

Summer 2014

THE CENTRAL CONTRA COSTA SANITARY DISTRICT

Volume 18,
Number 2

PIPELINE

A newsletter about protecting public health and the environment

WHAT LURKS BELOW?

SEWER MYTHS VS. FACTS:
WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW
COULD HURT YOU!

www.centalsan.org

Students Gain Job Experience at Central San



Kelsey Lansang enhances her graphic design skills by creating the cover and page 3 of this newsletter and by doing other design and photography work for us.

Hundreds of local college students have received a head start on their careers through temporary jobs at the Central Contra Costa Sanitary District.

Since 1986, more than 900 summer students and co-ops (Cooperative Education Program students) have worked for us – and learned from us – in a variety of positions, including: engineering assistant, laboratory assistant, clerical assistant, IT assistant, graphic design assistant, and laborer. Summer students work with us for three months, while co-ops fulfill a six-month commitment.

A Mutually Beneficial Program

The benefits of our student jobs program are numerous – for both the students and Central San.

Working for Central San helps students to:

- Explore different career fields
- Confirm their choice of major
- Experience corporate culture and work environments
- Receive mentoring
- Develop technical skills and experience related to their field of study
- Enhance their self-confidence
- Earn money for college expenses
- Improve their job prospects after graduation

Students help Central San by:

- Doing important work for us in all departments, assisting with engineering projects, administrative work, buildings and grounds maintenance, and many other duties
- Applying and sharing valuable theoretical expertise learned in college
- Providing additional human resources during peak workloads and vacation times
- Offering fresh, energetic approaches and unbiased perspectives about our mission and how we accomplish it



FAR LEFT: Joe Brown gains hands-on work experience at our busy vehicle maintenance shop.



LEFT: Nathan Zinn learns how to clean sewers with a hydro truck from Maintenance Crew Member II Justin Anderson.

What Lurks Below: Sewer Myths vs. Facts

Can you separate myth from fact when it comes to what's good – and bad – for sewers? Here's a list that will increase your sewer IQ, and possibly help you to avoid an expensive plumbing bill!



Myth: Disposable wipes, tampons, kitty litter and other products can be flushed if “Flushable” is on the label.

Fact: These products should never be flushed, regardless of what the label says. They will go down your toilet, but they can also clog pipes. Put them in the trash. Only flush human waste and toilet paper!

Myth: Unwanted medications should be flushed down the toilet.

Fact: Unwanted medications should never be flushed; they can pollute local waters and harm aquatic life. Take them to one of the pharmaceutical collection sites listed on page 9. Only flush human waste and toilet paper!

Myth: Grease can be rinsed down the drain with hot water.

Fact: Grease, oil, and fats should never go down the drain; this stuff clings to the inside of pipes and creates a gooey, sticky mess that clogs sewers. Put it in the trash.

Myth: It's fine to put food scraps down the sink if a garbage disposal is used.

Fact: A disposal will help you get scraps down the sink drain, but they can still clog the small pipe that connects your sink to the sewer. **Put food scraps in the trash (or compost).**

Myth: Sewage treatment plants remove all pollutants from water before it is returned to the environment.

Fact: Sewage treatment plants are designed to remove organic wastes and harmful bacteria from water. Items like chemicals and plastic microbeads (found in many facial cleansers) can be very difficult to remove, and traces of such pollutants can remain in water returned to the environment. Use natural cleaning products. **Never pour chemicals, pesticides, paint, or similar items down any drain.** Bring them to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility for safe disposal. (See page 8.)

Is Your Sewer Pipe About to Fail?

You probably don't think about your sewer until something goes wrong. Perhaps your toilet or another drain backs up, or a smelly sinkhole appears in your yard. These are signs that your sewer pipe may be clogged or broken.

Property owners are responsible for the sewer pipe (called a lateral or side sewer) that connects the plumbing of their house or building to the public sewer under the street. The Central Contra Costa Sanitary District (Central San) is responsible for the public sewers, only.



Why Do Sewer Pipes Fail?

Nothing lasts forever, and a sewer pipe is no exception. Although modern PVC (plastic) pipes can last for 100 years, older pipes are usually made from clay, cast iron, or other material with a shorter life expectancy. If you live in a house built before the 1970s, there's a good chance the pipe is clay and will soon wear out.

The most common sewer problem is root intrusion. Hair-thin tree roots can squeeze into tiny cracks in a pipe or joint. The moisture and nutrients within the pipe enable the roots to thrive and grow until they completely clog the line; they can even cause clay pipes to break.

Sewer pipes can also get clogged by an accumulation of grease and debris (such as disposable wipes). Many other factors can cause sewer pipes to clog or break.

How Can I Find Out if My Sewer Pipe Needs to be Repaired or Replaced?

If a toilet or household drain empties more slowly than usual, if you have a sewage backup, or if patches in your yard are always wet, have your sewer pipe inspected by a licensed plumbing contractor to see if it needs to be cleaned, repaired or replaced. A video inspection of the inside of the pipe is the best way to determine whether the pipe is damaged or simply clogged.

How Much Will It Cost?

The cost of a pipe repair or replacement will depend on several factors (such as location, accessibility, length and depth of the pipe, cause of failure, type of material, and number of connections) and can range from a few hundred to several thousand dollars.

What Permits Are Required?

Apart from routine cleaning and video inspection, all work done on an outside sewer pipe requires a permit from Central San before the work begins. This includes any repair, alteration, extension, or replacement of your lateral, even if you or the contractor have a building

or plumbing permit from the city or county.

If the sewer work requires excavation in a public street, an encroachment permit from the city or county will also be needed.

A licensed plumbing contractor will know what permits are required. Be sure to ask before work begins.

▶ ***Do not hire a contractor who says such work can be done without a permit!***

How Do I Hire a Contractor to Do the Work?

Most licensed plumbing contractors can repair or replace a sewer pipe; you should get estimates from at least three. It's also good to ask friends or family to recommend contractors, if possible, and interview each one to get a feel for their knowledge and competence. Be sure to ask for references, and check them.

Read the contractor's proposal carefully. While this is not an all-inclusive list, at a minimum, make sure it contains:

- ▶ a detailed description of the work to be done;
- ▶ a statement that all required permits will be obtained;
- ▶ a clear explanation of who is responsible for the cost of permits;
- ▶ a statement that the work will be completed in compliance with Central San's Standard Specifications;
- ▶ a statement that the site will be cleaned up and restored when the project is complete.

Look for payment terms, as well. While a deposit may be required before work begins, you should never pay the total balance until the job is complete. State law limits deposits to 10% of the proposed cost of the work or \$1,000, whichever is lower.

Once you have hired a contractor and the Central San permit has been obtained, our inspectors will ensure the job complies with our specifications.

Continued on next page

What Repair Methods Are Available?

Sewer pipe repairs are performed using either an open-cut or trenchless method.

For open-cut repairs, hand-digging or a backhoe will create a trench to expose the damaged portion of the pipe. After the work is completed, the trench will be filled in.

Trenchless methods, such as pipe-bursting and lateral-lining, typically cause less damage (to landscaping, pavement, etc.) than open-cut repairs. With pipe-bursting, an expanding device travels through the pipe, breaks it apart, pushes the pieces out of the way, and pulls in a new pipe, all at the same time. The lateral-lining method introduces a resin-soaked fiber lining into the pipe, which hardens to form a new pipe inside the old pipe.

Be sure to ask the contractor about the alternatives available for your situation.

What If I Have More Questions?

If you have questions about repairing or replacing your lateral, please contact Central San's Permit Staff at (925) 229-7371.

Don't Get Cheated!

Be aware that there are dishonest contractors marketing sewer pipe replacements.

Some may offer to replace your sewer pipe when the city or county is repaving, or when Central San or another utility is working on your street, as "part of that project." While doing NEEDED sewer work before a paving project is often a good idea, Central San never grants exclusive marketing rights for private work to any contractor.

Others may try to pressure you into signing a contract and waiving your right to a three-day cooling off period by telling you the situation is an emergency, or that Central San will penalize you for not acting quickly. These statements are almost always untrue.

They may also tell you not to contact Central San.

Always get references and multiple estimates for any sewer repair or replacement work.

If you have questions about the need for sewer work, call Central San's Permit Staff at (925) 229-7371.

Who to Call If You Have a Sewer Problem

Central San crews maintain more than 1,500 miles of public sewer pipes. But most sewer problems happen inside the privately owned sewer pipes (called laterals) that connect the plumbing of houses and other buildings to the public sewers. Those laterals are the property owners' responsibility.

On rare occasions, a problem in the public sewer may cause sewage to backup and overflow inside a house, especially if its lateral doesn't have a properly installed Overflow Protection Device (see page 9).

It can sometimes be difficult to know whether a sewer problem is occurring in the lateral (property owner's responsibility) or the public sewer (Central San's responsibility).

The good news is that you don't NEED to know the source of the problem before calling for professional help. You have a couple of choices:



- Call Central San at (925) 933-0955 or 933-0990. A crew will respond quickly to determine whether the problem is in the public sewer or your lateral. If it's in the public sewer, they'll fix it. If it's in your lateral, they'll ask you to call a plumbing service to take care of it.

- Call the plumbing service of your choice. They will determine whether the problem is in the public sewer or your lateral. If it's in your

lateral, they'll fix it. If it's in the public sewer, they'll call Central San to come out and fix the problem. In that case, Central San will reimburse you for the response fee charged by your plumber (up to one hour's fee).

If you have any questions about sewer maintenance, call (925) 933-0955. If you have questions about fee reimbursement, call (925) 229-7320.

Scheduled Rate Increase Takes Effect

At a public hearing on April 17, 2014, the Central Contra Costa Sanitary District's Board of Directors confirmed a scheduled \$34 increase of its annual residential sewer service charge. The new charge is \$439 per year and became effective on July 1, 2014.

The charges for business customers vary and can be determined by calling the District at (925) 335-7739.

The sewer service charge is collected from property owners via their annual property tax bills, but it is a fee for services (described at right), not a tax.

The increase, which is the second of two \$34 annual increases approved by the Board at a public hearing in June 2013, was deemed necessary to cover rising expenses, especially those associated with:

- Replacement of our aging infrastructure.
- New state and federal water quality and air quality regulations requiring us to pay increased permit fees, do additional testing, and make significant investments in our treatment processes;
- Labor (salaries, health care, retirement costs);
- Reduction of the District's unfunded liabilities;

Our management staff and Board spent several months reviewing the District's finances and studying new environmental regulations that may require us to invest

We don't take rate increases lightly, and our goal is always to give you maximum value for your money.

more than \$100 million over the next ten years just to remain in compliance. Our rate structure must enable us to meet all regulatory requirements, accomplish our mission, and properly maintain our infrastructure and other publicly funded assets.

Where Your Money Goes

The sewer service charge provides approximately 64% of our revenue. The other 36% comes primarily from new sewer connection fees, contract charges, and a portion of local property taxes.

The sewer service charge pays for labor, benefits, chemicals, utilities, materials, supplies, repairs, maintenance, and other expenses necessary for providing many community services, including:

- ▶ Effective wastewater treatment that protects public health and the environment. We operate and maintain facilities that remove harmful pollutants before returning the water to Suisun Bay, achieving a perfect record of 100% compliance with water quality requirements for the past 16 years.
- ▶ Reliable sewer service from the best wastewater collection system in California (see page 7). We ensure an efficient flow of approximately 45 million gallons of wastewater each day from 471,000 residents and thousands of businesses throughout central Contra Costa County to our treatment plant in Martinez, through a vast network of 1,500 miles of sewer pipelines and 19 pumping stations that require periodic cleaning, maintenance, repair, and replacement.
- ▶ A Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program that safely recycles or disposes of more than 2 million pounds of household hazardous wastes (including oil, paints, pesticides, chemicals, batteries, and fluorescent lights) each year.
- ▶ A pharmaceutical collection program that, in partnership with local police departments,

Continued on next page

provides free, safe disposal of unwanted medications and helps to keep drugs out of local water supplies, and out of the hands of those who shouldn't consume them.

- ▶ A recycled water program that provides 600 million gallons of recycled water for landscape irrigation, plant operations, and other uses each year.
- ▶ A pretreatment program that carefully monitors and enforces water quality regulations for business and industrial users, ensuring their wastewater is not harmful to our treatment processes or the environment.
- ▶ Numerous public outreach and student education programs that offer valuable information on ways to make greener choices, prevent pollution, and protect the environment.

Sewer service is essential. It's also expensive. Our operations and maintenance budget for fiscal year 2014-15 is \$88.2 million; our capital improvement budget (for construction, acquisition, or renovation of fixed assets like buildings, pipelines, facilities, and equipment) is another \$25.1 million.

Each residential property owner pays approximately \$1.20 per day – less than the price of a small drink at the local coffee shop. This amount enables us to accomplish our mission of protecting public health and the environment, and be a high-performance organization that provides exceptional customer service and full regulatory compliance. We hope you feel that \$1.20 is money well spent.

More detailed financial information is available on our website, [www.centralsan.org](http://www centralsan.org), under the "About Us" tab.

District Awards

You Deserve the Best

You deserve the best possible service, and we strive to deliver it every day. Our efforts on your behalf were acknowledged recently by our peers, and we are happy to share the news that Central San has won two prestigious awards:



★ Large Collection System of the Year.

This award from the California Water Environment Association indicates that our teams are the best in the state at cleaning, maintaining, inspecting, and repairing the vast system of sewer pipes and pumping stations that transport wastewater from customers to the treatment plant. It is based on outstanding regulatory compliance, administrative procedures, maintenance, safety, training programs, and emergency response procedures.

★ Platinum-16 Peak Performance Award.

This award from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies indicates that Central San has successfully met or surpassed all federal, state and regional water quality standards while treating an average of 45 million gallons of wastewater every single day for the past 16 consecutive years. Water quality regulations are incredibly stringent, and only a handful of agencies in the country have managed to earn this award. We couldn't have done it without your help. Thank you for keeping pollutants out of the sewer and environment!

Need a Guest Speaker?

Would your group like to hear about Central San and our water pollution prevention efforts? Call (925) 335-7702 and leave a message about your event. We'll do our best to provide a speaker free of charge.

Treatment Plant Tours

We offer free tours for groups of five or more people, grade 6 and up, who would like to see how Central San's award-winning treatment plant makes wastewater safe for the environment. Call Kit Ohlman at (925) 229-7329 for more information.

Who Knew A Hazardous Waste Facility Could Be So Popular?

Have you used our Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Facility yet? Your neighbors have! Since it opened in 1997, more than 372,000 people who live in central Contra Costa County have come to the facility to safely dispose of their HHW.

Here's what they've dropped off:

- 28 million pounds of household hazardous waste;

- 2,150 pounds of mercury – enough to fill nearly 1 million old-fashioned fever thermometers;

- 1,345,000 quarts of motor oil – enough to change the oil in 224,000 cars;

- 541,500 fluorescent lamps (equivalent to 2.2 million feet) – enough to reach from Martinez to Disneyland (401 miles) if laid end-to-end;

- 774,000 gallons of latex paint – enough to paint all of the 44,000 homes in Concord;

- 246 tons of household batteries – roughly equal to 9,840,000 cell phone batteries (one for each person living in New York City and San Francisco).

- 43,000 car batteries – more than enough for each fan at a sold-out SF Giants game.

About 150,000 customers have also taken advantage of the facility's Reuse Room, which has given away more than 4.5 million pounds of reusable items such as paint, cleaners, and pesticides.

There is no drop-off fee for residents to use the facility. (Businesses pay a small fee and need an appointment.)

What Is Household Hazardous Waste?

Any product in the home which contains substances that can harm the environment, wildlife, or people is "household hazardous waste"

when discarded. An easy way to identify such items is by finding these words on product labels: explosive, flammable, toxic, poison, harmful, corrosive, reactive, danger, warning, and caution.

Because household hazardous waste is, well, hazardous, there are state regulations that limit its transportation to 15 gallons or 125 pounds per trip; individual containers are limited to 5-gallon capacity or less.

For more information, please visit our website at www.centrialsan.org/hhw or call 1-800-646-1431.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility

4797 Imhoff Place, Martinez, CA 94553-4392

HOURS

Residents: Monday – Saturday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
(Reuse Room closes at 3:30 p.m.)

Businesses: Monday – Saturday, *by appointment only*

Holiday Closures: Sept. 1; Nov. 11, 27, 28;
Dec. 24 through Jan. 1.

1-800-646-1431



Eligible Communities

Alamo, Blackhawk, Clayton, Concord, Clyde, Danville, Lafayette, Martinez, Moraga, Orinda, Pacheco, Pleasant Hill, San Ramon, Walnut Creek and unincorporated Central County areas.

- From Hwy. 4 take the Solano Way exit.
- From I-680 take Hwy. 4 East to Solano Way exit.

Protect Water Quality: DO NOT Flush Your Drugs!

Please do not flush medications down the toilet. They often contain chemicals that cannot be completely removed by our treatment process and could pollute the Bay. Protect your family, your community, and the environment by bringing unwanted or expired medications to a free drop-off site for safe disposal:

- ▶ **Alamo Sheriff's Substation**
150 Alamo Plaza, Suite C
- ▶ **Clayton Police Dept.**
6000 Heritage Trail
- ▶ **Concord Police Dept.**
1350 Galindo St.
- ▶ **Danville Police Dept.**
510 La Gonda Way
- ▶ **Lafayette Police Dept.**
3675 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 130
- ▶ **Martinez:**
 - **Police Dept.**
525 Henrietta St.
 - **Sheriff's Field Ops Bldg.**
1980 Muir Rd.
 - **Contra Costa Med. Center Sheriff's Substation**
2500 Alhambra Ave.
- ▶ **Moraga Police Dept.**
329 Rheem Blvd.
- ▶ **Orinda Police Dept.**
22 Orinda Way
- ▶ **Pleasant Hill Police Dept.**
330 Civic Dr.
- ▶ **San Ramon Police Dept.**
2401 Crow Canyon Rd.
- ▶ **Walnut Creek City Hall**
1666 North Main St.

To ensure privacy, transfer prescribed pills to a sealable plastic bag before depositing them. Leave liquids in original bottles (cross out personal information) and seal within a plastic bag to prevent spills.

Do not put sharps or anything other than medications in the container!

For more information, visit www.centrialsan.org/hhw or call 1-800-646-1431.

How to Protect Your Property from Sewage

We maintain more than 1,500 miles of sewers and work hard to prevent failures, clogs, and overflows. Our efforts have resulted in one of the lowest overflow rates in California. But we can never totally eliminate the possibility of an overflow; there are too many things beyond our control. Stuff happens. But it needn't happen to you.

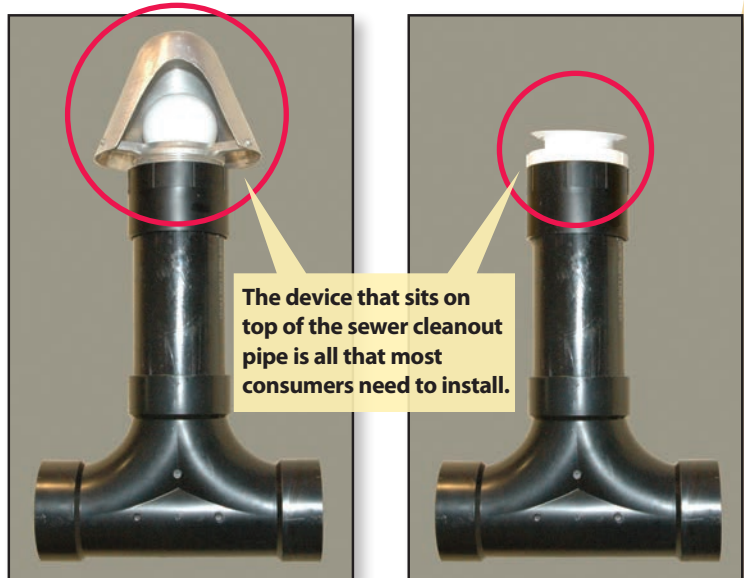
By making sure an Overflow Protection Device is installed on the cleanout of your home's private side-sewer/lateral, you can prevent sewage from backing up into your home from a clogged sewer main. The device causes sewage backing up in your pipe from the direction of the street to overflow into your yard, rather than through drains inside your home.

Note: It will not help if your pipe is clogged between the house drains and the device, so keep disposable wipes, grease, and anything else that might cause clogs out of your pipes!

Overflow Protection Devices are available through plumbing supply stores. We recommend installation by a licensed plumber. Keep the device clear of obstructions, such as dirt or vegetation, that might interfere with its operation.

For more information, please call our Permit Counter staff at (925) 229-7371.

OVERFLOW PROTECTION DEVICES



There are different styles of Overflow Protection Devices. The "mushroom" style, pictured left, has been cut away to show the ball that sits on the pipe opening inside the metal covering. The style pictured at right (shown with the top popped up) is best for installing in driveways or other areas where above-ground protrusions are undesirable.

Infrastructure Improvements

The Central Contra Costa Sanitary District regularly maintains, repairs or replaces sewer lines and other elements of our 1,500-mile wastewater collection system to decrease the likelihood of failures and to ensure continuous, trouble-free service for our customers. Our projects may cause short-term inconveniences, but they provide long-term benefits for you and your neighbors. We appreciate your understanding. Here's a brief summary of our major ongoing construction projects:

Martinez, Orinda, Moraga, Danville, San Ramon

The **Cathodic Protection Project, Phase 1**, is adding/modifying corrosion protection and testing systems on sewer lines and at pumping stations throughout the District. Expected completion: April 2015.

Orinda

The **North Orinda Sewer Renovations Project, Phase 5**, is renovating sewers in the Camino Sobrante and La Cuesta Road areas of North Orinda. Expected completion: February 2015.

Walnut Creek

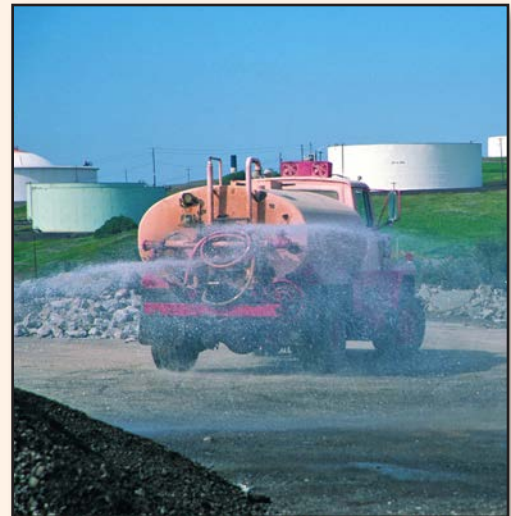
The **Walnut Creek Sewer Renovation Project, Phase 10**, is renovating sewers in the Walnut Boulevard and Summit Road areas. Expected completion: March 2015.

For more info...

For more information about these or other construction projects, please contact Community Affairs Representative Chris Carpenter at (925) 229-7200 or ccarp@centralsan.org, or visit www.centralsan.org/construction.

More info:

Detailed project maps are posted on our website, www.centralsan.org (check the "Construction Zone" on the right of the home page).



Recycled Water Available for Truck Filling

Licensed contractors can fill water trucks with Central Contra Costa Sanitary District recycled water for uses such as dust control, soil compaction, landscape irrigation and sewer flushing. The recycled water will be available from our purple recycled water hydrants on Willow Way in Concord and on Marsh Drive in unincorporated north Concord.

Prior to using a recycled water hydrant, customers must obtain a CCCSD-issued recycled water meter (requiring a one-time refundable deposit of \$750) and Recycled Water Use Permit. Each hydrant customer must assign a recycled water site supervisor who will receive training by our staff prior to receiving the meter and permit.

Additional details, including our current recycled water rates, are available at www.centralsan.org under the "Facilities" tab. If you have questions, please contact Melody LaBella at (925) 229-7370 or mlabella@centralsan.org.

The Tide is Turning on Two Troubling Pollutants

Triclosan

After years of effort by many organizations concerned about the environment (including Central San), triclosan may finally (eventually) be removed from consumer products.

Triclosan is an antibacterial chemical used in thousands of soaps, toothpastes, and other products. Many people seem to feel safer buying products labeled “antibacterial” or “antimicrobial,” but this chemical can do more harm than good.

Triclosan is a toxic pesticide that persists in the environment, bioaccumulates in fish and other species, is an endocrine disrupter, and actually makes bacteria more resistant to antibiotics.

And by the way, it's been proven that washing with antibacterial soap does NOT provide any germ-killing benefit over washing with plain soap and water.

Triclosan is regulated as an antimicrobial pesticide by the EPA and as an antimicrobial drug by the FDA. Central San, the Bay Area Clean Water Agencies, the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, and others have been urging the EPA for years to reconsider its approved uses of triclosan, to no avail. The FDA first proposed a restriction on triclosan in 1974, saying it did NOT find it to be “generally safe and effective.” But the FDA never finalized that regulation, so use of triclosan continued unchecked.

A 2013 lawsuit by the Natural Resources Defense Council got the FDA to consider a new proposed regulation for hand soap use. If implemented, the regulation will eliminate the use of triclosan and many other antibacterial chemicals from soaps, but final FDA action is not expected until 2016.

Some aren't waiting for the EPA or FDA to act. In May, Minnesota became the first state to ban triclosan in consumer products, effective in 2017. Hopefully, other states (including California) will soon follow their example.

The Procter & Gamble Company, Johnson & Johnson, and Avon say they are going to voluntarily remove triclosan from their products.

In the meantime, read labels and choose products that do not list triclosan (or triclocarbon) among ingredients.

Microbeads

While California may be behind the curve on banning triclosan, it's among the first states to take action against plastic microbeads, the environmentally hazardous ingredients used as exfoliants in facial scrubs, toothpaste, soaps, and many other personal care products.

When the tiny non-biodegradable microbeads get washed down drains and into sewers, they pass through wastewater treatment plants and into receiving waters. As they travel through the water, they absorb harmful chemicals and other toxins. ***Because they look like fish eggs, these “poison pills” are consumed by a variety of fish and other aquatic species, affecting the entire food chain.***

On May 23, California's State Assembly voted in favor of a ban on microbeads. The bill has moved on to the state Senate, which must also pass it before it can become law. If passed by the Senate, it will take effect in 2019.

Beating California to the punch, Illinois passed a law on June 8 to become the first state to ban products containing plastic microbeads, effective in 2019.

On June 18, Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ) introduced federal legislation (the Microbead-Free Waters Act of 2014) that would prohibit the sale of personal care products that contain plastic microbeads. If signed into law, the bill will become effective in January 2018.

L'Oréal, Johnson & Johnson, and Unilever say they will phase out the use of plastic microbeads over the next several years.

In the meantime, read labels and avoid products that contain plastic microbeads (listed as Polyethylene, Polythene, Polypropylene, Polymethyl methacrylate, or Nylon). Instead, choose products with biodegradable, natural alternatives such as rice, oat meal, apricot seeds, and powdered pecan shells.



About CCCSD





Our mission as a Special District is to protect public health and the environment. We do this by collecting and treating wastewater, providing recycled water, and promoting pollution prevention. Our treatment plant in Martinez collects, treats, and disinfects an average of 45 million gallons of wastewater every day. Some treated wastewater is recycled (treated further) for irrigation use on golf courses and parks; the rest is released into Suisun Bay. We also operate a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility and sponsor 12 collection sites for the safe disposal of pharmaceuticals.



Where to Call...

General information	(925) 228-9500 or www.centralsan.org
Sewer overflows	(925) 933-0955 or 933-0990
Treatment Plant InfoLine (Report Odors)	(925) 335-7703
Household Hazardous Waste InfoLine	(800) 646-1431
Sewer connection permits/Permit Counter	(925) 229-7371
To report illegal discharges into sewer system	(925) 229-7288 (during business hours) (925) 229-7214 (after hours)
Source Control	(925) 229-7288
Job Hotline	(925) 229-7109 or www.centralsan.org
Student Education Programs	(925) 229-7310 or www.centralsan.org
Public InfoLine	(925) 335-7702 or www.centralsan.org

CCCSD serves 471,000 customers within its 144-square-mile service area.

-  Wastewater collection & treatment; Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) disposal for 335,000 people.
-  Wastewater treatment and HHW disposal for 136,000 people in Concord and Clayton by contract.
-  HHW disposal only.
-  CCCSD's headquarters, treatment plant, and HHW Collection Facility are located in Martinez.

The Central Contra Costa Sanitary District PIPELINE

Written and designed by CCCSD to communicate pollution prevention messages to the people and communities we serve

Michael Scahill, Editor • **Bonnie Lowe**, Writer
Charles Waltmire, Graphic Designer

View archived issues online at www.centralsan.org

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Board of Directors

David R. Williams, President

- **Michael R. McGill**, President Pro Tem • **Paul H. Causey**, Director
- **James A. Nejedly**, Director • **Tad J. Pilecki**, Director

Board meetings are open to the public and are held on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 2 p.m. in the CCCSD Board Room, 5019 Imhoff Place, Martinez.

Roger S. Bailey, General Manager