

General Manager's Monthly Bulletin June 2022

Ross Valley Sanitary District (the District) 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 wish to receive this newsletter, please select "Unsubscribe" at the bottom of this message. Visit us online at www.RVSD.org for more information.



Summer has arrived and RVSD staff continue to provide reliable, high quality wastewater collection services to the greater Ross Valley area. It's the time of year when our field crews focus on preventive actions to prepare for the rainy season.

Working outside in the sun all day, it's important to remember to stay hydrated to prevent suffering from heat stress. We hope you all keep cool out there while enjoying the great outdoors!

Even during hot and dry summer weather conditions, sewer spills can occur due to blockages or defects in a pipe.

Remember, if you see a public sewer emergency such as a manhole overflow, leaking pipe, or sewage on the ground, ***please call the RVSD Emergency Line 24/7 at 415-259-2949 as soon as possible***. When making an emergency call, be prepared to provide your name, phone number, and address where the incident occurs. After-hours calls will route to our on-call staff for immediate assistance.

RVSD Repair Crew Hosts Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District

Vallejo Wastewater staff recently spent a day shadowing our District Repair Crew to learn more about correct methods for performing pipe patch repairs. Vallejo staff contacted the District and requested this hands-on training.

The District Repair Crew is hard at work every month, installing pipe point repairs to our 200-mile sanitary sewer system. These repairs include patching defects at offset pipe joints (where two pipes come together) and holes in the pipes. If unaddressed, these defects can allow groundwater to infiltrate and overwhelm the sewer system during wet weather or allow soil, debris and rock to enter the system and cause blockages, backups and overflows.

In areas near the Bay, infiltrated groundwater is salty and lowers the quality of recycled water produced at the Central Marin Sanitation Agency (CMSA) treatment plant.

The hard work of our Repair Crew improves sewer collection system reliability by reducing the likelihood of a sewer spill, and by reducing storm water and groundwater infiltration into the system, which prevents the CMSA facility from becoming overloaded.



Easement Access

Do you have a sewer easement on your property? Around 35% of District infrastructure is located on private property. If you think you may have an RVSD sewer easement on your property, you can search our [interactive parcel search map](#) to find out.

Enter your APN or property address to locate your parcel. If you have a sewer utility easement on your property, we kindly ask you to submit contact information by filling out our [easement contact form](#).

Once your information is in our system, we will do our best to notify you before entry when occasional access is required to maintain the sewer system. Questions about easements? Visit our [Sewer Utility Easements webpage](#) or contact staff at info@rvsd.org or access@rvsd.org.

SmartCover Preventive Maintenance

Staff regularly inspect and maintain the District's [SmartCover manhole lids](#), changing batteries and monitoring wear and tear. Preventive maintenance of these covers ensures each device functions properly as an early sewer overflow alert system. The SmartCover lids have a green reflector that sits in the center of the lid, allowing staff to quickly distinguish each from a regular manhole cover. Next time you are driving in the District, see if you can spot a SmartCover lid!



2022 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Projects Planning Update

A segment of the FY 2022/23 Gravity Sewer Improvements Project (GSIP) has become its own project, now called the Woodland Road Capacity Project. During design of the FY 22/23 GSIP, several Tamalpais Creek crossings were identified in the Kent Woodlands area (photo left) that warrant pipe replacement to reduce storm water inflow and infiltration (I&I) while upgrading system capacity. This project will replace identified segments of pipe at creek crossings with new pipe running below the creekbed, improving habitat and better protecting aquatic resources.

In reviewing our Capital Improvement Plan alongside

the 2021 Infrastructure Asset Management Plan, staff identified an opportunity to use a lift station design underway to address two other lift stations also in need of upgrades.

In addition to the existing design contract for Lift Station 20 (photo right), located on East Sir Francis Drake Blvd. at the Highway 101 northbound onramp, the Board approved adding rehabilitation of Lift Stations 31 and 32, (station 32 in photo below) located in Larkspur Marina along Riviera Circle.



Because all three stations have the same outdated pumping system, the design work will essentially provide updates to all three lift stations for the price of upgrading two. Bidding work for all three lift stations together this fall will likely be more cost-effective than bidding each separately.

2021-22 Capital Improvement Progress Report

FY 2020/21 Gravity Sewer Improvements: All contract work is complete. The Board approved additional work on Woodland Road (near Evergreen Drive in Kentfield) to address excessive groundwater infiltration on Laurel Way and increase capacity to prevent overflows in wet weather. This work is scheduled for July. Visit the [project webpage](#) for updates and more information as it becomes available.

Larkspur Pump Stations 14, 24, & 25 Improvements: Construction is delayed at PS 14 as the contractor is currently waiting for deliveries of construction equipment and materials. Visit the [project webpage](#) for updates and more information.

More information about the District's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) can be found on our [CIP project](#) webpage. You can also visit our [Recently Completed Projects](#) web page to view the completed projects to date.

Larkspur Landing Update

[Visit the Larkspur Landing web page](#) to access the survey results and to learn more. Want future Larkspur Landing Updates? Please send an email to info@rvsd.org and request being added to our Larkspur Landing interested parties list.



PG&E Tower Construction is Complete

The giant cranes are gone and the protective mats have been removed from the Larkspur Landing property. The PG&E project to replace an aging transmission tower was completed on time and the property was left in good condition by the contractor. By using protective mats, the contractor did not have to build temporary roads or install and remove gravel, which simplified the demobilization process. The contractor will monitor vegetation regrowth into the fall.

to meet site restoration requirements.



Subscribe to our Nextdoor page [here](#) as one of the ways you can find out if there will be construction in your neighborhood.



Follow our LinkedIn page [here](#) to stay up to date on current job announcements and other news about the District.

Important Reminders:

[Review our Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#) that explain sewer overflows and what to do if you see one.

Before hiring a plumbing contractor, 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.

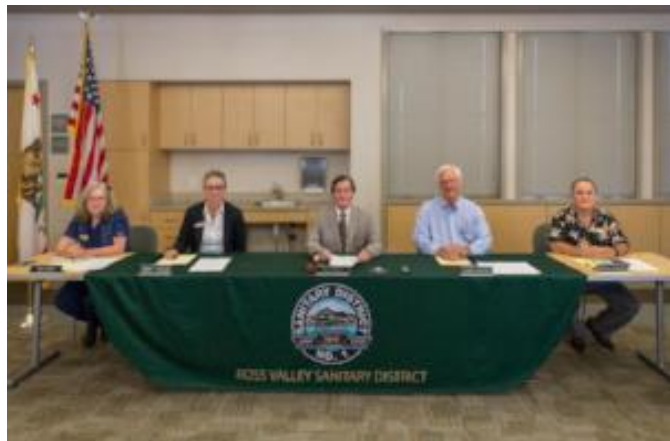
Sincerely,

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.

The next RVSD Regular Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 20, 2022 at 5 p.m. via Zoom.



[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 being included in upcoming agenda alerts.



Ross Valley Sanitary District

You can **protect** our
environment **AND**
prevent sewer backups.

Keep unwanted items **out of drains**
and flush only toilet paper.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more, or visit www.RVSD.org/101

[Click here to visit RVSD.org](http://www.RVSD.org)