

AGENDA

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING
LEUCADIA WASTEWATER DISTRICT**

Tuesday, June 11, 2019 – 1:00 p.m.
1960 La Costa Avenue, Carlsbad, CA 92009

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Public Comment**
4. **New Business**
 - A. Review the 2019 Summer Newsletter draft text. (Pages 2-9)
5. **Information Items**

None.
6. **Directors' Comments**
7. **General Manager's Comments**
8. **Adjournment**

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 6, 2019
TO: Community Affairs Committee
FROM: Paul J. Bushee, General Manager 
SUBJECT: **Summer 2019 Newsletter Draft Text Review**

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff requests that the Community Affairs Committee (CAC):

1. Review the draft text for the Summer 2019 Newsletter; and
2. Discuss and provide direction, as appropriate.

DISCUSSION:

During May 2019, staff and Rising Tide Partners (RTP) presented a list of story ideas for the summer 2019 newsletter to the CAC for comments. Staff has completed the draft newsletter text. Staff will present the proposed newsletter text at the CAC meeting.

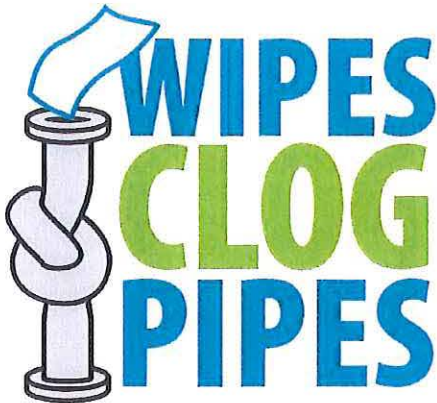
Attached please find the draft text for the summer 2019 newsletter for your review. Staff requests that the committee review the proposed newsletter text and provide comments as appropriate.

Attachment

th:PJB

Summer 2019 Newsletter Draft 1

Cover article

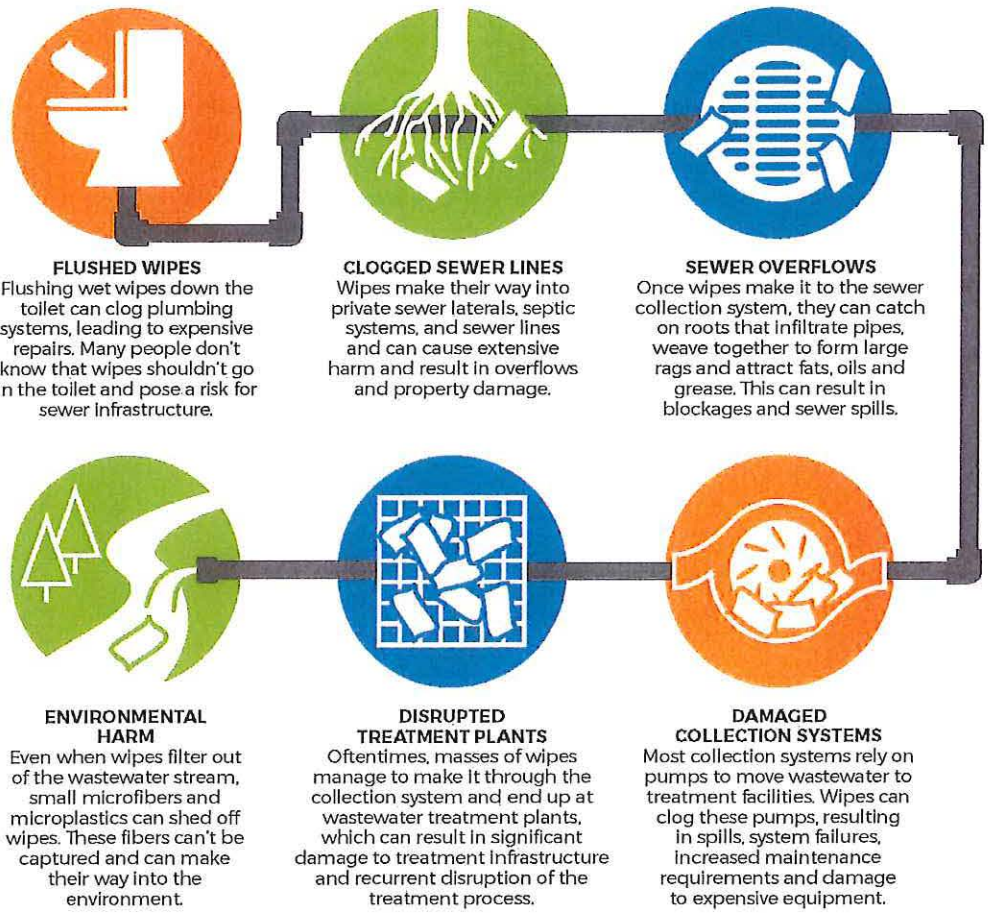


Wet wipes or "Flushable" wipes have gained popularity during the last decade. Most companies are marketing and labeling their products as "flushable". Yes, they disappear after you have flushed them; however, homeowners can potentially clog their sewer pipe after the wipes have been flushed because wipes do not break down or disintegrate like toilet paper. At LWD, and other agencies throughout the country, we are finding that wet wipes are the primary cause of clogs and equipment damage that could cause sewage spills.

After they are flushed, wipes can catch on tree roots and accumulate with fats, oils and grease and become large obstructions in the sewer pipes. Further down the pipeline, they weave together and create giant rags which get stuck in pumps, collection systems, and motors, causing backups and equipment failures. This problem exists in sewage collection systems throughout the world as disposable wet wipe products become more widely available.

We are experiencing a significant increase in maintenance that is directly attributed to wipes. This in turn, has led to increased operational costs that could affect your future sewer rates.

Here is the bottom line: Wipes clog pipes -- only human waste and toilet paper should go down the toilet. Everything else needs to go in the trash can. If you do this, you'll not only help prevent a backup in your own home, but you'll help protect our local environment from sewage spills; keeping our lagoons and beaches free of pollution.



Main articles

No Increase in your Wastewater Rate for Fiscal Year 2020

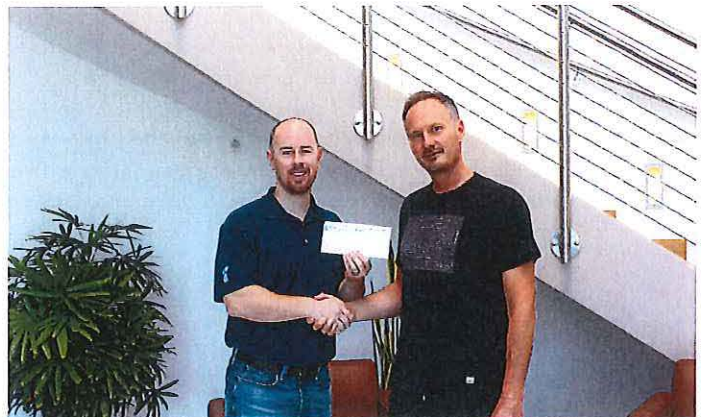
\$28.64
per
month

The District's FY 2020 budget was approved last June with no increase in our wastewater service rate. At \$28.64 per month for the typical home in our District, this remains one of the lowest rates in San Diego County. This rate has not been increased since 2017. The District is able to achieve this while still maintaining our sewer system in peak operational condition by carefully managing our maintenance, operations and capital improvement costs. Our Field Services team is continuously monitoring and assessing the sewer lines and pump stations and the District is proactively replacing infrastructure before it breaks. To help establish current and future wastewater rates, the District periodically updates its Asset Management Plan, which forecasts future capital improvement projects and their costs, and updates its Financial Plan, which forecasts future revenues and operating expenses. To learn more about these plans visit www.lwwd.org.

Article 3

Homeowner Receives \$3,000 Grant to Help Repair his Sewer Lateral

District homeowner Craig Hooker had a sewer backup in his residence in April 2019. This prompted Mr. Hooker to contact a plumber to investigate the problem. The plumber performed a sewer lateral inspection which revealed a major root intrusion throughout most of his 100-foot sewer lateral on his property. Mr. Hooker decided to replace his entire sewer lateral. He was unaware of the District's Homeowner **Lateral Grant Program** (Program link).



Homeowner Craig Hooker receives his lateral grant check from Field Services Specialist Ian Riffel.

When his contractor called in the DigAlert ticket, Field Services Specialist Ian Riffel responded to the DigAlert ticket and informed the contractor about our lateral grant program. Mr. Hooker was pleasantly surprised to hear of the program and he submitted an application. We were able to approve the maximum lateral grant of \$3,000 to help him offset some of the costs of replacing his lateral. Mr. Hooker was very appreciative of the financial assistance program offered by the District. He is "happy the project is complete."

To Learn more about the District's **Lateral Grant Program**, please visit the District's website at ([bit link to Lateral Grant page](#)) or call us at (760) 753-0155. The



Large root inside Mr. Hooker's sewer lateral.

lateral grant must be pre-approved, so please contact us before you begin repair work on your sewer lateral, we are here to help!

Article 4

Proper Sewer Connection vs. Improper Sewer Connection

(graphic w/ brief description)

Article 5

Schedule a Tour!

Tours offer an opportunity for customers, community groups, and local schools to meet our Field Services Technicians to learn more about the work they do and how we protect our local beaches and lagoons. Over the last several months, we have hosted five schools at our facility to demonstrate how we collect, transport and treat wastewater, and how we maintain the Districts wastewater system.



Students from Pacific Ridge Middle School see a demonstration of how the Field Services Technicians televise a sewer line.

Call (760) 753-0155 or email info@lwwd.org to schedule a tour.

Article 6

Now Accepting Teacher Grant Applications!

The District is now accepting Teacher Grant applications for the 2019/2020 school year! Help us get the word out to teachers that can benefit from this program. Submit your Teacher Grant application by the deadline **Wednesday, October 30, 2019**. The District anticipates awarding up to three grants up to \$2,000 each. This will be the District's 11th year helping local teachers by awarding grant funds to support their environmental projects. For a list of eligible schools, the application and the instructions, check out our Teacher Grant website page ([insert bit link](#)).



El Camino Creek Elementary students used their 2018/19 Teacher Grant funds to grow produce with their new hydroponics system.

Article 7

Students can win a \$2,000 Scholarship

The California Special Districts Association (CSDA) is hosting a video contest as part of their "Districts Make the Difference" campaign. The contest is open to all high school and college students in California and videos should highlight how special districts make a difference in California's communities. Winners receive up to a \$2,000 scholarship!

Submit your 60-90 second video here: districtsmakethedifference.org/video-contest (bit.ly link?) by September 30, 2019 5:00pm.

Visit www.districtsmakethedifference.org/video-contest for full set of contest rules.



Submit Your Video Today.

VIDEO
contest
win \$2,000

1ST PLACE-\$2,000 SCHOLARSHIP
2ND PLACE-\$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP
3RD PLACE-\$500 SCHOLARSHIP

DEADLINE
Sept. 30

www.DistrictsMakeTheDifference.org/video-contest

The graphic features a dark blue header with the text "Submit Your Video Today." Below this is a horizontal strip of small images showing various community scenes. The main body is light blue with large, bold text for "VIDEO contest" and "win \$2,000". To the right, a blue star contains the text "DEADLINE Sept. 30". At the bottom, a list of prizes is provided: "1ST PLACE-\$2,000 SCHOLARSHIP", "2ND PLACE-\$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP", and "3RD PLACE-\$500 SCHOLARSHIP". A URL is at the very bottom.

Article 8

Ponto Beach Webcam



Check out Ponto Beach from the comfort of your home through the District's Webcam at www.lwwd.org. (bitlink) Check out the surf, sun and parking before heading out to the beach. The webcam is located on top of our Batiquitos Pump Station right across the highway from the beach. Interesting note, an osprey has recently taken an interest in our webcam location and our technicians have seen the osprey perched on top of it.

Article 9

Capital Project Underway this Summer

Batiquitos (B3) Force Main Discharge Section Replacement Project

About the Project: The B3 pipeline is located in the coastal area of Carlsbad just east of Highway 101. B3 is a very important pipeline because it transmits 5 million gallons per day of wastewater to the Encina Wastewater Treatment Plant, which represents all of the District's flow as well as flows from the north portions of the City of Encinitas. The pipeline is made of iron and recent assessments have shown that the northern end of the pipe near the Lanikai Mobile Home Community has sustained significant corrosion. The District plans to replace approximately 800 feet of the corroded B3 pipeline prior to having a failure occur.



Portions of the iron Force Main was replaced with a PVC pipe due to internal corrosion

Location of project: This project is located between north bound Carlsbad Blvd (Highway 101) and the Ponto Drive frontage road, along the Lanikai Mobile Home Park community. **This project will not affect traffic since the work will be done in the shoulder.**

Timeline: Construction began in late July and is anticipated to be complete before the Labor Day weekend.

Article 10

Why we need access to Sewer Easements?

To better serve our customers, we occasionally need to access public sewer easements on private property. Routine maintenance and repair work are essential to keeping the sewer system working properly. During emergency conditions, access to the easement area and the ability to work within it are absolutely essential.

A functioning sewage collection system is complex. Sewage must be collected from every dwelling within the District and routed many miles to the Encina Wastewater Authority Regional Treatment Plant through a vast system of sewer pipelines and pump stations. Sewer pipelines are located in many places. In some areas, entire neighborhoods were designed so that sewer systems were placed in backyards rather than in the street. Fortunately, most new systems are no longer designed that way. Still, it is necessary for LWD to access private property to get to sewer pipelines that may be located in a back, front or side yard. The ability to service and maintain LWD's manholes and piping ensures that the sewer system functions properly for you and the larger community.

If you have a manhole in or near your yard or are planning an upgrade to your landscaping, please be sure to keep it free and clear of obstructions. We are available at 760-753-0155 or

info@lwwd.org to answer any questions about access or maintenance. For emergencies call (760) 753-0155.

By working together with our customers, the District can prevent sewage spills in our neighborhoods, on your property, or near Leucadia and Carlsbad's lagoons and beaches.

Article 11

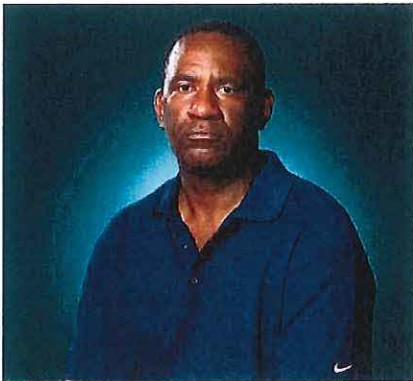
Staff Awards

Our people are the most important part of protecting our coastline! We are fortunate to have a dedicated staff that has chosen to make a lifelong career out of protecting our community.

We would like to acknowledge three staff members who have achieved significant employment milestones this year. Join us in congratulating:

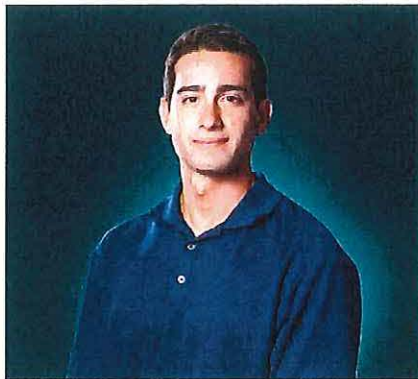
James Hoyett

30 Years of Service Award



Ryan Rodriguez

received his Associate's Degree in Wastewater Technology



Curney Russell

Received his CWEA Collection System Maintenance Grade 2 certification and was promoted to Field Services Technician 2



Congratulations to James, Ryan and Curney!

Article 12 (back page)

Mailing address

We hope you enjoyed our semi-annual newsletter! Please follow up on our Facebook page [@LeucadiaWastewaterDistrict](#) for construction and traffic updates and other wastewater information, or email us at info@lwwd.org

To receive this newsletter digitally, please go to bit.ly/LWDDigital



We are looking to highlight the work of our community members in upcoming social media posts as well as show off our beautiful community. We invite photographers to submit pictures of the local coast or anywhere else within the District by tagging a photo on Facebook or Instagram with #LWDPPhoto or if you do not have the means to post to social media, you can send an email to info@lwwd.org. We will give recognition to any photo we use in any of our postings.



Leucadia Wastewater District Newsletter

Leaders in Environmental Protection, keeping our lagoons, beaches, and oceans clean and safe

Visit our website or Facebook page for construction updates that might affect traffic