

Flushable Wipes?

Baby wipes and cleaning wipes are very convenient and can provide significant health benefits. But flushing these wipes, even those advertised as "flushable", can cause sewage back-ups and other plumbing problems at your home.

Wipes also cause problems for us at the Goleta West Sanitary District. They can damage pumps, clog pipes, and disrupt the sewage treatment facility. Additionally, dealing with wipes adds to the maintenance of your sewer system which increases the cost of service.

So, think before you flush. And remember: Your toilet is not a trash can.





Street Sweeping

Please remember to move your cars on street sweeping day to help keep our creeks, beaches, and wetlands healthy and clean.

Since 1964, Goleta West Sanitary District has been providing street sweeping services to its customers. The District was the first South Coast agency to implement a street sweeping program to remove trash and pollutants from storm water runoff that flows into our creeks, wetlands, ocean, and beaches. Unlike many government agencies, we own and operate our street sweeper, making this service reliable and flexible.

Moving your cars and other items such as basketball hoops off the street on your street sweeping day allows the street sweeper to remove the debris that accumulates along the curb. This helps us keep our creeks, beaches, and wetlands healthy and clean.

For more information on your street sweeping schedule visit our website at:

www.GoletaWest.org/customerinformation/street-sweeping





Community Calendar

- April 22-23 Earth Day, Alameda Park.
 For more information visit www.SBEarthDay.org
- April 29th National Prescription Drug Take Back Day.
 For more information visit:
 www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback

Operation Medicine Cabinet No Drugs Down the Drain

Please remember not to flush old medications down the drain. Our facilities cannot properly treat pharmaceutical byproducts, which means these can ultimately end up in our groundwater or oceans, adversely impacting us and our environment. So, what should you do with them instead? In addition to the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day noted above, you can leave expired or unneeded prescription medicines in the drop boxes located at each of the County's Sheriff Substations as part of their Operation Medicine Cabinet (OMC) program which was launched in 2010. During the 2016 calendar year, the OMC program collected and destroyed 9,352 pounds of unneeded medications throughout Santa Barbara County. More than 40,000 pounds of medicines have been collected since the program began.

For more information please visit www.lessismore.org to learn about the County of Santa Barbara's program for safe and environmentally beneficial disposal of your unwanted or out-of-date medications.



Goleta West Sanitary District NewsletterSpring 2017

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Visit our Website! www.GoletaWest.org

Contact Us

UCSB Campus, Parking Lot 32 P.O. Box 4, Goleta, CA 93116-0004

info@GoletaWest.org District Office: 805.968.2617 Fax: 805.562.8987



Winter Storms

District fares well in severe winter storms.

This winter's storms brought great relief from the most severe drought in recent history. Our reservoirs are filling and our plants have received a much needed soaking. With these rains comes a tremendous amount of runoff that can enter sewer systems and overload sewage treatment facilities. Without proper planning and infrastructure, this can lead to untreated wastewater flooding our streets or being discharged into the ocean.

Here at the Goleta West Sanitary District, we do a significant amount of planning and maintenance for these and other events to ensure our system can operate properly under all conditions. The District's Sewer System Management Plan outlines all the proactive steps we take to care for our infrastructure. We are maintaining and constantly making upgrades and improvements to our system.

Consequently, while we experienced some intense rainfall this winter – including over 4 inches in less than 10 hours! – we did not incur any failures to our Sewer System. Everything worked as it should.

To learn more about our Sewer System Management Plan, under the "Customer Info" tab on our home page. For ongoing projects, visit www.GoletaWest.org/projects.



Infrastructure Dollars at Work

We have a lot of projects coming your way as we move into the construction phases of several important infrastructure projects.

Phase VI Pipeline and Manhole Maintenance Project

This project consists of rehabilitation of approximately 26 manholes and lining of approximately 6,000 linear feet of sewer pipelines ranging in size from 6-inch up to 18-inch. The District is using trenchless technology to perform this work rather than digging up the lines. This method is more cost-efficient and less disruptive to neighborhoods where the work is being done.



Phase VI Facilities Engineering Project

The District has a number of 6-inch sewer pipeline segments that are in need of repair. This project will replace those older pipe segments with 8-inch pipes which meet the district's current minimum pipe size design standards. In addition to solving the problems that exist in these deteriorated pipes, upgrading the pipes will result in more efficient maintenance.

Estimated Construction July-October 2017

Phelps Road Project

The GWSD Wastewater Master Plan and Hydraulic Study identified certain sections of pipeline that no longer meet the District's design criteria for capacity. As we looked at updating those pipes, the decision was made to address some environmental and maintenance concerns at the same time by moving pipes out of wetland areas. The Mesa Road Project was the first phase of this effort and was completed in early 2016. The Phelps Road project will install a new pipeline along Phelps Road connecting to the new pipes installed as part of the Mesa Road Project (located at the Mesa Road and Los Carneros Road intersection). Once the work is done, the pipeline located in a wetland area west of Los Carneros will be abandoned in place.

Construction Estimated to begin in 2018



