

General Manager's Monthly Bulletin - December 2020

Ross Valley Sanitary District provides this monthly news bulletin to stay connected to the community we serve. We welcome your feedback on any information in the bulletin, and if at any time you no longer prefer to receive this information, please email us at info@rvsd.org. Visit us online at www.RVSD.org for more information.



With a trying year for everyone now coming to an end, we send our best wishes to everyone as COVID-19 vaccines continue to roll out. Our staff remain dedicated to ensuring the essential daily operation and maintenance of approximately 200 miles of collection sewer lines and 19 pumping stations, while observing appropriate physical distance requirements, using sanitizer and wearing masks now and in to 2021.

Construction work has wound down for the season. Over the past year we have faced and met several challenges to continue rebuilding our system infrastructure. Upcoming Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects being planned for 2021 include Larkspur Pump Station 14 Improvements and South Eliseo Pump Stations 24 & 25 generator replacements (in Larkspur), as well as some gravity sewer improvements around the District for which we will provide more detail next month.

As part of our public process of discussing the disposition of the Larkspur Landing property, a third informational presentation will be held on **Wednesday January 27, 2021 at 4pm via GoTo Meeting**. This presentation will provide information on the state's Surplus Lands Act.

Two other informational presentations about the Larkspur Landing property were given earlier in the year. [The first presentation on September 30](#) focused on potential Transaction Structures (i.e., lease, sale, or joint venture development). [The second presentation on December 3](#) focused on Current Land Use Entitlements and the Larkspur General Plan update.

Meeting materials and videos of public presentations given to date are posted on the [Larkspur Landing webpage](#) along with information going back to the late 1990s.

We encourage our ratepayers to track and participate in this discussion as the Board weighs alternatives, and we will keep you informed about additional opportunities to provide input.

Safety Continues to be a Top Priority

Our fully trained staff are equipped to comply with local, State and Federal safety and quality protocols for managing the RVSD sanitary sewer system in your neighborhood. Every day, their work ensures our wastewater collection system, pumping equipment, and essential District services continue to run smoothly. Additional reminders to be aware of include:

- Access to our public lobby and other facilities remains closed to the public and all non-essential visitors until further notice.
- We continue to issue permits (payments by check only), schedule essential inspection appointments, and process grant and loan applications electronically via info@rvsd.org, Monday through Friday. Contact us at 415-259-2949 for assistance.
- If you have a public sewer emergency, such as a manhole overflow or leaking pipe, or you smell or see sewage on the ground, please contact us immediately for 24-hour response at 415-259-2949.



We are always happy to assist you with answering any questions related to the sewer system. With all that is going on we want you to have peace of mind that you can count on your community sewer system to safely and reliably convey the waters from your sinks, showers, washing machines, dishwashers, bathtubs and toilets. If you have any questions or observations of concern, don't hesitate to call us at 415-259-2949 or email us at info@rvsd.org. Thank you!

Steve Moore, General Manager



As the holiday season ends and 2021 begins, please be mindful of actions that cause sewer overflows!

[Click here](#) for information on how to properly dispose of Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) throughout the year! [Click here](#) to review our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) explaining sewer overflows and what to do to prevent them.

Help prevent sewer backups:

- **NO wipes** in the pipes! Flush **ONLY** toilet paper.
- Keep hazardous waste, pesticides & medications out of drains.
- Keep fats, oil & grease out of your drain.
- Regularly inspect & maintain your sewer pipes.

Please remember to only flush toilet paper. "Flushable" wipes (which are not biodegradable), paper towels, rags and shop towels do not break down. They clog your home's pipes and contribute to clogs and overflows in the public sewer system, affecting health and safety of the entire community and environment. Please take a look at our series of informational videos available for the entire family to learn from on the RVSD [Sustainability webpage](#).

Remember to ALWAYS put wipes, paper towels and similar products in the trash, not the toilet. ONLY toilet paper and human waste are flushable.

You can also [click here](#) to see videos on how to properly dispose of wipes, expired and/or unused medications, Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG), and more! The links below provide more information about what to do with "flushable" wipes and similar items.

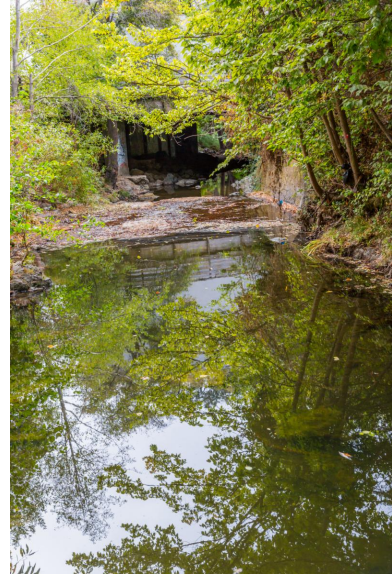
- [California Association of Sanitation Agencies \(CASA\) website](#)
- [Avoid Fatbergs! Don't Flush Wipes Due to Virus, California Says](#)
- [California Issues Warning about Disinfecting Wipes](#)
- [California Water Board Do NOT Flush Wipes News Advisory](#)
- [Disinfecting Wipes Being Flushed Down Toilets Causing Major Pipe Problems](#)

Important Reminders

[Click here](#) to review our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that explain sewer overflows and what to do.

If you see or experience a public sewer emergency, call the RVSD Emergency Line 24/7 at 415-259-2949. Common reasons to call include a manhole overflow, leaking pipe, odors or visible sewage on the ground. Our emergency crews are available 365 days per year, 24 hours per day, seven days per week!

Before you hire a plumbing contractor, [click here](#) to check the California Department of Consumer Affairs Contractors State License Board (CSLB) for more information. Make sure any plumber you hire is familiar with district policies and programs for any private property sewer emergency.



All of this information can be viewed online [here](#) or by clicking the "EMERGENCY" icon on our website [homepage](#).

Our ongoing Capital Improvement Program (CIP) construction projects continue during the COVID-19 Shelter in Place Order as these are essential infrastructure upgrades.

Sewer line repair and rehabilitation projects help protect public health and the environment by reducing the risk of sewer overflows. You can view [upcoming projects being planned and going out to bid](#) as well as recently completed projects throughout our service area.

Visit our [Capital Improvement Program](#) (CIP) web page for the latest project information and updates for each of the projects listed below:

1. **Larkspur Pump Station 14 Improvements and South Eliseo Pump Stations 24 & 25 generator replacements** (in Larkspur) – Both projects are currently in the design phase, estimated to go out to bid in early 2021.
2. **Force Main Appurtenances Project** – Complete.
3. **Laurel Grove Sewer Rehabilitation Project** – Complete except for final paving.
4. **Larkspur Landing Cleanup Project** - Cleanup activities are complete.

Want to receive timely construction updates? [Click here](#) to select the project you want updates for or call us at 415-259-2949.

[COVID-19 Exposure Control Plan](#) measures were first adopted by the District in April 2020 and are updated as needed in response to local and State mandates, including an update in November 2020. These measures are in place and are adhered to throughout construction on the District's projects, as well as in our daily operations and maintenance practices.

Additional information about COVID-19 can be found at the links provided below:

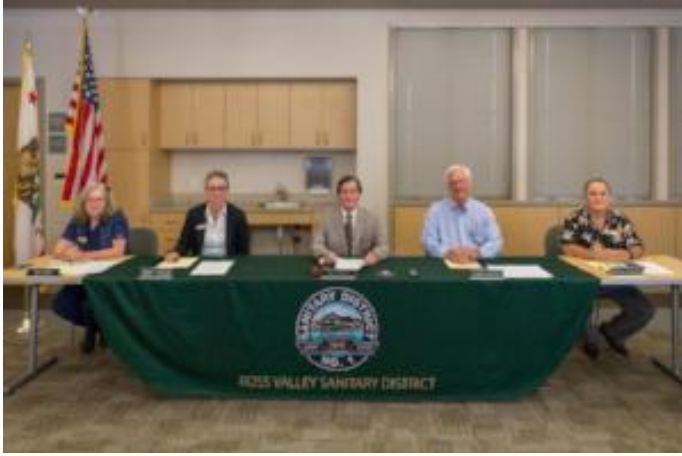
- [Marin County Health and Human Services - FAQ for COVID-19](#)
- [The Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) and Federal Occupational Health and Safety Administration \(OSHA\) - COVID-19 Guidance for Water/Wastewater Systems](#)

Due to current COVID-19 conditions, **members of the public are invited to attend RVSD Regular Board Meetings safely and remotely, from a computer, tablet or smartphone.**

Ross Valley Sanitary District Board Meetings are typically held the third Wednesday of

each month at 5:00 PM.

The RVSD Regular Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20, 2021, at 5:00 PM via GoToMeeting.



[Click here](#) for updated meeting access information 24 hours before the meeting. [Check the agenda posting here](#) 72 hours before each meeting for open session time.

Want an alert when the next Board meeting agenda is available? Please write to our [Clerk of the Board](#) to request to be included in upcoming agenda alerts.

Click here to visit
RVSD.org