

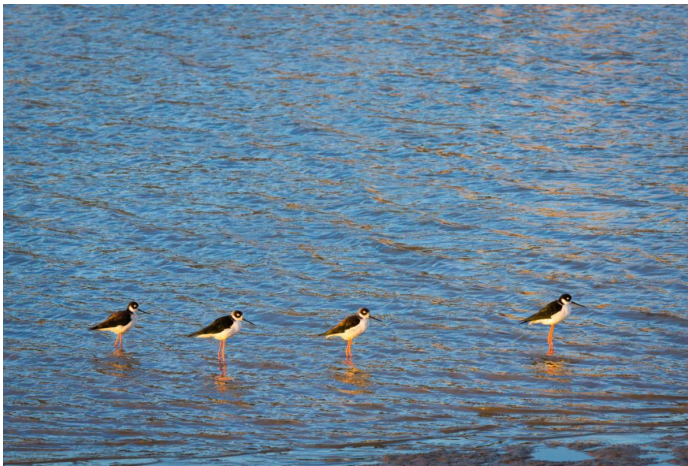


125 Years of Service

Ross Valley Sanitary District

General Manager's Monthly Bulletin

March 2025



Black-necked Stilt enjoying Corte Madera Creek

As March comes to a close, our team has made significant strides in strengthening our sewer system. This month, we focused on proactive system maintenance, successfully completing key tasks such as 21 manhole rehabilitations and 28 point repairs. Additionally, we responded swiftly to a high wet well alarm at Pump Station 33 (Riviera Circle) and continued efforts to locate and restore lost sewer access nodes. These actions underscore our commitment to maintaining a robust infrastructure that serves the community and ensures the continued efficient operation of the RVSD system.

Our headquarters are located at 1111 Andersen Drive in San Rafael. Our regular public lobby office hours are Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to Noon and 1p.m. to 4 p.m. Our dedicated staff are here to assist you via phone, email or in person.

We are available for emergency calls 24/7. 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 at 415-259-2949 as soon as possible.** Every minute counts to help avoid a public health or environmental hazard. Thank you!

Accomplishments

Strengthening Our Sewer System: Manhole and Point Repairs

Staff performed a total of **21** manhole rehabilitations and **28** point repairs across the District's service area, surpassing last month's totals of 12 manhole rehabs and 19 point repairs. These repairs are vital in maintaining the integrity of the sewer system, preventing blockages, and minimizing the risk of spills.

The manhole rehabilitation work was spread

across multiple locations, including Greenbrae, Ross, San Anselmo, and Kent Woodlands. The point repairs addressed significant defects in the system, particularly those classified as “Grade 5” defects which are the most severe. This ongoing effort ensures that the collection system remains efficient and free from infrastructure issues. Our staff continues to make significant progress on these in-house repairs.



Staff preparing a trenchless point repair

Hearing Conservation Training for Operational Staff

This month, District staff participated in a comprehensive hearing conservation training through our web-based safety platform, Target Solutions. The training focused on proper techniques for using safety equipment and methods for hearing conservation, which are crucial for staff working in high-noise environments. Additionally, hearing protection and on-site mobile hearing tests were provided for all operational employees, ensuring an essential service to monitor and track any potential hearing loss. This proactive measure supports our ongoing commitment to employee well-being and safety.



Web-based safety training

Pump Station 33 Alarm and Collaborative Resolution

Staff responded promptly to a high wet well alarm at Pump Station 33 (Riviera Circle). Upon inspection, it was determined that the alarm was triggered by bypass pumping at nearby Pump Stations 31 and 32, which are undergoing rehabilitation projects.

Staff deployed a portable trailer-mounted chopper pump to control the wet well levels and prevent disruption. Additionally, staff worked closely with the contractor to adjust the bypass pump’s float levels, ensuring that the system would remain stable for the duration of the rehabilitation project. These alarms are crucial as they serve as early warnings, helping us detect potential issues before they escalate and ensuring that operations continue smoothly.



Pump Station 33, Riviera Circle, Larkspur

Education and Information

Protecting Sewer Access: Nodes on Your Property

Nodes, such as manholes and rod holes, are access points in the sewer system that allow maintenance staff to inspect, clean, and repair pipes, as well as respond quickly in emergency situations like spills. These nodes are critical for keeping the system running smoothly and are often located in public rights-of-way or on private property. In fact, over 30% of our sewer infrastructure is located on private property, making it even more important for residents to be aware of their role in maintaining these access points.

Unauthorized changes, like removing or replacing a rod hole casting with concrete to cover it, can block staff from accessing the sewer system when needed. It's essential to consult with the District before making modifications to your property that might affect these infrastructure elements. Keeping nodes intact ensures the sewer system remains accessible for essential tasks, ultimately benefiting everyone in the community by supporting effective maintenance and emergency response.

Finding lost and missing nodes has been a District priority, and field staff have excelled at this objective. District staff recently located and reestablished access to one previously lost node. Newly found nodes are updated in our CMMS systems for future tracking and maintenance. So far, about two-thirds of these assets have been found, improving system access for tasks like maintenance and emergency response.

To learn more about public easements or to update your contact information, please visit our website by clicking [here](#).



Node hidden in bushes

Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Project Updates

FY 24/25 Gravity Sewer Improvements Project

The contract for the FY 24/25 Gravity Sewer Improvements Project was awarded to Glosage Engineering, Inc. last month for a total of \$6,137,410. Construction is scheduled to begin in San Anselmo on April 1st.

This project will replace approximately 2.8 miles (14,042 linear feet) of aging gravity sewer pipelines in San Anselmo, Fairfax, and Kentfield. Work will involve open-cut removal, pipe bursting, and reaming, as well as the installation of new high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe and 33 sewer manholes. The project is expected to improve sewer infrastructure and address critical maintenance needs in high-risk areas. Notably, the awarded bid came in 26% below the engineer's estimate, making it a cost-effective solution for our community.

Visit the project [webpage](#) for more information and updates.



Pipe Installation

Lift Stations 20, 31 & 32 Improvements

Work continues on underground utilities at LS20. We expect to wrap up work at LS31 and LS32 within the next two months.

LS31 and LS32 are on Riviera Circle at Via La Brisa and Corte Del Bayo, respectively, in the Larkspur Marina neighborhood. LS20 is in Larkspur Landing next to East Sir Francis Drake Blvd, and near the northbound 101 on-ramp.

The project will convert the lift stations to submersible pump configurations, saving maintenance and energy costs. The project also includes rehabilitating the two small force mains for the LS31 and LS32 lift stations (completed), new electrical control panels, communications equipment, and flow meters will improve the reliability of the lift stations and allow for faster response times to issues at each station.

Visit the project [webpage](#) for more information and updates.



Pump Station 31

Please 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.

Sincerely,

Stay Connected



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.

Public Meetings

The Ross Valley Sanitary District Board of Directors conducts monthly public meetings. The public is invited to attend these in-person meetings, held at our new Board Assembly Room:

Ross Valley Sanitary District

1111 Andersen Drive
San Rafael, 94901

The public can also attend the meeting 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. For more information, please click [here](#) or contact the District's Board Clerk at 415-259-2949 or clerk@rvsd.org.

**The next RVSD Regular Board Meeting is scheduled
for Wednesday, April 16, 2025.**

[Meeting Access](#)

[Agenda Posting](#)

Want an alert when the next Board Meeting agenda is available?
Please write to our [Clerk of the Board](#) to request upcoming agenda alerts.

Sewer FAQs

Review our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that explain sewer overflows, what to do if you see one, and other commonly asked questions about the sewer system.

[Review FAQs](#)

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.

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[Our Projects](#)

[Public Education](#)

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Contact Us

Phone & Email

415-259-2949 (24/7)
Email: info@rvsd.org

Hours

Mon - Fri
7:30 a.m. - noon
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

New Address

1111 Andersen Dr
San Rafael, CA 94901

Ross Valley Sanitary District | 1111 Andersen Drive | San Rafael, CA 94901 US

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