



Points of Interest

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Serving you since 1952

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

VALLEJO SANITATION & FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

Currents

KEEPING RATS AND MICE AWAY

Rats and mice eat and contaminate food, damage property and household items, and carry diseases. Rodents can aggravate allergies and asthma, and can even cause fires by chewing the plastic insulation off electrical wires in your walls or attic. It is important to keep rodents out of and away from your home, and using less toxic methods to do that helps our environment.

Detection

Look for droppings, gnawed holes and other signs of gnawing, rat burrows in the ground, and nests made from shredded paper, cloth, or insulation. You may see the animals themselves, smell them, or hear them scampering at night in walls and ceilings.

Prevention

Eliminate access: The most important measure is making it difficult for rodents to get into your home. Seal any cracks, crevices or voids that are large enough to stick a pencil through. Mice can squeeze through a hole that small, and both rats and mice can gnaw on a small hole to make it larger.



Store food properly: Keep food in the refrigerator or pest-resistant containers made of glass, metal or heavy plastic with tight-fitting lids. Do not leave food out overnight. Store dry pet food, birdseed, and grass seed in pest-resistant containers. Remove and clean pet dishes after pet has eaten. Do not leave pet food out overnight, especially outdoors.

Keep things clean: Sweep or wipe up food spills promptly. Clean food preparation and eating areas daily. Fallen seed from bird feeders is a prime source of food for rodents. Clean seed up daily at the end of the day or remove bird feeders.

Reduce access to water: Fix leaking faucets and pipes, including those in your irrigation system.

You can find much more information in our free fact

sheet: *Keeping Rats and Mice Away from your Home*. You can find it at www.OurWaterOurWorld.org, or call 644-8949 ext. 292 and we'll mail you a copy.



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NEED A SPEAKER?



Did you know? The District has guest speakers available for local service clubs, large businesses, community organizations, churches and other groups.

Our expert speakers address such topics as:

- Disaster preparedness;
- What homeowners can do to protect their homes from sewer backups;
- How businesses can be in compliance with clean water regulations;
- Less toxic home and garden practices;
- How wastewater collection systems and the treatment plant work;
- Vallejo Watershed Alliance;
- How you can help out on Coastal

Cleanup Day ... and more! We are available free of charge.

Different audiences have different needs. If you are interested in arranging for a speaker, we will be happy to work with you to determine which topic would be most appropriate for your organization.

You can arrange for a speaker by calling Jennifer Kaiser at 644-8949 ext. 292 or email jkaiser@vsfcd.com.



Tip of the Season

*In our last issue, we let you know what to flush down your toilets (human waste and toilet paper) and, more importantly, what **not** to flush (everything else).*

In the meantime, we've had problems with a couple of our pump stations that we wanted to share with you. The picture above shows a pile of rags that were recently flushed into the District's pipes, causing problems for pumps.

Rags, cloths, and cleaning wipes should be properly disposed of in the trash.

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Vallejo Sanitation & Flood Control District regularly maintains, repairs or replaces sewer lines. We do our best to minimize any inconvenience caused by our projects and appreciate your understanding. Here's a quick update of District projects taking place around Vallejo:

A new project, currently out to bid will replace all the lower laterals (pipes that extend from cleanouts to the main sewer lines) on the 2700 block of Georgia. This will be done by open trench construction and there will be lane closures on that section of Georgia Street. After the work is done, the City will repave the street.



The lower lateral work that took place earlier this spring is now complete; pipes were replaced and roads and sidewalks resurfaced after the work was done.

Construction on replacing older sewer pipes in easements will

start in late May; areas affected include Springs Road, Arkansas Street, Burnette Street, the intersection of Broadway and Valle Vista, Coronel Avenue, Laurel Street, 5th Avenue, and Viewmont Avenue.



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