



## From Classrooms to Careers

### Educating the Next Generation of Environmental Stewards

At Leucadia Wastewater District (LWD), protecting public health and the environment begins with education. Over the past several years, LWD has expanded its efforts to reach students from **kindergarten through college**, building awareness of wastewater services, environmental stewardship, and **career opportunities in the water industry**.

Through LWD's long-standing **Teacher Grant Program**, more than **20,000 local students** have participated in hands-on lessons exploring wastewater, storm drain awareness, and environmental responsibility. Field Services staff bring equipment and real-world experience directly into classrooms — helping make these concepts tangible for students.

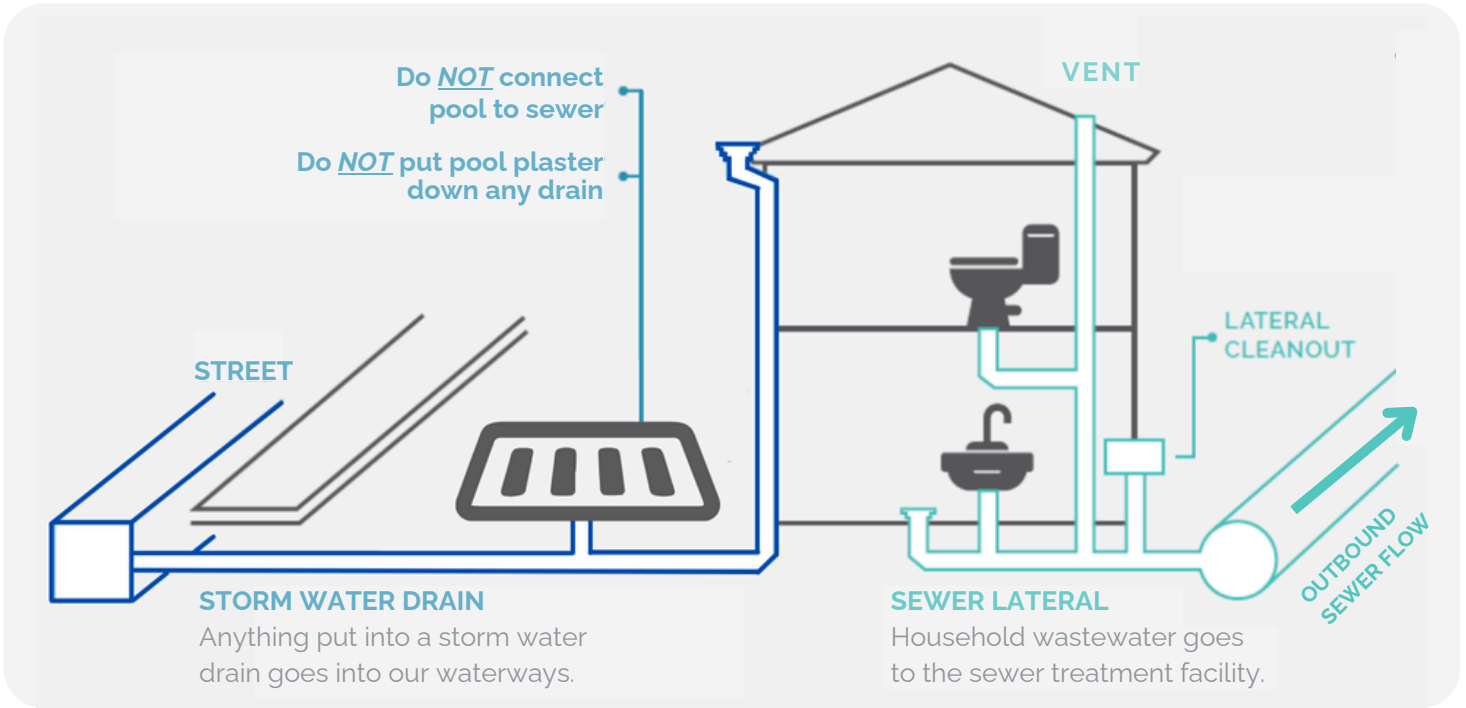
As students advance, LWD continues that connection by introducing them to **essential, hands-on careers that protect our community**. Programs like **Water Career Day on page 3** give students the opportunity to explore these career paths firsthand and connect with industry professionals. By investing in education across all ages, LWD strengthens community understanding while supporting the long-term sustainability of the water and wastewater workforce.



To learn more about the work we do and our history, visit [www.lwwd.org](http://www.lwwd.org) or follow us on social media [@LeucadiaWastewaterDistrict](https://twitter.com/LeucadiaWastewaterDistrict).



# Storm Drain vs. Sewer: What's the Difference?



While both sewer and storm drain systems are made up of underground pipes, **they are completely separate systems managed by different agencies.**

**The sewer system**, operated and maintained by LWD, carries wastewater inside from homes and businesses — including water from sinks, showers, toilets, and washing machines. That wastewater travels through a closed pipeline system to regional treatment facilities, where it is treated before being safely released into the ocean or recycled.

**Storm drain systems**, which are **managed by individual cities — not LWD**, collect rainwater runoff from streets, roofs, and driveways. This untreated water flows into local creeks, lagoons, and ultimately the ocean. During rain events, temporary beach advisories are typically related to stormwater runoff — not the sewer system.



## !?! Did You Know?

Batiquitos Lagoon is home to **more than 180 species** of birds throughout the year. Healthy wetlands provide food, nesting areas, and protection for wildlife — which is why protecting water quality matters beyond just our beaches. Learn more here:





# Customer Resources & FAQs



## Is Your Sewer Blocked? Here's Who to Call

At times, our technicians respond to homeowners' calls about sewer blockages, and LWD can help determine whether the issue is in the public sewer system or a private lateral. If the blockage is not in the District's sewer main, we advise residents to call your plumber to inspect and clean the homeowner's private sewer lateral.

For service or emergencies, call LWD at (760) 753-0155 or scan for more information.



If the sewer lateral needs repair, we offer our customers a Lateral Grant Reimbursement Program. The District has a financial assistance program that can reimburse 50% of the repair cost, up to a maximum of \$3,000.



Details can be found by scanning here:



## Word Challenge: Our Local Environment

Unscramble these words related to the environment we help protect:

NOGOLA \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

RHEON \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

HTELAH \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

EHCAB \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

TEAWR \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Answers found on bottom of page 5.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Q: Is LWD part of the City of Encinitas or Carlsbad?

A: No. Leucadia Wastewater District is an independent special district that provides wastewater collection services within its service area. See our Service Area Map here:



### Q: I just moved here. Do I need to set up a sewer account?

A: No action is typically required. Sewer service charges are included on your property tax bill.

### Q: Can I drain my pool into the street?

A: Pool drainage guidelines are managed by your city, as storm drains flow directly to creeks and the ocean. If you are considering discharging pool water to the wastewater system, please contact LWD first for proper direction.

### Q: Are "flushable" wipes safe to flush?

A: No. Wipes do not break down like toilet paper and can cause blockages in sewer lines. Only toilet paper should be flushed.



## Check Out Our Live Surf Cam

Did you know Leucadia Wastewater District (LWD) hosts a live surf cam overlooking our beautiful local coastline? The camera provides real-time views of the ocean, giving residents and visitors a chance to check surf conditions while enjoying a glimpse of the beaches we work hard to protect.

You can view the live surf cam anytime by visiting [www.lwwd.org](http://www.lwwd.org) or scan here:



# Replacing Critical Infrastructure Before It Fails



Photo: Gravity Pipeline Project

## Pipeline Rehabilitation Project Completed!

LWD recently completed a pipeline rehabilitation project to improve system reliability and address aging infrastructure. The work helps prevent future issues and ensures the system continues to operate efficiently. Projects like this are part of LWD's ongoing efforts to maintain and upgrade its wastewater system.

## Batiquitos Pump Station Concrete Repair Completed

LWD recently completed repairs to a corroded concrete beam at the Batiquitos Pump Station, a critical part of the wastewater system. This work restores key infrastructure and helps ensure the facility continues to operate reliably. Pump stations play an essential role in moving wastewater through the system to the treatment plant.

## Annual Water Career Day

Leucadia Wastewater District's award-winning Water Career Day introduces students to career opportunities in the water and wastewater industry. Hosted in partnership with San Elijo Joint Powers Authority and Olivenhain Municipal Water District, the event brings together high school students, college students, and veterans for a hands-on look at careers that support public health and environmental protection.

Participants engage in interactive demonstrations, speak directly with industry professionals, and explore a wide range of career paths — from field operations and skilled trades to technical and engineering roles. Water Career Day is part of LWD's ongoing commitment to building awareness and supporting the next generation of water professionals. **For more information, check out last year's event here:**





# Standout Achievements: Staff Awards, Professional Certifications, District Awards:



## Jeffrey Pivaral: CWEA Collections Person of the Year

LWD is proud to announce that Jeffrey Pivaral, Field Services Technician, has been named Collections Person of the Year by the California Water Environment Association (CWEA). This award recognizes excellence in maintaining wastewater collection systems. Jeffrey's dedication to preventative maintenance, safety, and service reliability helps protect our community and local waterways. Congratulations, Jeffrey, on this well-earned honor.



Executive Assistant  
**Tianne Baity - Service Award**



Field Services Technician  
**Curney Russell - Service Award**



## Community Engagement Award

Leucadia Wastewater District, in partnership with San Eljio Joint Powers Authority and Olivenhain Municipal Water District, received the CWEA Community Engagement and Outreach Program of the Year Award for Water Career Day. The award recognizes collaborative efforts to educate students and introduce career opportunities in the water and wastewater industry.



## Congratulations To:



**Field Services Technician Angel Hinojosa** for receiving his Grade 2 Collection System Maintenance certification from the California Water Environmental Association and was promoted to a Field Services Technician 2.



**Field Services Technician Matthew Anderson** for receiving his Grade 2 Collection System Maintenance certification from the California Water Environmental Association! Matthew was also promoted to a Field Services Technician 2.



**Field Services Supervisor Rick Easton** for his recent promotion from Field Services Technician 3 to Field Services Supervisor. In his new role, Rick will help lead a team responsible for maintaining the District's sewer system and protecting our community's beaches, lagoon, and neighborhoods.

Answers from to word scramble: Lagoon, Heron, Health, Beach, Water



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## Downstream 2026 Spring Newsletter

Inside this newsletter, read about wastewater education, capital improvement projects, frequently asked questions, and helpful community resources.

Subscribe to our email newsletter for biannual updates from the District at:



**Quick Question:**

How many species of birds have been documented at the Batiquitos Lagoon? Answer inside.

- A) 25    B) 75    C) More than 180

Photo Submitted by Jimmy Rigg



### Leucadia Wastewater District Newsletter

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



[www.lwwd.org](http://www.lwwd.org)



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Visit our website or social media pages for more information

