

General Manager's Monthly Bulletin - April 2021

Ross Valley Sanitary District (RVSD) provides this monthly news bulletin to stay connected to the community we serve. We welcome your feedback on any information in the bulletin. 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.



As Earth Day was celebrated on April 22, we want to assure all of our customers that RVSD remains dedicated to ensuring our 200 miles of sewer lines and 19 pumping stations are properly maintained and operating. Through our [Capital Improvement Program](#), we are conducting important infrastructure projects that help protect public health and the environment by reducing the risk of sewer overflows. Our efforts include continuing to work with the community to replace the outdated sewer laterals that still remain. Our staff will continue to observe the appropriate physical distance requirements, use sanitizer products and wear protective masks while performing our daily operation and maintenance tasks as long as recommended by local and national health authorities.

2021 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Projects to Begin Soon

Bids were opened for the [Butterfield/Arroyo-Kenrick Gravity Sewer Improvements Project](#) on April 29. We anticipate awarding a contract by May 19, with construction anticipated to begin by mid-June. In addition to creating needed sewer capacity along Butterfield Road, this project also replaces 70-year old sewers on lower Fawn Drive near Butterfield.

The District issued its Notice Inviting Bids for the [FY 2020/21 Gravity Sewer Improvements Project](#) and requests for proposals to provide construction management services for the project closed on April 19. We anticipate reviewing bids and selecting the project contractor in June. Construction is anticipated to begin in July.

Design work for the Larkspur Pump Stations 14, 24 & 25 Improvements is wrapping up, with bidding anticipated in May. Construction is anticipated to begin in July.

District Compliance with the Cease and Desist Order – The Final Push

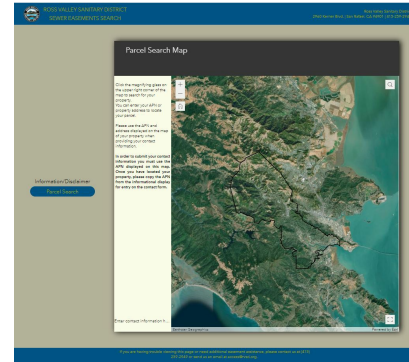
Since 2013, the District has been under a state order to accomplish a number of tasks, including repairing hundreds of specific pipeline defects and rehabilitating specific pump station, force main, and gravity sewer system components. This ongoing effort has been accomplished through a capital program that has exceeded \$100 million, requiring the issuance of revenue bonds to finance the program. Eight years later, the District is close to completion of these tasks, with three of the CIP projects listed above addressing a large part of the outstanding obligations under the order.

Our in-house repair crew, with some contractor support, will also be addressing other remaining obligations throughout the Ross Valley. Therefore a lot of sewer construction activity will take place in Ross Valley this summer, and we appreciate everyone's patience and support as we near the finish line in complying with a very challenging state order.

If you have questions or concerns during construction, do not hesitate to contact us at info@rvsd.org. We want to be as responsive as we can to community needs as we update and repair vital infrastructure and comply with state requirements. One silver lining is that the next five years are expected to have quite a bit less construction activity than the previous five years

Easement Access Initiative

Do you have a public sewer main or manhole on your property? If so, what does that mean? We successfully launched our sewer utility easements web portal under "Customer Service" at www.rvsd.org, and customers and contractors are using it to answer these questions. Since the program began in February, over 500 customers have provided us with their contact information. This helps all of us better communicate when we have to maintain or replace these essential utilities for the protection of public health.



THANK YOU!

Larkspur Landing

We continue to wait for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) review and comment on the draft Larkspur Landing site cleanup completion report that RVSD submitted in January. The site will be officially available for consideration of the appropriate unrestricted land use once the final report has been accepted. Public outreach will continue throughout the process.

All three informational presentations held to date are posted on the [Larkspur Landing webpage](#). 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 as a Top Priority

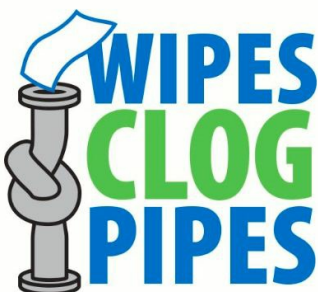
Our fully trained staff are equipped to comply with local, State and Federal safety and quality protocols for managing the RVSD sanitary sewer system in your neighborhood. Every day, their work ensures our interconnected wastewater collection system, pumping equipment and essential District services 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 at info@rvsd.org, Monday through Friday. Call 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 here to assist you and answer questions related to the sewer system. Please know that you can continue to count on your community sewer system to operate safely, reliably and efficiently. Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns at **415-259-2949** or email us at info@rvsd.org. Thank you!

Steve Moore, General Manager



Don't Cause Sewer Overflows!

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

Call the RVSD Emergency Line 24/7 at 415-259-2949 if you see or have a public sewer emergency. 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](#).

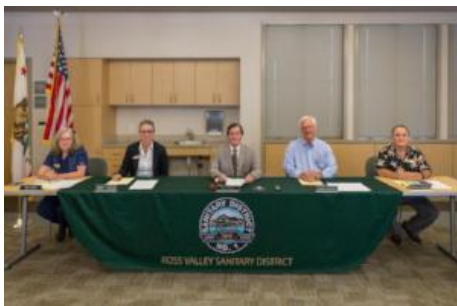


Upcoming 2021 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) construction projects will continue during the COVID-19 Shelter in Place Order. These infrastructure upgrades help maintain the region's interconnected sewer system as we continue to provide cost-effective wastewater collection service that protects public 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.

Watch our [Capital Improvement Program](#) (CIP) web page for the latest information and updates on these upcoming projects. Individual web pages will be launched for each project as the bidding phase begins.

- **Butterfield/Arroyo-Kenrick Gravity Sewer Improvements** – Bids for this project were due on April 29. Contractor award and start of construction is anticipated to take place by mid-June.
- **FY 20/21 Gravity Sewer Improvements**– Design work is complete and requests for proposals to provide construction managements services closed on April 19. Bids are due on June 3. Construction is anticipated to begin in July.
- **Larkspur Pump Stations 14, 24 & 25 Improvements**– Design work is nearing completion. Bidding is anticipated in May, with construction anticipated to begin in July.
- **Ross Creek Sewer Removal Project**– Project is in the permitting phase, with a goal to construct in early fall, during dry weather.

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



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, May 19, 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.





Updating your sewer lateral through the RVSD

**Lateral
Replacement
Grant Program**
is easier than ever!



CLICK HERE to learn more or visit www.RVSD.org/LRGP

Click here to visit
RVSD.org