

Grease balls found in sewer pipeline on El Camino Real

FOG build-up and a Field Services Technician's foot for comparison

Safely transporting and treating the wastewater from our customers without sewer spills is the District's number one priority. Our Field Services team works 24/7 conducting inspections and maintenance of the sewer pipes to ensure wastewater flows through the pipeline without obstruction. This summer, while video inspecting and hydro-cleaning the sewer pipe on El Camino Real, our Field Services Team found multiple grease balls each about two feet long at Leucadia Boulevard. These grease balls had created a blockage, with the potential to cause a sewer spill. The Field Services team spent several hours clearing, recovering, and disposing of the large grease ball.

Please help us prevent sewer spills by properly disposing of fats, oil, and grease (FOG). The correct way to dispose of FOG is by letting them cool, pouring them in a can, and sealing the can with a lid. Once cooled and hardened, the can should be discarded in the trash. Wipe the FOG from pots and pans with a paper towel prior to washing them. Pouring FOG down your drain or sink can potentially cause a sewer back up in your home and may lead to a sewer spill.

In a drought, you have to help out

California's water is a critical resource to human health, economic vitality, and the environmental quality of our state. As the drought worsens, we hope to inspire our community to be water wise and conserve water.

The District minimizes water usage everyday by recycling water for irrigation at the Omni La Costa Resort and Spa's golf course. A portion of the treated wastewater at Encina Water Pollution Control Facility is pumped back to the District, where it is further treated to a level that is safe for recycling before it is sent to the golf course. We produce approximately 80-100 million gallons of recycled water per year at our Gafner recycled water plant, which helps conserve our drinking water supply.

Some ways you can save water include



Fixing leaks



Planting drought-resistant plants



Taking shorter showers



Installing drip irrigation



Harvesting rain



Harvest your rain, not down the drain

With the rainy season coming up, now is a good time to be water smart. This includes making sure you don't have any illegal connections where rainwater and stormwater may flow into the sewer line. These include connections from roof and yard drains into the sewer cleanout on your property. You should also adjust your sprinklers accordingly and take advantage of the opportunity to harvest rainwater with assistance from local rebates from the Solana Center and San Diego County Water Authority. Find more information on rain harvesting at bit.ly/RainwaterConservation, and more water smart tips at bit.ly/WatersmartTips.

Learn other simple ways to conserve water at bit.ly/SaveOurWaterCA.

Follow the flow of your wastewater

While you may know that the District maintains and operates the sewer system that connects to your sewer lateral, do you know where all the wastewater goes? From your lateral, wastewater travels through a series of pipes and pump stations throughout Encinitas and Carlsbad, and eventually reaches the Encina Water Pollution Control Facility, which is operated by the Encina Wastewater Authority (EWA). You may have seen the facility west of Interstate 5 and south of Palomar Airport Road. This facility treats water from nearly 380,000 North County residents and is jointly owned by the cities of Carlsbad, Encinitas, and Vista, the Leucadia Wastewater District, Buena Sanitation District and the Vallecitos Water District.

One of the most critical and least visible parts of the Encina Water Pollution Control Facility's (EWPCF)

Did you know?

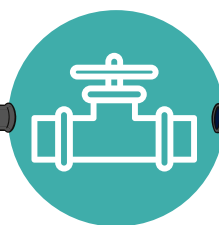
Did you know that a 1,000-square-foot roof can generate approximately **620 gallons of water** for every inch of rainfall?

Learn how you can capture rainwater at bit.ly/RainwaterConservation.

infrastructure is the Ocean Outfall. Wastewater is treated to high standards and discharged to the Pacific Ocean through this pipeline, which extends approximately 1.5 miles offshore to a depth of about 150 feet. At this depth and dilution rate, the oceans natural cleaning capabilities take over and the treated water safely re-enters the environment. Learn more about Encina's Ocean Outfall at bit.ly/EWAOverview.



Homeowners' lateral



Pipes and pump stations throughout Encinitas & Carlsbad



Wastewater is treated at EWPCF and discharged into the Pacific Ocean



A portion of that water gets retreated at LWD to irrigate the Omni Golf Course

Now accepting teacher grant applications!




The District is accepting Teacher Grant applications for the 2022-23 school year! Help us get the word out to teachers who can benefit from this program. Submit your Teacher Grant application by **Friday, Nov. 18, 2022**. This will be the District's 14th year helping local teachers by awarding grant funds to support their environmental projects. Check out our Teacher Grant webpage at bit.ly/lwdteachergrant for an application, instructions, and a list of the eligible schools that are in our service district. See the projects of the 2021-22 winners at bit.ly/22TeacherGrantWinners.



Check out Ponto Beach from the comfort of your home through the District's webcam at bit.ly/pontosurfcam. View the surf, sun, and parking before heading out to the beach.



Fiscal year-end stats 2022

-  **65.4 miles** of pipeline video inspected
-  **182.8 miles** of pipes cleaned
-  **95 million gallons** of recycled water produced

Pregnant sea lion found at Omni La Costa Resort & Spa

You may have read the San Diego Union-Tribune article and seen SeaWorld San Diego's photos of the pregnant sea lion that was rescued after wandering onto the Omni La Costa Resort and Spa's golf course before being released back into the water. This serves as a great reminder that wildlife and marine mammals are all around us, and it is our job to protect them and keep their home, the ocean, clean. Learn more at bit.ly/carlsbadsealion.



Did you hear? We are offering in-person tours again!

Tours offer an opportunity for customers, community groups, and local schools to meet our Field Services Technicians and learn more about the work they do and how we protect our local beaches and lagoons. If you are a teacher, consider scheduling a tour for your students. Call **760-753-0155** or email info@lwwd.org to schedule a tour.

Take a look at our award-winning virtual tour!

Our award-winning virtual tour gives a great impression of what our staff does to keep our wastewater operations running 24 hours a day! If you have not yet viewed the virtual tour, you can watch it at bit.ly/LWDvirtualtour.

District infrastructure improvement projects replacing critical infrastructure before it fails

Completion of Encinitas Estates pump station project

The District recently completed the replacement of the Encinitas Estates pump station which is located in the Encinitas Estates residential area at the corner of Oakbranch Drive and Avenida De Las Adelsas. New electric submersible pumps replaced the 48 year old pump station in April 2022. New piping, valves, electrical controls and a new replacement generator were included with the new pump station. The planned infrastructure replacement is part of the District's long-term asset replacement plan, or "Asset Management Plan" to maintain collection system reliability, integrity, and resiliency.

Village Park No. 7 Pump Station upgrade project

The next major project in the District Asset Management Plan is the replacement of Village Park No. 7 Pump Station, which is 49 years old. The pump station is located in the Village Park residential area of Encinitas, adjacent to the corner of Mountain Vista Drive and Whitewood Place.

After exploring all replacement options, the Board approved replacing the current station with an innovative, pre-fabricated station - saving an estimated \$1.31 million, which is 62% less than expected!

Onsite construction is anticipated to begin in November 2022 with little to no impact on traffic. Follow project updates on the District's Facebook at bit.ly/FBpageLWD.

Fiscal year 2023 gravity sewer repairs project

This project will repair 34 sites throughout our service area and cover over 1.5 miles of existing sewer pipeline. The pipes will be rehabilitated by relining the inside of the pipe without digging trenches, a method called Cured-In-Place Pipe lining. These repairs reinforce a sound sewer system by continuing to allow sewage to flow unrestricted in the pipes. Minor traffic impacts may occur at each site during construction which will occur from winter 2022 through spring 2023.



Recently completed Encinitas Estates pump station

Twenty-four homeowners receive sewer lateral grants to help repair sewer lateral

Did you know that the District offers a financial assistance program that can reimburse homeowners 50% of your sewer lateral repair costs, up to a maximum of \$3,000? To learn more about the District's Lateral Grant Program, visit the District website at bit.ly/latgrant or call us at (760) 753-0155. The lateral grant must be pre-approved, so contact us before you begin repair work on your sewer lateral.



LWD customer Bryan Marcus receiving a sewer lateral grant

Ever wondered what our hardworking staff is up to when you see them on the street or in your neighborhood?

Watch this video to learn more about the maintenance required at the Encinitas Estates and Batiquitos Pump Stations at bit.ly/lwdpumpstations.

Welcome to our new employees!

New team members join our efforts to be a recognized leader in wastewater services, water recycling and environmental protection.



Nitze Torres Garcia, Administrative Specialist

Before joining the team in April 2022, Nitze spent 10 years as an Administrative Assistant in the healthcare industry in both the public and private sectors. She is grateful to be a part of a district that sets high ethical business standards and takes pride in being good stewards of the environment. Nitze looks forward to learning more about conservation and about the wastewater industry. She enjoys serving as a reader and volunteering in youth ministry at her local parish. Her greatest joy is being a mom and spending time with her family.



Jeffrey Pivaral, Field Services Technician In Training

Jeffrey is our newest employee, joining the team in June 2022. Jeffrey moved to the North County area after working for UCLA for 10 years. When he is not at work he enjoys spending quality time with his wife and family. He loves having barbecues and riding beach cruisers at the beach. His love for the beach and being outdoors, biking, and hiking inspires him to protect our local beaches and environment. He is excited to join the District and learn more about how to protect the local beaches and environment from sewer spills.

District Awards and Achievements

The District and its staff are honored to receive the following awards and recognitions:



Congratulations to Field Services Technician Johnny Montoya!

A well-deserved congratulations to Field Services Technician Johnny Montoya for receiving his Water Treatment Operator Grade T1 certification from the State Water Resources Control Board and Grade 1 Collection System Maintenance certification from the California Water Environment Association!



One Year Without Lost Time Work-Related Injuries

Thank you to our team for taking safety seriously and to the community for looking out for our team whenever you see them working in your community.



Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

The Government Finance Officers Association recently recognized the District for its outstanding financial reporting practices for the 12th year in a row!



1960 La Costa Avenue
Carlsbad, CA 92009
(760) 753-0155

Downstream

2022 Fall Newsletter

Sign up for the online newsletter

Subscribe to our email newsletter for biannual updates from the District, which includes tips and resources for community members:

<https://conta.cc/2T4pnUw>

In a drought, you have to help out!

Inside this newsletter, read about how the District responds to drought and what you can do to reduce water usage.

Photo by Nick Abrams

Have you seen one of your photos on our Facebook page? Maybe you were featured on the cover of our newsletter? We love seeing our community through your eyes, so please continue to submit your favorite pictures from Encinitas, Leucadia and South Carlsbad by tagging a photo on Facebook with **#LWDPPhoto** or send an email to **info@lwwd.org**. We will give recognition to any photo we use in any of our postings or newsletters.



Leucadia Wastewater District Newsletter

Leaders in environmental protection, keeping our lagoons, beaches and oceans clean and safe.

Visit our website or Facebook page for more information



www.lwwd.org



@LeucadiaWastewaterDistrict