

## General Manager's Monthly Bulletin October 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](http://www.RVSD.org) for more information.



We hope everyone has a safe and fun Halloween! This month's bulletin describes the most recent accomplishments and operations of the District. Collectively, this work enhances the wastewater infrastructure we all depend on for our day-to-day activities. The efficient management of a wastewater collection system is critical to minimizing performance failures and potential effects that may harm public health and the environment.

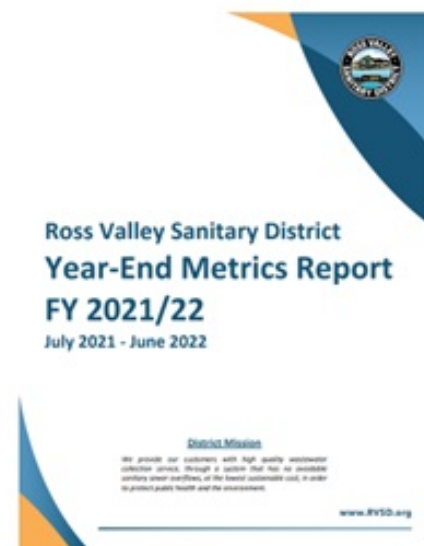
Remember, if you see a public sewer emergency such as a manhole overflow, leaking pipe, or sewage on the ground, **please call the RVSD Emergency Line 24/7 at 415-259-2949 as soon as possible**. When making an emergency call, be prepared to provide your name, phone number, and address where the incident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

### Fiscal Year 2021/22 Year- End Metrics Report

The District has just published its [year-end metrics report](#) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021/22, which ended on June 30, 2022. This fifth edition of the annual report has received favorable reviews from the Collection System Committee members of the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) and is used as a reference by other Districts and Cities.

The District uses a computerized maintenance management system (CMMS) and geographic information system (GIS) for data collection and interpretation. Yearly metrics are also compared through time to review and analyze performance trends going back as far as FY 2015/16 (seven years). The metrics report is organized in the following sections: Flow and Wet Weather Infiltration and Inflow (I&I), Pump Stations, Line Maintenance, Service Calls, Condition Assessment, System Condition Indicators, Repair, Inspections, and Lateral Programs.

The report illustrates District performance for FY 2021/22 across the work groups. In June of 2022, RVSD Flow to the Central Marin Sanitation Agency (CMSA) treatment facility was only 41% of the total CMSA flow, the lowest percentage of monthly flow recorded for RVSD among the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) agencies in the last five years. The lowest percentage previously recorded was 42% in July 2018 and June 2021. RVSD's investments and efforts in reducing I&I are reflected in this lower percentage of dry weather flows which



translates to lower-than-budgeted CMSA treatment fees, year after year.



### Identifying and Fixing Voids

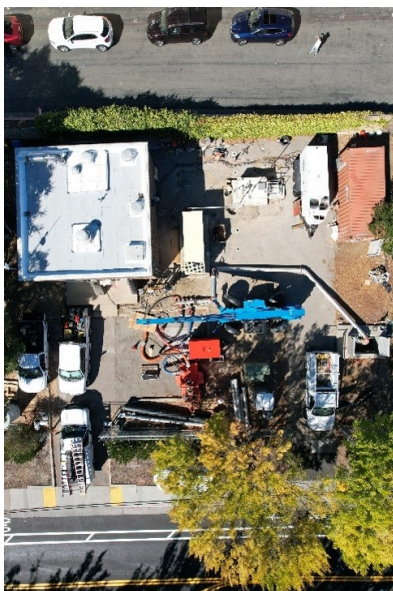
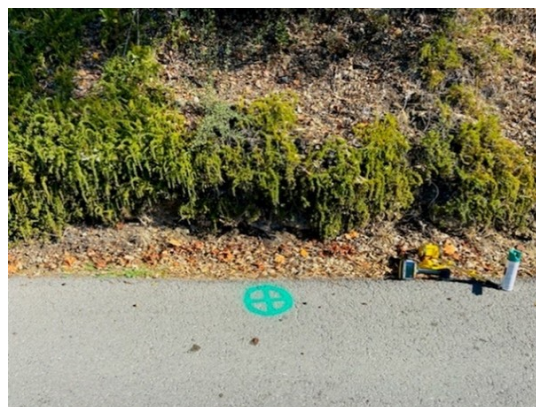
This month, three of the District's crews teamed up to solve a problem they identified and prevent I&I and debris from entering the sewer system, helping prevent a sanitary sewer overflow in the future. Line Maintenance staff found a large void upstream of a manhole in a vitrified clay pipe on La Cuesta Drive in Greenbrae. This pipe was originally laid in 1946, making it 76 years old.

A void is a section of pipe that is broken and collapsed, exposing the inside of the pipe to soils and backfill that surrounds the pipe. In this instance, the broken pieces of pipe collected in the pipe and partially blocked the flow. Line Maintenance staff removed the debris and contacted Condition Assessment staff to video the line to confirm pipe flow was reestablished. Following that, Repair staff was dispatched to repair the broken pipe, sealing it off from surrounding soils and backfill. This experience is a good illustration of the effective teamwork our crews use working together to provide cost effective wastewater service to our customers.

### Locating Buried Manholes

Staff worked to raise a buried manhole on Vista Grande in Greenbrae. The manhole was found buried around three feet below ground level. To find buried manholes, staff can use metal detectors for locating the buried frame and cover of the manhole. Staff also use CCTV to identify the location of a buried manhole.

When a buried manhole is found, crews mark the location with green spray paint. Relocating buried or lost manholes or rod holes is a high priority of the District. These lost assets prevent our crews from being able to assess and maintain the pipe, risking the overall integrity and health of the system.



### 2022 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Projects Update

**FY 2020/21 Gravity Sewer Improvements:** Work on the final segment of this project was completed in September to improve hydraulic capacity of the Kent Woodlands trunk sewer downstream of improvements completed as part of this project last year. In addition, this final element of the project will reduce I&I of shallow groundwater and stormwater. The Board approved the Notice of Completion this month. This project has improved sewers in Kent Woodlands, Greenbrae, Ross, San Anselmo and Larkspur Landing. Visit the [recently completed projects webpage](#) for more information.

**Larkspur Pump Stations 14, 24, & 25 Improvements:** Construction continues at PS 14, the District's major pump station serving the southern half of Larkspur and located adjacent to Hall Middle School. This month, staff worked closely with Pacific Infrastructure and Pac Machine to both install and dismantle a bypass pumping system. A pump station shutdown and bypass pumping were necessary for the contractor (Tesco) to upgrade the station's electrical and control systems. The bypass system operated smoothly, and staff remotely monitored system levels utilizing a "Smart Cover" manhole upstream of the pump station. Visit the [project webpage](#) for more information and updates.

**FY 2022/23 Gravity Sewer Improvements:** The Board awarded the contract for this upcoming project to Glosage Engineering, Inc., in September. The notice to proceed is set to be issued on November 9, with work planned to begin



shortly thereafter in Kent Woodlands on South Ridgewood. The District experienced a large sanitary sewer overflow at this location during the storm last year (October 24, 2021). Visit the [project webpage](#) for more information and updates.

**Lift Stations 20, 31 & 32 Pump Stations Improvements:** This project to address aging equipment at minor lift stations, prioritized by our 2021 Infrastructure Asset Management Plan (IAMP), is still in the design phase. Visit the [project webpage](#) for more information and updates.

**Woodland Road Capacity Improvements:** The Board approved the design contract for this project in August. The project is still in the design phase. Visit the [project webpage](#) for more information and updates.

**FY 2023/24 Gravity Sewer Improvements Design Services:** Receipt of proposals for engineering design services closed on October 18. The proposals are being reviewed and the consultant services agreement may be awarded as soon as November 16.

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



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



**We are also on LinkedIn!** Follow our 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, November 16, 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](http://www.RVSD.org/101)

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