300
Northwest	Island, King, Kitsap, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Whatcom	P.O. Box 330316 Shoreline, WA 98133	206-594-0000
Central	Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas, Klickitat, Okanogan, Yakima	1250 West Alder Street Union Gap, WA 98903	509-575-2490
Eastern	Adams, Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla, Whitman	4601 North Monroe Spokane, WA 99205	509-329-3400
Headquarters	Statewide	P.O. Box 47600 Olympia, WA 98504	360-407-6000

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DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

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Background

The former Chevron Tank Farm Port WA Narrows (Site) property operated as a bulk fuel tank farm from 1946 to 1988. The facility was expanded to its present boundaries between 1946 and 1963 by the placement of fill in the intertidal zone. While operating as a commercial fueling facility, underground diesel and gasoline fuel piping led to leaks and subsurface contamination. All the above ground structures were removed in 1988, when contamination was found. The City of Bremerton (City) purchased the property in 2005, and the City developed the property into an expansion of the adjacent Evergreen Rotary Park.

Investigation and cleanup activities were conducted at the Site since the tank farm was decommissioned in 1988, but significant contamination remained when the city purchased the Site. Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study sampling began under the first Agreed Order in 2007, and Interim Action cleanup activities were conducted by the City and the Department of Ecology (Ecology) beginning in 2008. A total of 1,644 tons of contaminated soil and 32 tons of contaminated wood and concrete debris were disposed of. Following the excavations a chemical oxidant was added to the soil to enhance microbial activity and confirmation samples indicated that approximately 70 percent of the soil contaminant mass was destroyed. Following the confirmation samples the area was covered in 8 feet of clean soil. Groundwater monitoring started in 2010 and continues today.

The following contaminants that exceed the Model Toxics Control Act in groundwater are Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons-Gasoline, Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons-Diesel and benzene.

Comment period and next steps

During the comment period, March 23, 2026, through June 30, 2026, we received several comments. While we did not reply directly to all comments, all were considered and we made changes to the document, including recommending the time of year the groundwater monitoring wells are sampled and recommending groundwater monitoring wells be checked for viability. If the groundwater monitoring well is compromised, the groundwater monitoring wells should be decommissioned and replaced with viable groundwater monitoring well.

Due to public interest and requests, Ecology is currently working with the City to host a public meeting to address concerns raised by the community. A separate notification will be sent to the community with further information.

We will complete another periodic review in 2031.

You can follow the progress of the cleanup at the [Chevron Tank Farm Port WA Narrows Site webpage](https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/285).³

³ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/285>

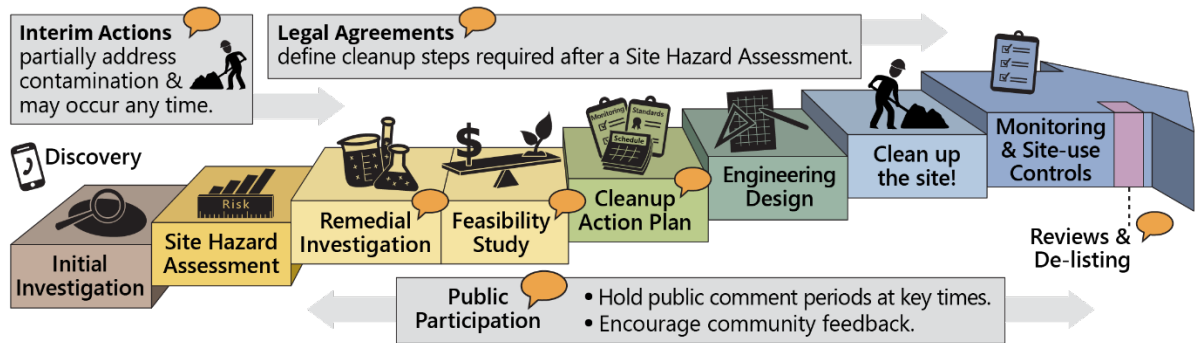


Figure 1: The Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) is Washington’s cleanup law. There are several steps in the MTCA cleanup process. The comment bubbles indicate major milestones in the process when there is an opportunity for public comment.

Comments

Comment from Jonathan Yarbrough

Submit date: March 30, 2026

Submit method: Website

Some institutional controls can be more robust. Along the water on the east side of the land (behind an embankment and the 9/11 memorial), the land is used for purposes beyond walking or sitting. The soil along the shoreline has been regularly disturbed for years. Having increased signage and/or better fences would allow for natural rehabilitation.

Comment from: Jose Camacho, on behalf of Friends of Smith Cove in Evergreen Park

Submit date: April 22, 2026

Submit method: Email

Good morning Ms. Dilba:

My partner (Robin RDMoley@Gmail.Com) and I are members of Friends of Smith Cove. We would like to submit a comment as to the former Chevron Tank Farm site in Evergreen Park (Bremerton) before the deadline tonight.

We have a few concerns. One is the effect of the convergence of a few things.

The Army Corps has a current DA permit application - DA Permit Application No. NWS-2022-423. (I cc Mr. Rory Lee for this, and District Council Member, Christy Cammarata, and Tim Barker, Director of Parks & Recreation here). This pertains to the abutting and hydrologically connected Smith Cove. Smith Cove has a pending restoration plan which will involve the moving of some of the current sediment, concrete, boulders - and I believe hard armoring - and the placement of new sediment (sand / gravel). We have requested a public hearing on this. The Smith Cove restoration project presents a question of the toxins in the Chevron site possibly being realized during that work.

I will get into it more before today's deadline, but our community cannot rely on city government to communicate with us; it has a behind-closed-doors default approach to the public, and in fact is antagonistic towards us, and has restricted our public comments at the public forum because we expressed our concerns and criticism about how city government has handled environmental review, including in the city's abdication of our Shoreline Master Program "recreation designations" of the shoreline, including specifically at Smith Cove.

We would be more assured if there could be a public interface between Ecology and the Army / Navy as to Smith Cove / Evergreen Park which allows for the free flow of information and hears and safeguards park and shoreline users.

For now, my initial questions / requests:

Friends of Smith Cove would like a public meeting on this Chevron Tank Farm matter. Can we provide a list of concerned citizens wishing a public meeting, or do you need the requests sent to you from individual email accounts?

WAC 173-340-600(b) allows for a public meeting or extension of the comment period.

WAC 173-340-600(2)(b)(ii), "Public Notification and Participation," allows for a public meeting if requested by 10 or more persons. See <https://app.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=173-340-600>

WAC 173-340-600(2)(b)(i) allows for an extension: "... Ecology may extend the public comment period, as appropriate." We are requesting the comment period be extended until the Public Meeting and Army Corp interface question is resolved.

Also:

On the webpage are two entries containing .pdfs displaying the Environmental Covenant in effect. They are identical except for the 5-28-25 one having a cover page. Is this intentional or an error?

It shows:

"Chevron Tank Farm Port WA Narrows - Environmental Covenant" 5/28/2025

"Chevron Tank Farm Port WA Narrows Final Environmental Covenant" 11/25/2013

Ecology's response to Jose Camacho's comment

General Concerns

Thank you so much for your email. I have forwarded your concerns to the site manager, Chris Maurer and his supervisor, Amy Hargrove. They will look into your concerns and get back to you.

Public Meeting

As far as requesting a public meeting- absolutely! You can just email me the list of people requesting it, but I do ask that you CC them on said email. I do want to double-check regarding the format you are requesting: are you requesting a public meeting or a public hearing? I have explained the difference below so there is no confusion. Please let me know what it is you are requesting.

- A public meeting is more open house style with a presentation where the public can ask questions and get answers. However, those questions will not be transcribed, and therefore not part of the public record and the meeting is not recorded. You can however submit those same questions during the comment period via email, mail, in person, or the SmartComment portal and Ecology will respond to those comments in writing as well.
- A public hearing involves a hearing officer, and the verbal comments are transcribed for the record, and Ecology responds to them after the comment period has ended.

Environmental Covenant

As far as the environmental covenant (EC) question. You are correct in that the cover page is the only difference between the documents. It was discovered during our periodic review that we did not have the EC copy that was filed, and so we asked the city for that copy.

Please reach out with any questions. Once I receive your request, I will extend the comment period.

Ecology staff follow-up

Good morning, Jose,

I just wanted to touch base with Friends of Smith Cove regarding the public meeting that has been requested. If it seems like this is a slow-moving process, it is because it is. There are a lot of moving parts at this site and adjacent sites so we want to make sure we are fully prepared to answer questions the best we can with the most up to date information. Once that happens, we will need to send out mailers to the area letting other know about the public meeting, which also takes some time.

The comment period will continue to be extended until that meeting can take place, and the public has time to submit more comments, if necessary, after the meeting.

Thanks again for patience,

Comment from: Jose Camacho, on behalf of Friends of Smith Cove in Evergreen Park

Submit date: May 20, 2026

Submit method: Email, continuation of previous response

Thanks Becky. I appreciate it.

"Moving parts" has become a favorite metaphor of mine, especially relative to Smith Cove at Evergreen Park.

I've made it a point of letting the people know via public comment at the town's Parks Commission and at city council know about this, and have identified you as the contact person.

We've asked The Conduit to film the meeting, and I've also asked Kitsap Community Resources (KCR) if they'd let us use their big room - it's been used for community meetings. Haven't heard back.

Thanks again for touching base.

Ecology response to Jose Camacho's comment

Public Meeting

After a lot of internal discussions regarding your request for a public meeting, we would like to provide you with some options.

Option one- hold a public meeting within the public comment period for Chevron Tank Farm Port WA Narrows periodic review. If we do this, the questions will need to be kept within the scope of what the periodic review covers, which, correct me if I am wrong, seems like the concerns and questions from Friends of Smith Cove would cover more than just the periodic review.

Option two- have a public meeting in the format of an information session on the Evergreen Park and Chevron Tank Farm Port WA Narrows as a whole. This would allow comments, concerns, and questions from the public to be much broader in scope. We would ask that the City and the Navy be present as they are the ones who will be doing the restoration along these two sites. We would also close the comment period on the Chevron Tank Farm Port WA Narrows periodic review, documenting your comment and Ecology's response.

Both meetings would be open to the public, not just the Friends of Smith Cove group. We are leaning toward a virtual option but are willing to do an in-person and a virtual if requested. I also wanted to inform you that if we will be hosting an in-person meeting, ECY would have to secure the venue.

Comment from: Jose Camacho, on behalf of Friends of Smith Cove in Evergreen Park

Submit date: June 10, 2026

Submit method: Email, continuation of previous response

Thank you for your consideration and thoughtfulness Becky. Option two as presented is what we had hoped for.

As you perceived correctly, our concerns as individuals are not identical, but as a group are wider than the Chevron site, but overlap with it and Ecology's mandates.

We request an in-person meeting with zoom / remote capability as some of our group have physical mobility / transportation challenges.

No problem with Ecology picking the venue but we would prefer those near Evergreen Park / Smith Cove. We understand the Norm Dicks building has been used for these purposes, as has Kitsap Community Resources - a stone's throw from the park.

Also, we would like the meeting video recorded by Marwan Cameron of The Conduit; he does this quite regularly and reliably for the community.

I am hoping to submit my written comment in this matter by next week; it will include (or be informed by) these points and concerns:

- Communicating Values & Mandates: many residents are completely unaware of Evergreen Park's Suquamish provenance, and our Boldt Decision responsibilities, of the history or potential harms of the Chevron site and the legal reason for Ecology's intervention, of the city's history of the Evergreen Park / Smith Cove area including the decades-long history of RCO funding for Smith Cove's restoration, of the no net loss requirements of the Shoreline Management Act, enforcement of the Shoreline Management Act, of Ecology's purity-of-the-waters policy under RCW 90.48.010, and its safeguarding clean water, and its *Public Trust Doctrine* responsibility;
- Data assessment and availability for the lay public across city, state, federal, and military lines;
- The state of the science / technology for the kind of remediation undertaken at Chevron site;
- Ecology's regulatory role and duties as well as its Public Trust Doctrine responsibilities;

- Ecology's environmental justice policy protecting / including low-income citizens in its processes;
- Post-meeting transparency beyond Public Record Act requests and open communication with & contacts with the lay public (Ecology, Navy, City);
- Potential mishaps releasing toxins during Navy / city compensatory restoration of Smith Cove;
- Given concrete blocks and craggy fragments at Smith Cove, safeguarding Chevron site from Navy / city restoration of Smith Cove;
- Hard armoring of Smith Cove - removal or maintaining - and ultimate geophysical / topographical result from Smith Cove restoration;
- Species identification in and around Smith Cove and potential impacts during and after Smith Cove restoration;
- Current FEMA floodplain data / predictions, climate change impacts, and safeguards against unpreparedness due to fading institutional or individual memories;
- Green space equity and city parks administration duties towards marginalized community members;
- The conflict between Recreation Conservation Office funding of city parks projects with the low-income in mind, but using such funding to fuel gentrification which displaces the low-income;
- Distinguishing Ecology milestones from those of NEPA & the DA Permit Application No. NWS-2022-423;
- Intersections of Navy restoration of Smith Cove, with Ecology's role in current review of Bremerton's proposed SMP, and questions regarding the Shoreline Management Act enforcement, Bremerton's Shoreline Master Program's Recreation and Isolation Designations, and SMP Recreation Designation's requirement for ecological stewardship and open space mandate;
- Opportunities for citizen participation in ecological stewardship and ecological stewardship education for the lay public and youth during and after Smith Cove restoration to encourage environmental and rule of law values;
- Friends of Smith Cove in Evergreen Park started with the tortured awareness of the City of Bremerton's developer-influenced broken shoreline planning / permitting process, and city transparency and accountability failure, so we also have the self-defense

concerns of the marginalized and silenced, and these include what available safeguards for transparency, accountability and responsive communication exist or can be created beyond the current environmental covenant, and beyond the city's penchant for PR and CYA tactics;

- Citizen legal remedies in failures of any of the above.

I have taken the liberty of adding to the cc line, the directors of the city's parks administration, and of public works, as well as Rod Malcolm of the Suquamish Tribe.

Comment from Jackie Stanfill

Submit date: April 22, 2026

Submit method: Email

Dear Ms. Dilba,

I would like to meet with you, and the citizens who protect Smith Cove when that happens. I am a local Citizen Environmentalist in Kitsap County.

Thank you,

Jackie W. Stanfill