



## Welcome to the Skykomish Scoop!



*Crews recover oil from Railroad Avenue and 4th Street.*



*Crews use sheet pile to prepare for HCC vault installation.*



*The first concrete vault for the HCC system arrives in Skykomish.*

This newsletter keeps you informed about cleanup and construction activities in Skykomish. BNSF and Ecology are busy with cleanup work and construction along Railroad Avenue. See inside for details about the work done this summer. Content for this edition of the newsletter is provided by BNSF, Ecology, and the Town of Skykomish.

### Construction update

Strider Construction and other contractors completed major pieces of cleanup and construction work during the summer months of 2008:

- Relocated the Depot, McEvoy House and Whistling Post to allow excavation on those properties.
- Excavated major portions of Railroad Avenue from 6th Street to 3rd Street, including part of 4th Street, to remove contamination and backfill with clean material. As of September 30, crews shipped 38,000 tons of contaminated soil off-site to a landfill.
- Constructed the hydraulic control and containment (HCC) system, including the installation of concrete vaults and 1,100 linear feet of sheet pile.
- As of September 30, crews recovered and shipped 5,400 gallons of oil off-site for disposal.
- Installed fencing, signage, pedestrian walkways, and traffic lights around the excavation area for safety and mobility.
- As of September 30, crews backfilled 31,000 tons of stabilization aggregate below groundwater in the excavation area.
- Installed conduit under the BNSF main line at 5th Street for future underground utilities.
- Conducted investigations at the Skykomish School in preparation for future cleanup activities. Completed sampling under the school and began assessing technologies which can safely remove oil under the building during future phases of work.

## What is happening next?

Crews completed excavation and backfilling operations along Railroad Avenue and 4th Street. Concrete vaults for the HCC system were delivered and installed along Railroad Avenue. Nickel Brothers are returning buildings to the construction area and Strider Construction is starting restoration activities. The 5th Street crossing will also reopen as soon as possible. BNSF is working with the Town of Skykomish to accomplish as much street, sidewalk and Town property restoration as possible before winter.

Visit the Skykomish Cleanup Web site for more schedule updates ([www.skykomishcleanup.com](http://www.skykomishcleanup.com)) or look for the construction notices that are posted weekly around town.



*Excavation under the Whistling Post's original location.*



*Crews construct the footings and foundation for the Whistling Post.*

## Traffic safety

The construction team made several traffic revisions during the summer to help crews complete their work more quickly and ensure the safety of motorists and pedestrians. Crews constructed a temporary vehicle and pedestrian railroad crossing at the west end of Railroad Avenue and a temporary road along the rail yard to provide 24-hour access to homes and businesses at the east end of Railroad Avenue.

Thanks to all Skykomish residents and visitors for their patience with traffic changes and for staying safe and obeying posted signs. Please remember to drive carefully through construction zones, stop at lights and follow the instructions of flaggers. Construction equipment and vehicles will continue to be in town through October. Please continue to stay safe around construction activities and stay in designated pedestrian walkways whenever possible.



*The temporary pedestrian walkway was installed near the Skykomish Church during early September.*

## Levee restoration

If you've visited the Skykomish levee recently, you may have noticed crews working to complete restoration along the levee. The remainder of the railing was recently delivered and additional plant cuttings are scheduled to arrive in mid-October. Boulders will also be delivered upstream of the levee to enhance fish habitat once permitting through the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington Department of Ecology, and the Town of Skykomish is completed.



*Crews work on levee restoration and plant maintenance.*

## Community wastewater treatment system construction

Construction of the Town's wastewater collection and treatment system is underway. Callen Construction, the Town's pump station contractor, has completed installation of pipelines under the rail yard and is installing the pump station tank at the west end of Railroad Avenue. Pipelines and trenching near the rail yard will be complete by mid-November.

Interwest Construction, the Town's contractor for the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) and drain field, has begun work on the drain field access road near the east end of the Skykomish Airport runway. When the road is complete, it will be used by loggers to remove timber from the eight-acre drain field site on the south side of the runway. Logging on the drain field will begin in mid-October.

Also in October, Interwest will prepare the former burn dump site for the WWTF, and install several underground tanks that are part of the plant. The WWTF and drain field will be complete by late-summer 2009.

## Planning for 2009 cleanup work

Planning is underway for 2009 cleanup activities and crews are finishing final sampling and investigational work. BNSF and Ecology are working on the 2009 Engineering Design Report (EDR), the document that will detail and guide cleanup activities in 2009. The work in 2009 will focus on soil removal west of 4th Street and north of the Skykomish Hotel, and along the former Maloney Creek channel and wetlands south of the BNSF rail yard.

**A public meeting will be held on Thursday, October 30 to share 2009 construction plans and answer questions.**

## Questions or Concerns?

If you have questions about cleanup plans or general concerns, you can reach BNSF and Ecology in a number of ways:

- Call the Skykomish Call Line: 800-228-1849
- Visit the Skykomish Cleanup Web site: [www.skykomishcleanup.com](http://www.skykomishcleanup.com)
- Send an e-mail with your question or concern to [info@skykomishcleanup.com](mailto:info@skykomishcleanup.com)
- Sign up for Skykomish Cleanup e-mail alerts by sending an e-mail to [info@skykomishcleanup.com](mailto:info@skykomishcleanup.com)
- Contact Ecology: 425-649-4486 or [www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/bnsf\\_sky/bnsf\\_sky.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/bnsf_sky/bnsf_sky.html)



## Skykomish Scoop

101 Stewart Street, Suite 1101  
Seattle, WA 98101

## Community Meeting

**Maloney's General Store**  
**104 Railroad Ave, Skykomish**

**Thursday October 30, 2008**  
**6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

**Review plans for 2009 cleanup**