



Downstream

Quarterly Newsletter - Spring 2016

Facilities Overview

Gafner Water Treatment Facility

Pump Stations include Rancho Verde, Village Park (2), Encinitas Estates, Diana, Avocado, Batiquitos, Saxony, Leucadia, & La Costa

System Overview



4 million gallons of wastewater per day



5,000 manholes



16 miles of pressurized pipelines



220,000 - 275,000 gallons of recycled water per day



200 miles of gravity fed pipeline



10 pump stations



60,000 people in 16 square miles



19 Employees



1 Water Treatment Plant

Annual Performance

1.39 billion gallons of wastewater
 74 million gallons of recycled water
 4th Straight Year – No Lost Work Time
 Exceeded water quality standards by 15%

Leucadia Wastewater District – Leaders in Environmental Protection


Leucadia Wastewater District's (LWD) primary responsibilities are to protect public health, the Batiquitos Lagoon, and the beautiful beaches of south Carlsbad and north Encinitas. In many ways, we are the last line of defense for the environment so we can ensure that everyone gets to enjoy the clean beaches and beautiful environment in which we live. In our business, this means preventing sewer spills.

Although some sewer spills may be unavoidable due to things such as vandalism, mechanical failure or construction errors; the District has continued to find new and improved ways to minimize sewer spills. The result over the past 10 years has been that the District has dramatically improved upon an already strong environmental record to a point where it has completely eliminated gravity sewer spills in four of the past six years.

Continued from **Environmental Protection**

These results have not come easily and have required a great deal of diligence on behalf of the District's staff and Board of Directors. The cornerstone of this success was the District's decision several years ago to prioritize the closed circuit television (CCTV) work on our gravity pipelines. The District's Field Services Division analyzed its operations in 2011 and determined that the ability to visually inspect what was going on in the pipes would allow the best opportunity to minimize sewer spills and it was placed as its top operational priority. The District previously prioritized the cleaning of our pipelines using a high pressure water jet known as hydro-cleaning and we still augment our CCTV work with hydro-cleaning today. The Field Services' analysis led to the purchase of a second CCTV vehicle, which has allowed the District to increase its television work from roughly 20 miles to 70 miles per year. In viewing the additional mileage our crews have been able to identify a number of pipeline deficiencies and have them repaired before a sewage spill occurs.

It is through the excellent efforts of our professional staff day-in and day-out as well as the guidance and support of our Board of Directors that the District has continued to find innovative ways to improve its environmental performance. The District takes

A scenic view of a lake with a grassy shore and a dark pipe in the foreground. The pipe is partially obscured by tall grasses. The background shows a calm body of water and a hilly shoreline with trees and a few buildings under a clear sky.

“The result over the past 10 years has been that the District has dramatically improved upon an already strong environmental record to a point where it has completely eliminated gravity sewer spills in four of the past six years.”

a great deal of pride in its work preventing sewer spills so that the public can continue to enjoy our clean beaches and the beautiful environment in which we live.

Helping Teachers Educate Their Students

Many of us at LWD have kids in our local schools, or have raised families in our local communities. We respect and admire the work that our teachers do to prepare our children for their future.

Over the past 6 months, we have awarded grants to 4 local teachers to support a variety of projects. The projects that this funding supported has

helped over 6,000 students gain hands on experience in water conservation, gardening, and agriculture. We would like to introduce our 4 most recent grantees: June Honsberger, Chris Noonan, Tanya DeGregorio, and Mim Michelove! Since 2008, we have supported our local teachers and their work, by awarding 28 grants through our Teacher Grant program.

Teacher Grant Program

Ms June Honsberger, La Costa Canyon High School Native Plant Garden Restoration Project. High school students design and create a habitat restoration project at the entrance of the La Costa Canyon High School.

Mr Chris Noonan, La Costa Heights Elementary School Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan Internship Field Trip and Water Test. 5th and 6th Graders will write a storm water pollution prevention plan for their school.

Ms Tanya DeGregorio, Park Dale Lane Elementary School Water Wise Learning and Demonstration Garden. As part of the Garden Science Program, students are educated in environmentally friendly ways to grow healthy, fresh food.

Ms Mim Michelove, Encinitas Unified School District Farm Lab Rain Barrel Project. The Farm lab provides students with hands on educational experiences in the field, and in food, science and maker labs on a fully functioning organic farm.



Off for New Adventures!

Chuck LeMay, Administrative Services Manager, Retires after 11 years of Outstanding Services

In January, our Administrative Services Manager Chuck LeMay announced his retirement from the LWD. He spent his entire career serving our community and the United States. Here are just a few of Chuck's professional accomplishments:

- He served as a US Marine Corps AH-1 helicopter pilot for 25 years.
- Following the US Marine Corps, Chuck joined the Encina Wastewater Authority as their Human Resources Specialist for 10 years.
- Then Chuck was hired at LWD as our Administrative Services Manager and served our community for 11 years.

As a military veteran Chuck and his family have lived in North Carolina, Florida, California, and Okinawa, Japan. They've made Oceanside their home for the majority of their time in California where Chuck and his wife Kathy raised a son and a daughter. They loved traveling with the Marine Corps, and in retirement, have "traveling" near the top of their list. Chuck and Kathy are currently enjoying touring the American west!

Chuck looks back fondly on the good friends at LWD who became his "work family". He stated that, "he will never forget what a great experience it was to work there and will always be grateful for the people and opportunities working for LWD provided".



Projects that May Affect Your Commute

Leucadia Force Main Replacement

- La Costa Ave between I-5 and the Railroad Tracks
- October 2016 – March 2017
- We're replacing part of an old pipeline that pumps sewage up to the Encina regional wastewater treatment facility

2016 Gravity Pipeline Replacement

- Throughout the Community (see the map below)
- June – October 2016
- We're repairing or replacing numerous sections of pipeline

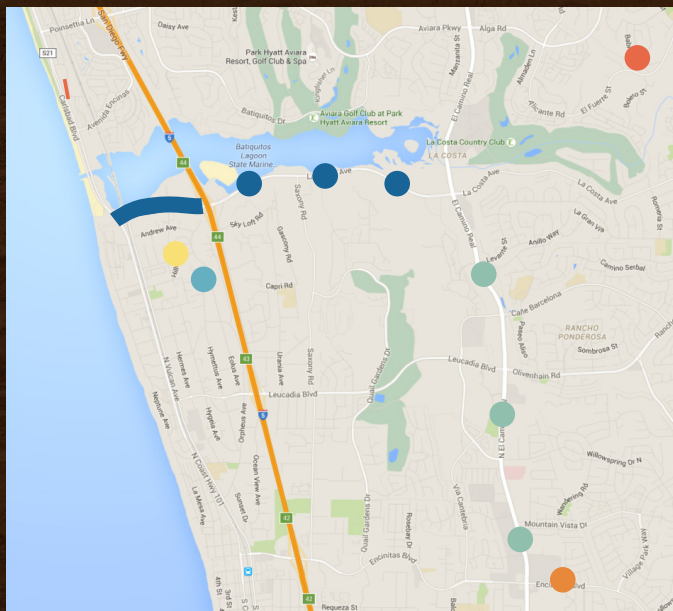
Easement Inspections

- While 88% of our pipelines are under roadways, we do have 25 miles of pipeline and manholes running through yards or canyons.
- Inspecting easements prevents sewage spills, but we'll let you know when we're going to stop by! If we have an easement on your property, please keep an eye out for a door hanger, and a friendly knock on the door.
- Thanks in advance for understanding and working with us!

What's Going Down in the Streets?

Under our lawns and roads, there is a subterranean network of utility lines that keep our homes powered, water coming in, and wastewater moving out. We move what goes down the toilet and drains at your home through our network of pipes and pump stations under the streets of our communities – Encinitas, La Costa, Leucadia, and South Carlsbad.

Over time the constant flow of wastewater and the corrosive gasses that build up in sewer pipes can wear out the pipes and pumps that move the wastewater away from your home. Soil movement can also damage the pipelines. We have a number of construction projects in process to address these areas. Here are the ones that you should be aware of in order to help you plan your commute and minimize delays. The chart and map below shows when and where these projects are taking place. **Follow us on Facebook for updates on this work!**



Construction Locations

- Encinitas Blvd (Cerro St and Encinitas Blvd)
- El Camino Real (3 sites)
- La Costa Ave (1 sites and 3 easements)
- Babilonia St
- Wilstone St
- Hillcrest Dr

Performance Update

As customers of LWD, you are in a unique position. We see our ratepayers as stakeholders, because the fees you pay are used to maintain and update a community asset that protects our lagoons and beaches from pollution, and helps provide a local source of water. Our mission is to serve you by collecting, transporting, recycling, and treating wastewater in a safe, reliable, efficient, cost effective and environmentally responsible manner. Your assets are put to good use; safely treating and recycling considerable amounts of wastewater in order to protect the environment and provide a local source of water!

Industry & Staff Awards

LWD and staff recently won two local awards from the California Water Environment Association's (CWEA) San Diego Chapter.



Todd Amos

Field Services Technician Todd Amos was recognized as the **2015 San Diego Section Collections System Person of the Year**, and runner up for **2015 Collections System Person of the Year in California**. This award highlights Todd's dedication to our mission and his effort to help the District reduce maintenance costs. This ultimately saves our ratepayers money on their sewage bill.

LWD received the **2015 Community Engagement & Outreach Award** for its "No Wipes Down the Pipes" campaign. LWD launched a "No Wipes Down the Pipes" campaign to inform our customers to not to flush wipes down their toilets. **Throughout this campaign, our Field Services Technicians reported a 50% reduction of wipes in the sewage system. We want to give a special thanks to our incredible community!**

For the 7th year in a row, LWD received a **Certificate of Award** for its **Outstanding Financial Reporting** from the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers.

Congratulations to Field Services Technicians Rick Easton, Ryan Rodriguez and Hugo Gonzalez for receiving their Wastewater & Water Certifications!

In March, **Rick** was awarded the California Water Environment Association's (CWEA) Collection System Maintenance Grade 2 certification. This exemplifies Rick's drive and ambition that we seek in our staff.

Ryan and Hugo received their Grade T1 Water Treatment Certification from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). They both took the initiative to expand their knowledge and skill base in order to improve our efforts to recycle and reuse wastewater.

Thank you Rick, Ryan and Hugo for all your hard work!



Rick Easton



Ryan Rodriguez



Hugo Gonzalez

Keeping Things Flowing Smoothly

We need your help to prevent sewer spills!



Kitchen Sink

Fats, oils, and grease (called FOG) should never go down the kitchen sink. They can clog the pipes on your property and eventually clog the pipelines in the street. Instead, put FOG into your trash after it cools. Even if you use your garbage disposal and hot water, FOG can cause backups further down your pipeline or into the street.



Wet Wipes Don't Belong in the Toilet

Even though toilet or cleaning wipes disappear down the drain and may claim they are safe to flush, they don't break down like toilet paper. Instead they can clog your household pipes, the pipes in the street, or potentially cause a major spill at one of our pump stations. Please dispose of all wipes in the trash.

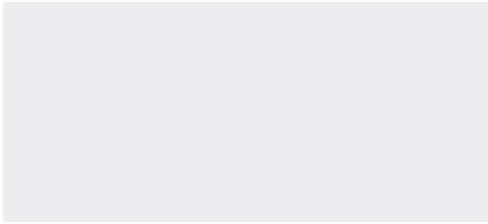


Keep Pool Plaster in the Pool and out of the Sewers

If you are installing a swimming pool or re-plastering your existing pool make sure your contractor doesn't dispose of the excess pool plaster down your sewer line. There it will harden and reduce the opening in the pipes and potentially cause a backup of sewage into your home or cause spills further down the pipeline. Please contact LWD at (760) 753-0155 before proceeding with your pool project.

We hope you enjoyed our semi-annual newsletter! Please follow us on our Facebook page [@LeucadiaWastewaterDistrict](#) or email us at info@lwwd.org for construction updates, or to send comments or questions.

Thanks for your help to Protect our Beaches and Lagoons!



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LEADERS IN
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION