



Welcome to the Skykomish Scoop!



This newsletter helps keep you informed about cleanup and construction activities in Skykomish, Washington. BNSF Railway (BNSF) and the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) are currently working on this summer's cleanup effort. See inside for more details about cleanup progress, current and upcoming construction, and changes to traffic patterns in town. Content for this edition of the newsletter is provided by BNSF, Ecology and the Town of Skykomish.

Cleanup is underway

Major cleanup work has begun in town, including water bypass installation, temporary relocation and demolition of buildings, and soil excavation. The following cleanup activities have already been completed:



Crews move the Maloney's General Store building to temporary storage on SkyRiver Inn property

- Relocation of post office operations to a facility near the intersection of Old Cascade Highway and Thelma Street (at the former U.S. Forest Service compound).
- Demolition of the SkyRiver Inn, SkyRiver Inn office, post office, and Skykomish Hotel annex.
- Temporary relocation of the Martin and Sarno houses to the east end of Railroad Avenue and temporary relocation of the Maloney's General Store building to the SkyRiver Inn property.
- Permanent relocation of the former Bishop house by the new owner.
- Preparation of the Skykomish Hotel for relocation.
- Fencing off excavation areas and closing part of 4th Street.
- Mobilization of temporary construction water treatment system located on the railyard and mobilization of oil recovery equipment.
- Sampling and removal of soils in the excavation area. Contaminated soil will be separately stockpiled and shipped out by railcar; clean soils may be used for backfilling.
- Installation of temporary sidewalks, parking and pedestrian crosswalks.
- Controlling dust and monitoring river turbidity, air quality and noise levels (will continue throughout the summer).

The following activities are underway currently or are scheduled to occur in July:

- Excavation of contaminated soils on Sarno, Martin, Town, SkyRiver Inn, and Whistling Post properties. Additional minor excavation in the southwest corner of Skykomish Community Church property.
- Temporary relocation of the Skykomish Hotel to a site on the SkyRiver Inn property just north of the hotel's current location.
- Coordinating cleanup work with the construction of the Town's community wastewater treatment system and continuing work on conversions to underground utilities.
- Railcar load-out of contaminated soils.

Additional activities are scheduled for later in the summer:

- Constructing a temporary ramp from the 5th Street Bridge to East River Road and rerouting traffic to allow excavation of 5th Street. There may be temporary closures of the 5th Street Bridge while traffic reroutes are put in place. Railroad Avenue and the railroad crossing will remain open.
- Temporary relocation of the Wheatley rental house to the east end of Railroad Avenue.
- Excavating contaminated soils on BNSF, Town, Skykomish Hotel, and Wheatley properties. Minor additional excavations along the southern edge of the Mitchell property and along the eastern edge of the Moore property.
- Removing sheet piles from the Whistling Post property and backfilling Sarno, Martin, Town, SkyRiver Inn, and Whistling Post properties.
- Returning Sarno and Martin houses and restoring those properties in 2009, as well as restoring the Mitchell, Moore and Church properties.
- Coordinating cleanup work with the construction of the Town's community wastewater treatment system.
- Continuing work on conversions to underground utilities.

Community wastewater system construction

The Town of Skykomish has hired a contractor, Plats Plus, Inc., to install collection lines and make house-by-house connections to the community wastewater system, beginning this summer. Construction of collection lines in Town right-of-way is scheduled to begin in early August. Trenching will most likely begin in the south



Crews move Sarno house to temporary storage at east end of Railroad Avenue



SkyRiver Inn demolition



Sheet pile behind the Whistling Post will be removed



The General Store in its new temporary location on SkyRiver Inn property



Pavement grinding in preparation for 5th Street excavation

lane of Old Cascade Highway and at the intersection of 5th Street and Old Cascade Highway. Traffic will be impacted and the Town will communicate any traffic changes in advance. Additional major activities that will occur this summer include:

- Grinding asphalt for a four-foot wide sewer trench beginning the week of July 27.
- Working on electrical systems at the main pump station near the west end of Railroad Avenue.
- Constructing a new, smaller pump station on West Old Cascade Highway.
- Completing the wastewater treatment plant and drainfield.
- Installing tanks, valves and plumbing on private properties.

Customer connections will not begin until the treatment plant, drainfield and pump stations are active in September. Construction on private property is scheduled to continue into the summer of 2010. Plats Plus Inc. and Strider Construction will coordinate their efforts to find efficiencies and minimize disruption to traffic and residents. For questions about the community wastewater system construction or for general questions about the wastewater system, please call the Town of Skykomish at 360-677-2388.

Upcoming traffic rerouting

Traffic must be temporarily rerouted to allow for excavation of 5th Street. Before this takes place, 4th Street will be reopened to traffic and a ramp will be built to connect the 5th Street Bridge to East River Drive.

The 5th Street Bridge may be temporarily closed to install these reroutes. Any street or bridge closures will be announced in advance on the cleanup website (www.skykomishcleanup.com) and on construction notices posted around town. Railroad Avenue and the 5th Street railroad crossing will remain open. This work is expected to occur sometime in August. Please be on the lookout for this information and plan accordingly.

Archeological finds during construction

Cleanup crews found historic privy sites during sampling and excavation of overburden soils in the excavation area near 4th Street. Northwest Archaeological Associates (NWAA) and Strider began documenting the sites and removing artifacts on July 10. NWAA is now exploring the General Store property and will investigate the Skykomish Hotel property after the building is relocated. The permit obtained for this work will cover any future archaeological finds during construction this year.

Who do I call for questions about...?

Cleanup construction

Call the Skykomish Cleanup Call Line at
1-800-228-1849

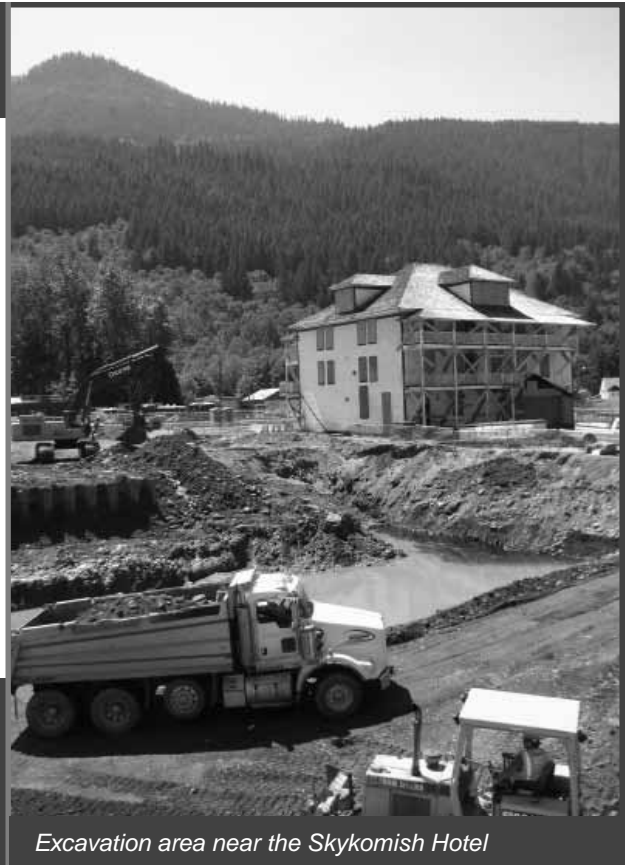
Cleanup approach

Call Ecology at 425-649-4486 or visit their website
at [http://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)

Community wastewater system construction

Call the Town of Skykomish at 360-677-2388

For additional information, please visit
www.skykomishcleanup.com or
email us at info@skykomishcleanup.com.



Excavation area near the Skykomish Hotel