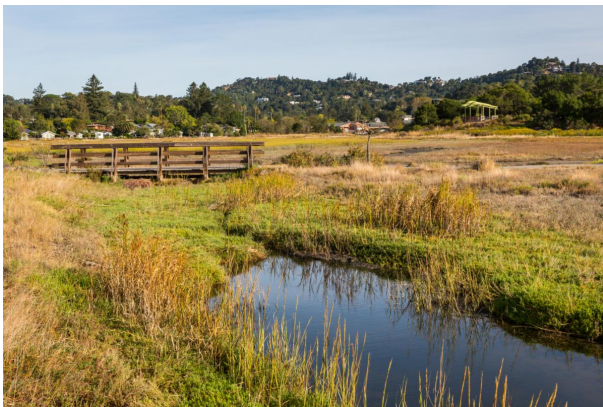


Ross Valley Sanitary District

General Manager's Monthly Bulletin

October 2023



Fall weather is here! As we step into another month, we're excited to share the achievements of our staff who continue to work hard to maintain the efficiency and reliability of the collection system. Additionally, we celebrate the arrival of Marin County's first significant rainfall of the season, a vital moment as we gear up for more wet weather. Join us in exploring the highlights, challenges, and successes of our ongoing commitment to protect public health and the environment.

Please note that our move to the new headquarters has shifted to **December 4, 2023**. The new location will be 1111 Andersen Drive – San Rafael, CA 94901. As always, RVSD public lobby office hours are open 7:30 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Our dedicated staff is here to assist you via phone, email or in person.

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.***

Accomplishments

Revising District Boundaries

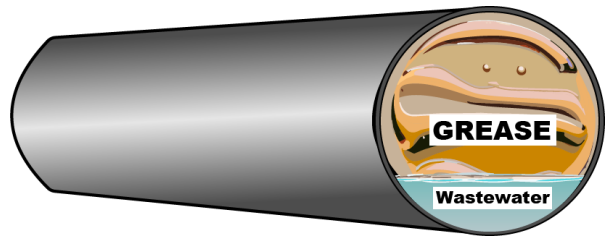
Dye testing along the boundary shared by RVSD and Sanitary District No. 2 (SD2) in Corte Madera has shown that certain parcels initially believed to be under the jurisdiction of SD2 are, in fact, connected to the RVSD system. To remedy this situation, RVSD and SD2 staff collaboratively engaged with the Marin County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) to help ensure the affected property owners were duly informed of these service area adjustments, as the adjustments have implications to their sewer service charges. All property owners have been notified and provided written consent for the annexation. During the October 18 Board meeting, the District Board of Directors officially initiated the reorganization process for these specific parcels.



Odor Complaint Investigation

In response to odor complaints along Sir Francis Drake Blvd in Fairfax, staff surveyed areas with restaurants for Fats, Oil, and Grease (FOG) related odors, and did not find conclusive sources of FOG contamination in the sewer or detect any foul odors. Previous work orders and CCTV footage of the sewer system in the area were reviewed and there was no evidence of sewer defects that would contribute to odors. It's possible that the odor is stemming from the storm drain, often a result of restaurants improperly disposing FOG into the storm drain instead of following the proper disposal procedures. Given the determination that the odor is unrelated to the sewer system, the inquiry was forwarded to the Fairfax Public Works Department for further investigation. For more insights on preventive FOG measures, please visit our [Fats, Oils & Grease webpage](#).

To report any illegal discharges into storm drains, creeks, bays, or the ocean, you can contact the [Marin Countywide Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program \(MCSTOPPP\)](#). This countywide agency is responsible for overseeing permit compliance and stormwater regulations, playing a crucial role in coordinating stormwater programs among member agencies. Their annual reports provide vital information on illegal discharge detection, street and storm drain cleaning, maintenance, protection controls, business inspections, and public outreach efforts.



FOG buildup in a pipe.

Pump Station Emergency Response Planning

Pump station staff are diligently engaged in the revision of the District's Emergency Response Plans (ERPs) for Lift Station 21 (Hwy 101), Lift Station 31 (Via la Brisa), and Pump Station 10 (Larkspur Landing B). These ERPs serve as essential guides for staff, offering precise instructions on how to effectively manage pump stations and establish bypass systems in the event of power outages or equipment malfunctions. To enhance preparedness, staff worked with a contractor to obtain drone footage of low-elevation manholes that are considered vulnerable in case of a station failure and used this information to update current maps. This initiative is in response to a state-mandated update of the District's [Spill Emergency Response Plan](#) (SERP).



Drone footage of Pump Station 14.

Sewer Utility Easements

To better service our customers, RVSD occasionally needs access to public utility easements on private property. Access to public easements for routine maintenance and repair is essential to keep the sewer

system working properly.

Do you have a Sewer Utility Easement on your property? Explore our [interactive parcel map](#) to find out if your property has an RVSD easement. Please share this parcel map with fellow neighbors so they too can learn if their parcel contains a sewer utility easement.

Our goal is to connect with all affected property owners in advance of routine maintenance to provide timely information and build productive relationships. If you have an easement on your property, provide your contact information by clicking [here](#).



Click the video thumbnail above to learn more!

Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Project Updates

Woodland Road Creek Crossings and Capacity Improvements

Construction is in progress, with ongoing pipe bursting and open trenching, extending further west on Woodland Rd. Notably, the sewer crossing beneath the bridge on Woodland Rd, situated near the intersection of Laurel Way, has been successfully relocated from the path of Tamalpais Creek. The sewer main has been upgraded with a new double-barrel siphon, installed at a depth of 10 feet beneath the creek bed. This marks a significant milestone as it's the first of three sewer crossings to be relocated out of the flow of the creek.

RVSD's Infrastructure Asset Management Plan update of 2021 identified sewer creek crossings in the Kent Woodlands area as the highest priority for upgrading based on a District-wide risk assessment. Replacing these sewers significantly reduces the risk of contamination to Tamalpais Creek and potential damage to the sewer main. It is essential to rehabilitate sewers that cross creeks as they have a higher likelihood of failure due to natural forces associated with storm waters and a higher consequence of failure through more direct spills and contamination. Visit the [project webpage](#) for more information and updates.



Before and after sewer removal.

Enjoy a fun and safe Halloween! 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,

Steve Moore, General Manager

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, currently held at:

Central Marin Sanitation Agency (CMSA)
1301 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, November 15, 2023.

[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.

[Learn More](#)

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[Our Projects](#)

[Sustainability](#)

[Contact Us](#)

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.

Address

2960 Kerner Blvd
San Rafael, CA 94901

Ross Valley Sanitary District | 2960 Kerner Blvd., San Rafael, CA 94901

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