

General Manager's Monthly Bulletin September 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.

We are OPEN to the public

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

Summer is winding down as the District continues to upgrade outdated sewer infrastructure through our Capital Improvement Program, with project work now moving into the fall season. Making these improvements to our 120-year-old system is essential to help protect public health and the environment by reducing the risk of sewer spills. In addition to this work, we recently released our latest [informational video](#) on what to do if you see a sewer spill.



If you see a sewer spill
DON'T WAIT
CALL US FIRST!

415-259-2949

For more information visit rvsd.org

How to Respond to a Sanitary Sewer Overflow

A sanitary sewer overflow (SSO, or spill) occurs when a sanitary sewer system releases untreated raw sewage into the environment. SSOs can occur for multiple reasons. One reason is during a storm when an increased amount of water enters and overloads the sanitary sewer system. In addition, blockages and defects to the sewer system can increase the frequency of SSO events. Blockages happen when people use the toilet or sink as a trash can – throwing wipes, sanitary napkins, fats/oils/grease (FOG), floss and other non-degradable items into them. These items accumulate and block our older, smaller pipes. We also observe that plumbers and contractors sometimes send root wads and drain rock down into our system when clearing laterals, causing blockages that lead to spills. We encourage everyone to let us know when these things happen because we can respond right away,

free of charge, and clear these blockages before they cause a spill.



These types of overflow events contaminate our waterways, threatening public health and the environment. **Calling us first will result in a faster response than any private company, possibly preventing a discharge to a creek!**

If you believe you are witnessing a sewer spill outside your residence or in the public right of way (as shown in the photos above and to the right), it's essential to act fast and to call your local wastewater agency as soon as possible. Here at the District, we ensure a 24/7 response to any emergency call within our service area.



To learn more about the importance of responding to an SSO and what to look for, check out our newest PSA video [here](#). This PSA and all our informational videos are also available to view on our [Videos](#) web page.

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

2021 Capital Improvement Projects Progress Report

Butterfield/Arroyo-Kenrick Gravity Sewer Improvements Project: Pipeline, lateral installation and sidewalk restoration are complete on Butterfield Road. Work began on Fawn Drive in mid-September and is scheduled to continue through October. Photo on the right shows crews working on Butterfield Rd in San Anselmo this summer. Visit the project [webpage](#) for construction updates and more information.



FY 2020/21 Gravity Sewer Improvements Project: Work on South Eliseo Drive, Corte Real and El Portal in Larkspur will continue into October. Work in Sequoia Park (San Anselmo) is scheduled to begin mid-October. Pipeline work on Rancheria Road and Laurel Way in Kent Woodlands is complete. Photo on the left shows summer work taking place on South Eliseo Drive in Larkspur. The entire project is scheduled to be completed in January, weather permitting. Visit the project [webpage](#) for updates and more information.

Larkspur Pump Stations 14, 24, & 25 Improvements Project: Construction is anticipated to begin this fall. Pump stations 24 and 25 are located on South Eliseo Drive. Station 14 is on Doherty Drive next to Hall Middle School. Visit the project [webpage](#) for updates and more information.

Ross Creek Sewer Removal Project

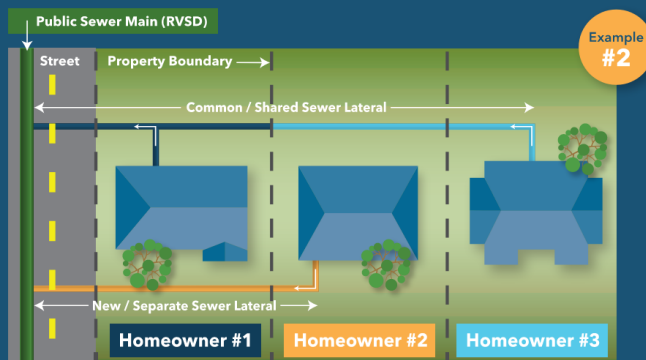
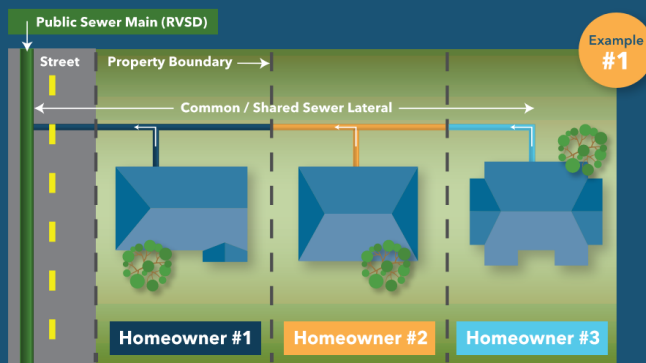
Construction is scheduled to begin on October 4. We received a \$20,190 grant from the [California Fish Passage Forum](#) in June and permits have been received from Regional Water Quality Control Board, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

This ecologically beneficial project will remove the concrete encased, 21-inch diameter abandoned sewer from the creek bed and replace it with an engineered "riffle" (or rapids) to improve steelhead trout migration to and from the ocean. Visit the project [webpage](#) for updates and more information.



Please visit the CIP program [webpage](#) for more information about all of our individual CIP projects.

Examples of **COMMON LATERAL** Configurations



New Common Laterals Webpage

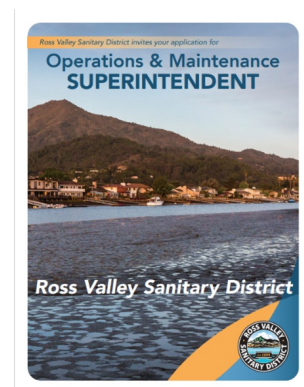
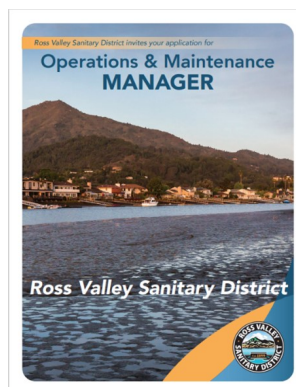
This month we launched a new [Common Laterals](#) web page to provide general information to our customers on what a common lateral is and how a cooperative approach to maintenance, repair, and replacement is beneficial.

While common laterals are ultimately the homeowners' responsibility, the District is always here to talk with you about your sewer lateral and answer any questions you may have. Email us at info@rvsd.org or call our main line at 415-259-2949.

Employment

Opportunities at RVSD

The District is currently accepting applications for [Operations & Maintenance Manager](#) and [Operations & Maintenance Superintendent](#). Applications for each position are due by **Sunday, October 31**. Visit the [Current Opportunities](#) page for more information about our current employment opportunities and to learn how to apply.



District 2021 Infrastructure Asset Management Plan Update

RVSD staff recently updated the District's Infrastructure Asset Management Plan (IAMP), which prioritizes

future capital improvement projects based on a system-wide risk assessment. Most of the District's assets assessed during the IAMP update were determined to be moderate to low risk based on the various risk model calculations for each asset type (i.e., gravity sewers, manholes, pump stations, force mains, etc.).

The previous 2013 IAMP was required by the Cease and Desist Order from the Regional Water Quality Control Board. It guided the capital projects completed over several years which have reduced storm water infiltration and inflow (I&I), reduced sewer spills, increased capacity, and replaced pump station and pipeline infrastructure that had outlived its useful life. The updated plan will be posted online under [District Studies and Reports](#) when finalized.

Larkspur Landing

RVSD continues to wait for the U.S. EPA's official signoff of the site cleanup of the former wastewater treatment plant site at 2000 Larkspur Landing Circle, although informally they have indicated the site is clean and suitable for unrestricted use. Over the past year, the District has conducted a series of informational presentations relating to a potential surplus property disposition in the future. The previous informational presentations are posted on the RVSD [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.

To provide the Board of Directors and the public with a recap of these meetings, the District will hold a special study session on Wednesday, October 13 at 5 p.m.

Go to here - <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/235454181> on the date and time above to join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone. Please contact the [Clerk of the Board](#) if you experience any difficulties accessing the meeting.

Important Reminders:

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

RVSD is on LinkedIn! Follow our LinkedIn page [here](#) to stay up to date on current job announcements.

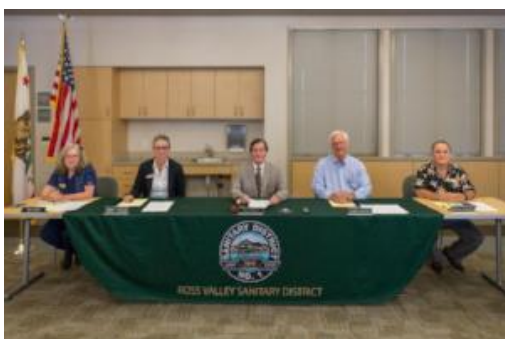


We are also on nextdoor! Subscribe to our Nextdoor page [here](#) to find out if there will be construction in your neighborhood.



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.

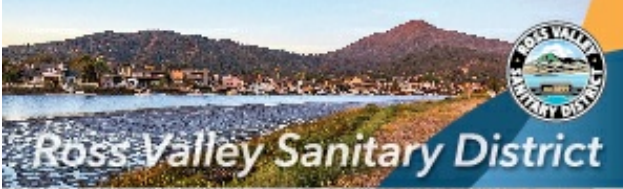


Ross Valley Sanitary District Board Meetings are typically held on the third Wednesday of each month at 5 p.m. These Board Meetings will continue to be held virtually until further notice.

The next RVSD Regular Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 20, 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.



Ross Valley Sanitary District

Do you have a public utility
easement on **your** property?

RVSD has **legal access** to sewers and manholes for maintenance, repair and replacement in both routine and emergency situations.

CLICK HERE to search our interactive parcel map,
or visit www.RVSD.org/289 to learn more.

Click here to visit
RVSD.org