

General Manager's Monthly Bulletin July 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 select Unsubscribe at the bottom of this message. Visit us online at www.RVSD.org for more information.

Summer is in full swing. Our public lobby is open to the public, and construction of this year's Capital Improvement Program Projects have begun, including work for the [FY 2020/21 Gravity Sewer Improvement Project](#). The photo on the right shows workers replacing a sewer main on Rancheria Road in Kentfield as part of this project.

The District's capital program upgrades outdated infrastructure across the region's interconnected sewer system. Upgrading our system is essential as it helps protect public health and the environment by reducing the risk of sewer overflows.



Our Lobby and Other Facilities are OPEN to the Public

Our public lobby office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Due to recent recommendations of the Marin County Health Officer, all visitors, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear a mask while inside our offices. We appreciate your cooperation! We continue to respond promptly to emails and phone calls. Please send your email to info@rvsd.org or call us at 415-259-2949.

Permit Fees and Capacity Charges Increase

Our Permit Fees and Capacity Charges increase according to the annual Engineering News-Record (ENR) Index for construction costs each year in July. The [new fee schedule](#) is posted online and went into effect on July 1. New permit applications received on or after July 1 are subject to the new fee schedule.

2021 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Project Updates

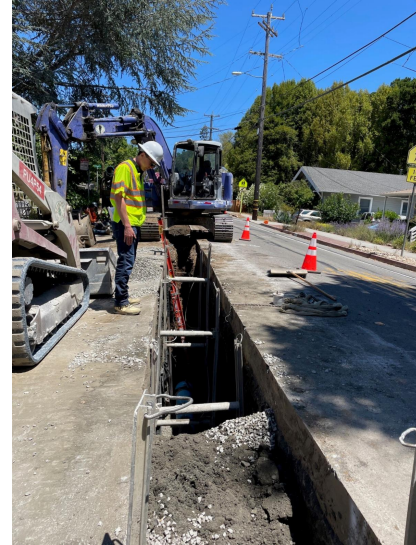
Work continues on Butterfield Road (photo on right) as part of the [Butterfield/Arroyo-Kenrick Gravity Sewer Improvements Project](#) and is proceeding on schedule for anticipated completion by August 20.

After work is complete on Butterfield, crews will begin working on Fawn Drive. Visit the project web page above for more information. [Click here](#) to view the community PowerPoint presentation given on June 9.

Work on the [FY 2020/21 Gravity Sewer Improvements Project](#) started on July 19 at Rancheria Road in Kent Woodlands. This project includes repairing and replacing priority sewers throughout the Ross Valley, including San Anselmo (Sequoia Park), Ross (Skyland Way) and Larkspur (South Eliseo Drive). Go to the project web page above for more details.

Pacific Infrastructure Corporation was awarded the construction contract for the [Larkspur Pump Stations 14, 24 & 25 Improvements Project](#) at the July 21 board meeting. Construction is anticipated to begin this fall. Pump Station improvements include generator upgrades for back-up power, replacing pump/level controls with a new control system, reviewing the odor control system for additional capacity, and other deferred maintenance.

Permit applications and fees have been submitted for the [Ross Creek Sewer Removal Project](#), located by the Shady Lane Bridge at Locust Ave in Ross. We remain on track with our goal to construct in early fall before the rainy season.



[Click here](#) for more information about the District's capital improvement program (CIP) in progress this summer and to view our CIP project webpage.



Updates to our Lateral Replacement Grant and Loan Programs

Did you know that over half of all sewer spills are caused by leaking private laterals? Recent updates to our Lateral Replacement Grant and Loan Programs approved by the Board of Directors will continue to provide financial assistance to ratepayers in replacing their laterals.

[Grant Applications](#) will now be accepted after sewer work has been completed and signed off by a District Inspector. Property Owners will have 180 days from the final inspection date to submit a grant application along with a paid-in-full invoice to be eligible for either a \$1,500 or \$2,500 grant to replace their sewer lateral.

For the loan program, the maximum individual loan amount has been increased from \$10,000 to \$25,000. This increase in loan amount will better assist District ratepayers with high-priced sewer lateral replacement costs. Loan applications can be accessed [here](#).

Our staff is available to discuss these updates with you. Contact our office at [415-259-2949](tel:415-259-2949) or via email to info@rvsd.org with any questions you may have. Together, we will reduce wastewater contamination in our community and waterways to help protect beautiful Ross Valley!

RVSD Staff Tour the CMSA Wastewater Treatment Plant

Wastewater that the District sewer system collects and transports is treated at the [Central Marin Sanitary Agency](#) (CMSA) wastewater treatment plant. CMSA also treats wastewater from San Rafael Sanitation District and Sanitary District No. 2 of Marin County (Town of Corte Madera).

To better understand the importance of the wastewater treatment process, RVSD administrative staff attended a tour (photo to the right) led by CMSA's General Manager Jason Dow on July 14.



Staff learned the process of treating wastewater, from the multi-faceted cleaning process to the release of clean effluent into San Francisco Bay. To learn more about CMSA and their public facility tours, visit their website [here](#).

Easement Access Update

Since reaching out to property owners with a sewer utility easement on their property in late February, more than 550 customers have provided us with their contact information.

THANK YOU!



The information we receive from you now will help reduce or eliminate any “surprises” when RVSD maintenance staff need to access the easement to ensure the system keeps moving. The photo on the left shows an example of a District manhole in the tidal flats of Corte Madera Creek.

Visit our [Sewer Utility Easements web page](#) or click the video above to learn more. A [Sewer Easements Search interactive map](#) can also be used by following the instructions provided to see if there is an easement on your property, which can help

you avoid inadvertently placing features like fences and greenhouses on top of public sewers and manholes which may need to be accessed for maintenance or replacement. You can always visit the Easements web page, email info@rvsd.org or contact us at **415-259-2949** with any questions or for more information.

Larkspur Landing Update

We received comments from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the draft Larkspur Landing site cleanup completion and sent in a final follow-up report in June. The site (photo to the right) will be officially available for further consideration of future uses once the final report has been accepted. Public outreach will continue throughout the process to consider the appropriate unrestricted land use for this site.



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. You can review the three Informational Presentations held to date on the [RVSD Larkspur Landing webpage](#).

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.

Important Reminders:

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 a 24-hour response at **415-259-2949. Our emergency crews are available 365 days per year, 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Calling us first will result in a faster response than a private company, possibly preventing a discharge to a creek! [Click here](#) to see our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that explain sewer overflows and what to do.**

Before hiring 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.

Ross Valley is on Nextdoor!

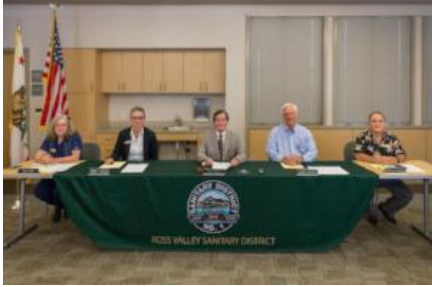
Subscribe to our Nextdoor page [here](#) to find out if there will be construction in your neighborhood.

nextdoor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Moore".

Steve Moore, General Manager

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 on the third Wednesday of each month at 5 p.m. These Board Meetings will continue to be held virtually until further notice but are likely to resume in person after September 30th, when the Governor's COVID-19 emergency declaration expires.

The RVSD Regular Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at 5 p.m. 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