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BILLING CHANGES AHEAD

Welcome to the premier edition of *Currents*, a newsletter for customers of the Vallejo Sanitation & Flood Control District. *Currents* will come with your sewer bill, and contain information about issues that may affect you.

This month, important changes have taken place in your bill. Until now, your combined sewer, stormwater, and flood control bill has been included in your City of Vallejo water bill. Now these bills are separate. Your water bill will not include sewer and stormwater charges. You will receive bills directly from us for those fees. *This is not a rate change, simply a change in how the bills are sent.*

The Vallejo Sanitation & Flood Control District is not part of the City of Vallejo; we are a separate government agency called a “special

district.” Our new billing process will be more efficient and streamlined, and help keep sewer and stormwater rates reasonable. We are working hard to ensure that the transition to the new billing system is completed as smoothly and as quickly as we can.

Please visit our web site at www.vsfcd.com. There you will find answers to frequently asked questions as well as special instructions for owners of rental and commercial properties, and property managers. If you like to pay bills automatically, we can set up an AutoPay account for you.

Don’t hesitate to call if you have any questions, a phone number has been created to handle any billing concerns: **644-8976**.



Ron Matheson, District Manager, Vallejo Sanitation & Flood Control District

Below, fourth and fifth-grade students on tour at the wastewater treatment plant. The District provides teachers with videos and classroom projects to help prepare students for the free field trip and covers transportation costs.



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WHAT DOES VALLEJO SAN & FLOOD DO FOR YOU?

Think about how often you take a shower. Run the dishwasher. Use the toilet. Spin the garbage disposal. Do a load of laundry. Now multiply that number times 116,000, the approximate population of Vallejo, and you'll get an idea of what we do every day.

Wastewater pipes run from houses and businesses throughout Vallejo and nearby areas to our plant off Sonoma Boulevard. We treat and disinfect approximately 13 million gallons of water per day (up to 60 million gallons per day during heavy rains). The treated

wastewater is piped to a deep water outfall near the foot of the Zampa Bridge.

In addition to treating wastewater, we are also responsible for keeping Vallejo's storm drains clear of trash and toxic substances. This helps prevent floods and protects the water in the Bay. Water that runs over streets and into the storm drain system is not treated at our wastewater plant, but flows directly into the Carquinez Strait and the Napa River.

Keeping pollution out of water that either comes to our plant (wastewater) or flows through the storm

drains to the Bay (stormwater) is a complex and important job.

Our pollution prevention programs, which include public information campaigns, educational programs for students, instruction and inspection programs for businesses, less-toxic gardening workshops and other activities, teach people how to keep pollution out of the sewer system and the storm drains.

Being your partner—in public health and environmental protection—is what we're all about.



Celebrate Earth Day by visiting our booth at the Vallejo Farmers' Market on Saturday, April 23rd. You'll find free info about using less toxic products in your garden, VALCORE'S composting demos and fun activities for kids!

Sign up for a free compost workshop at VALCORE on May 7 from 10 to noon. For more info, call 55-EARTH. Sponsored by City of Vallejo, Vallejo Garbage Service, and us!

Look for this friendly daisy symbol (designed by the folks at Central San). It will help you find less toxic home and garden products at the Vallejo YardBirds and Home Depot stores.



Currents is produced bimonthly by the Vallejo Sanitation & Flood Control District. For more information, visit www.vsfcd.com or call (707) 644-8949.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES



Clean water is essential for everyday life. Wastewater treatment plant employees remove harmful pollutants from domestic and industrial wastewater so that it is safe to return to the environment. They control equipment and

processes that remove harmful materials, chemical compounds and microorganisms from the water. They are trained to use special safety equipment to protect public health and the facility.

Men and women entering this field receive skilled training, and workers in the field require upgrading of their skills. Both groups must become State certified to become or remain employed.

Solano Community College offers courses in wastewater treatment. The community college program satisfies most of the requirements for certification of water and wastewater treatment personnel.

For more information, call Solano Community College at 864-7000 or visit www.solano.edu.