



## **ROSS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT**

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**For Immediate Release**

**More Information**  
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### **Ross Valley Sanitary District Clarifies Cause of Recent Fairfax Spill Was Unrelated to Nearby Repair Work**

**May 4, 2011 - Ross Valley.** On Tuesday, April 26, 2011, a Marin Independent Journal article appeared to assert that the District's pipe repair work below a property at 62 Valley Road in the fall of 2010 might have resulted in the recent slippage of a nearby hillside, which damaged an underground sewer pipe and released an estimated 8,000 to 9,000 gallons of sewage.

In fact, the slippage where the spill occurred is located approximately half a football field upstream and around a very sharp bend from the creek crossing where above-ground pipe repair work was completed last fall. The area where the spill occurred was not accessed by the contractor performing the repairs or by District personnel.

While performing routine system monitoring activities, District staff discovered the hillside slippage, which had separated sections of an underground sewer pipe and caused the spill. The spill was reported to the Office of Emergency Services, Regional Water Quality Control Board, and County Health. Signs notifying the public about the spill were posted per County Health recommendations.