

Welcome to the first issue of the South Placer Municipal Utility District Newsletter. We are your sewer service provider, and have been a part of the community since 1956. We provide services to residents and businesses within Rocklin, Loomis, Newcastle, Penryn & parts of Granite Bay. In the essence of being good neighbors we would like to bring you some tidbits of information so that you may assist us in being responsible stewards of our environment.



5807 Springview Drive,  
Rocklin CA 95677  
916-786-8555  
[www.spmud.ca.gov](http://www.spmud.ca.gov)  
**Newsletter**

ISSUE NUMBER 1 - DECEMBER 2015

## Pollution Prevention – It's What We Do!

Most people don't give much thought as to where their wastewater ends up once it goes down the drain. The wastewater collected by SPMUD flows through pipes to one of two wastewater treatment facilities in Roseville where it is treated. A portion of the treated water is recycled to irrigate area golf courses, parks and streetscapes.

It is the District's responsibility as your sewer service provider to protect the public and the environment. In this newsletter you will find helpful tips on how you can assist us with being responsible stewards of our environment.

## Only the Three P's...

A lot of products, such as wipes and sanitary products advertise that they are flushable. Even though the item may state that it can be flushed, the bigger question is, should it be? What happens to these items once it is flushed down the drain and out of sight? Many items marketed as flushable do not degrade, or breakdown in the sewer system like toilet paper does, and ends up clogging pipes that may cause messy sewer backups and expense to both residents and the District.

The sanitary sewer system is only designed to handle the three P's – **P**ee, **P**oop and toilet **P**aper.

***Please remember that your toilet is not a trash can!***



### DON'T Flush

- Baby & Facial Wipes**
- Cotton Swabs**
- Dental Floss**
- Cleaning Wipes**
- Bandages & Sticker Backs**
- Cigarette Butts**
- Tampons & Applicators**
- Maxi Pads & Wrappers**
- Hair**
- Teeth Whitening Strips**
- Paper Towels**
- Prescription Medicine**

## Fat's Oils and Grease

Fats, oils and grease (F.O.G.) attach to the sides of sewer pipes, blocking the flow of wastewater that may cause sewage to overflow into homes and onto the streets. These overflows are health hazards and costly to clean up. F.O.G. is a by-product of cooking that can be found in various sources such as:

- Meats Fats
- Food Scraps
- Lard
- Shortening
- Sauces
- Butter and Margarine
- Dairy Products
- Cooking Oil
- Baked Goods

**YOU CAN HELP** by disposing of excess food and scraps in the garbage and not down the drain!

### F.O.G. PICK UP

Pour all cooking oil and grease into a non-breakable container with a lid, such as a coffee can, label it as SPMUD/FOG and place it on your front door step. Then **CALL SPMUD** (916) 786-8212 for pick up! See the District website for more information, [www.spmud.ca.gov](http://www.spmud.ca.gov)



**STOP AND  
THINK...  
NOT DOWN  
THE SINK!**

## Water Conservation and Sewage Flows

When most people think of the drought and practicing good water conservation habits, they don't typically think about sewer impacts. There have been some unforeseen issues resulting from how well Californians have been conserving water.

Customers have been rightfully been installing low flow toilets and flushing less often. As a result, water isn't flowing through pipes as much as it used to, sometimes causing waste to build up. The waste sitting for any extended period can lead to corrosion and odors. Also wastewater and gravity help push sewage to the Regional Waste Water Treatment Facilities. The low flow resulting from conservation has led to solids accumulation and can create stoppages. SPMUD recognizes this and makes efforts to clean these pipes as necessary and takes steps to ensure sewer is flowing and reduce any potential damage to the system.

Because customers are irrigating outdoors much less frequently, trees are desperate for water and tree roots are invading the sewer pipes through the pipe joints. Roots actually can infiltrate the pipelines and are difficult to remove. These roots can cause blockages and may result in damage to the pipes. You can help by not planting trees near the sewer on your property, if you have a question of where sewer is located on your property call us and we can advise you.

South Placer Municipal Utility District crews routinely conduct video inspections of the sewer mains in the streets and operate hydraulic and mechanical cleaning equipment to prevent sewer blockages and overflows. Working together with customers, the South Placer Municipal Utility District hopes to minimize these drought related impacts.



**SEWER PROBLEMS?** If you are experiencing a sewer problem, such as plumbing backing-up, slow drains, sewer overflowing either inside your home or from the sewer clean out, **please contact us immediately.** SPMUD will determine whether the problem is the District's to resolve or whether you should call a plumber. SPMUD has staff on-call 24/7 to address these sewer related issues.

**CALL US FIRST! (916) 786-8555**