



Points of Interest

- The Problem of Anti-bacterial Soap
- What's New at the Slough?
- Careers at the District
- Tip of the Season

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**Sewer blockage or overflow?
Call us first at 644-8949**

THE TROUBLE WITH TRICLOSAN

Triclosan is the most common chemical found in antibacterial soaps. It is also found in dishwashing liquids, anti-microbial creams, soaps, deodorants, various toothpastes and as an additive in some plastics and textiles. Scientific

the bodies of fish and humans, which means that it builds up over time.

Environmental Impacts

As a result of extensive human use, Triclosan and other antibacterial chemicals have been found in water bodies, including San Francisco Bay.

the resistance problem,” according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

The CDC goes on to state that the best way to fight germs is hand-washing with regular soap and water for at least ten seconds.

Vallejo Sanitation &



evidence suggests that anti-bacterial products are no more effective than plain soap and water in protecting us from germs.

In fact, they may cause environmental harm. The impacts on human health are unknown, but are the cause of a great deal of current study.

Why Vallejo Sanitation & Flood Control District no longer purchases products containing Triclosan.

Triclosan is registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a pesticide. The chemical formula and molecular structure are similar to toxic chemicals including dioxins and PCBs.

Triclosan accumulates in

While some Triclosan is removed during the wastewater treatment process, not all of it is, and therein lies the problem. Studies demonstrate that it is toxic to organisms living in water.

Benefits?

There is no demonstrated benefit of using antibacterial products to protect people from germs, according to the American Medical Association, the Food and Drug Administration, and other researchers.

“Antibiotics are critical to the treatment of bacterial infections. However, after years of overuse and misuse of these drugs, bacteria have developed antibiotic resistance. The relatively recent increase of anti-bacterial agents into healthy households may contribute to

Flood Control District has stopped purchasing anti-bacterial soaps for use in our wastewater treatment plant.

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WHAT'S NEW AT THE SLOUGH?



This summer, the District proudly completed the enhancement of three wildlife viewing areas along the southern basin of White Slough just south of Highway 37.

The three platforms connect to the bike trail built by CalTrans during

the Highway 37 extension project.

In compliance with the conditions of the District's permit from the San Francisco Bay Coastal and Development Commission (BCDC), the District laid down decomposed granite, the

District laid down decomposed granite to form a smooth walking area, and installed new park benches and trash receptacles.

Two interpretive signs, written by district staff and beautifully designed by Urbain Design were added recently.

One sign describes the fascinating history of the slough, which has come full circle from a tidal zone through the farming and airport eras, then back to being a natural area.

The other sign shows some of the creatures that live in the slough, and how residents can help protect this natural gem in Vallejo.



Tip of the Season

We Westerners may not get the brilliant fall leaf colors that happen back East, but we do get dry weather and high winds. Fallen leaves, branches and other yard debris, while natural, still do not belong in storm drains.

You can help prevent winter flooding by raking up trash, leaves, grass clippings and other yard waste and disposing of them properly.



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 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.