

OAK HARBOR CLEAN WATER FACILITY PROJECT

STATE PROGRAM: Washington Department of Ecology

ASSISTANCE RECIPIENT: City of Oak Harbor

ASSISTANCE AMOUNT: \$100M



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Oak Harbor received a \$100 million CWSRF loan to construct a new membrane bioreactor (MBR) system to replace two aging wastewater facilities that were nearing their treatment capacity and were not equipped to meet future water quality standards. The new MBR system doubled treatment capacity and produces a high-quality effluent that can be used as reclaimed water for irrigation. The City used a parallel design and construction approach to streamline getting the MBR facility into operation. A Memorandum of Agreement was developed between seven Tribes, Oak Harbor, the Department of Ecology, and the EPA to appropriately handle the discovery of cultural resources during construction. The MBR facility was built at one of the former treatment sites which was adjacent to Windjammer Park. The City worked with community members to create the Windjammer Park Integration Plan which consisted of low-impact green infrastructure, connecting walkways, and a central pavilion at the new facility. The pavilion serves as an entrance to the administration office and acts as a public plaza suitable for community events where visitors can learn about the new facility and reclaimed resources. This new high performing facility with integrated community space provides many environmental and social benefits for the City of Oak Harbor.

To read more about this case study, please visit https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2019-11/documents/pisces_2019_compendium.pdf.