



Directors: Mary Sylla, President ~ Pamela Meigs, Secretary ~ Peter Sullivan, Treasurer ~ Pat Guasco ~ Frank Egger

Ross Valley Sanitary District
2960 Kerner Blvd.
San Rafael, CA 94901
(415) 259-2949

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS:

DATE: February 26, 2014
TIME: 7:00 PM
TYPE: Regular Meeting
LOCATION:
Central Marin Police Authority
260 Doherty Drive
Larkspur, CA 94939

UPCOMING STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Finance Committee
DATE: February 24, 2014
TIME: 4:00 PM
TYPE: Regular Meeting
LOCATION:
District Office
2960 Kerner Blvd.
San Rafael, CA 94901

District Joins the North Bay Watershed Association

In December 2013, the NBWA Board unanimously voted to accept RVSD as its new full-fledged voting member. The North Bay Watershed Association (NBWA) is a group of 17 regional and local public agencies located throughout Marin, Sonoma, and Napa counties united by a common goal of facilitating partnerships across political boundaries that promote stewardship of the North Bay watershed resources. Being a multi-county, multi-organization and multi-functional watershed group, NBWA presents a unique opportunity for the District to join efforts and work collaboratively with other agencies on different water resources projects of regional concern. Direct and immediate benefits of RVSD membership in

NBWA include:

- Improved information sharing and resolution of complex issues that all our agencies face
- Opportunity to influence regulations and legislation
- Increased eligibility for grant funding
- Opportunity to implement cost effective projects
- Information and education through NBWA hosted events and website exposure

The NBWA Board of Directors' Meetings are held once a month, usually on the first Friday of the month. All meetings are open to the public. More information on NBWA can be found at: <http://www.nbwatershed.org>.

Location of Maintenance Crews

The Maintenance department has finished cleaning the sewers in Fairfax and can be expected to be seen in San Anselmo & Larkspur for the month of February.

Capital Improvement Project Updates

In December, the District completed the first of two gravity sewer rehabilitation projects for Fiscal Year 2013-14. The second project, referred to as "Group B," is scheduled to begin construction in February and continue through May. Ranger Pipelines Inc. was awarded the contract for construction. Group B will include 21 site locations throughout Fairfax, San Anselmo, Kentfield, Ross, and Larkspur. Sewer rehabilitation methods will include open cut replacement as well as the trenchless methods of pipe bursting and CIPP lining. Approximately four miles of gravity sewer lines will be rehabilitated or replaced under this fiscal year's two projects.

The District has contracted with

West Yost Associates to complete a Flow Monitoring Study. Flow monitoring equipment has been installed at selected locations throughout the District. The study will provide important information about flows in the collection system, including areas with high inflow & infiltration (I/I) of rainwater, groundwater, and saltwater into the system. Rainfall-dependent I/I is a common cause of sanitary sewer overflows. The results of the study will help the District refine and prioritize capital improvement projects.

The District is working to complete a condition assessment of the entire collection system by May 2016. The District's CCTV crew has inspected approximately 65% of the collection system over

the last 2-½ years. However, the District does not own the equipment necessary to inspect large diameter pipelines, and has therefore contracted with Brown & Caldwell to complete the Large Diameter Gravity Sewer Condition Assessment project. The project will span about 2 years, and will include cleaning, inspection, condition assessment, and recommendations for necessary rehabilitation or replacement of these critical sections of the wastewater system.



Wastewater Utility Service Rate Study

With the assistance of HF&H Consultants, the District is evaluating updates to its wastewater utility service rates. The utility rates cover wastewater collection, conveyance, treatment, and disposal. The District last updated its rates in July, 2011. The current rate study will evaluate and make recommendations for a five year schedule of rates, and consider changes to the rate structure as well. The rate structure addresses important considerations on how each customer class is handled in terms of "flat rates", such as the current Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) approach, versus partial

use of flow-based rates. The study is utilizing the District's 5-Year Financial Forecast, previously reviewed by the Board in October 2012. Visit our website to view the 5-Year Financial Forecast.

A key element in the study will be the policy-level evaluation of various rate structures, their equity in matching rates with actual cost of service by customer class, and the feasibility in administering them. Analysis used to support the study's recommendations for rate structure will include average winter water usage and cost of service by customer class, les-

sons learned from other agencies on the pros and cons of "flow-based" rates, and public input. The study is expected to be complete in March.

The District is holding two public workshops on rates in the coming weeks. The first will take place at the San Anselmo Town Council Chambers on February 12th at 11:30 a.m. (525 San Anselmo Avenue) with a second workshop at the Central Marin Police Authority's Community Room at 250 Doherty Drive in Larkspur on February 19th at 6:00 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend!