Proposed Sewer Trunk Main Replacement Project to Improve Sonoma Valley Sewer System

The Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District (District) is in the planning stages of a proposed sewer trunk main replacement project that is slated for construction in the spring of 2018. Since 1994, the District has completed approximately 9.7 miles of major capacity and structural improvement projects at a cost of $14.9 million.

As part of the ongoing effort to increase the system’s capacity and prevent sanitary sewer overflows, the District is carrying out 1.8 miles of high-priority projects over the next several years. The project is proposed to replace older sewer lines that have reached the end of their life expectancy and to increase the size of the sewer trunk main as required by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board’s 2015 Cease & Desist Order. The purpose of the project is to improve the sewer trunk main’s ability to reliably handle wet weather flows. The project will also help to prevent leaks in the system and reduce sanitary sewer overflows, which occur during heavy rains and can allow wastewater to enter creeks.

The first phase of the project is expected to get under way starting in 2018. The multi-year project would replace a portion of the existing sewer trunk main alignment in three phases:

- **1st Phase** - From the intersection of 6th Street West & Studley Street, north to Highway 12, and up to Ramon Street;
- **2nd Phase** - From Highway 12 and Ramon Street, through Maxwell Farms Regional Park, to West Verano Avenue;
- **3rd Phase** - From Buena Vida Court to Happy Lane

Background information on the purpose of and need for the proposed sewer trunk main replacement, construction schedule, environmental review process and timeline is available at: www.sonomacountywater.org/svcsdsewerproject

The District provides sewer collection and wastewater services to an area that covers approximately 4,500 acres, including the city of Sonoma, and the unincorporated areas of Aqua Caliente, Boyes Hot Springs, Eldridge, Fetters Hot Springs, Glen Ellen, Schellville, Temelec, and Vineburg. The District plant treats wastewater for approximately 17,000 equivalent single family dwellings.

Built in 1953, the system includes nearly 200 miles of collection pipes and sewer trunk mains. The District is in the process of systematically replacing the aging collection system in order to comply with regulatory requirements and maintain a healthy environment. For more information about the District, go to www.sonomacountywater.org/svcsd.

**Water Rebates in Your District**

Sanitation District water saving rebate programs available

As a sanitation customer, you have some water saving tools at your fingertips! Please take advantage of the following water saving program which is offered on a first-come, first-served basis while funding lasts:

**Clothes Washer** — Receive up to $50 back on the purchase and installation of a new, qualifying high-efficiency clothes washer (HEW). Rebates are available for all Energy Star Most Efficient listed clothes washers except those containing silver ion technology.

For more information, go to www.savingwaterpartnership.org/washer-rebate
The Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District (District) Private Sewer Lateral Ordinance was approved by the District Board of Directors in February 2017 and went into effect on March 8, 2017. The Ordinance allows the District to require property owners of homes and businesses 30 years or older to have their sewer laterals inspected and, if necessary, repaired.

PURPOSE
The Private Sewer Lateral Ordinance is intended to reduce inflow and infiltration into the sewer collection system, and prevent sewer overflows. These overflows can pollute creeks and result in fines to the District. Water entering the system from faulty laterals can contribute to causing sewer overflows.

HOW THE PROGRAM WILL WORK
The District will provide free inspections to property owners starting in mid 2018. Property owners will be notified when the inspections are scheduled for their neighborhood. Inspections will use video equipment that enters private sewer laterals via the sewer main and crews will not need to enter the property at this time.

Following the video inspections, the District will evaluate the results, using an industry standard known as the Pipeline Assessment and Certification Program (PACP) and/or the Lateral Assessment and Certification Program (LACP). Based on the results, the property owner will be notified of the condition of their lateral and if repairs are required.

The inspections will start with those areas where the highest number of sewer overflows have been identified. District staff will determine the priority for the inspection schedule. If repairs or replacement of a sewer lateral is required, the property owner has one year to complete the repairs.

The District will provide a $1,000 rebate for repairs, once they are completed, on a limited time basis. Property owners who are not located in the initial inspection area may choose to pay for their own inspection (which must be performed in accordance with the PACP and/or LACP) and will qualify for a rebate if repairs are needed.

For more information, visit: www.sonomacountywater.org/lateral
Or contact: Chad Singleton, 707-547-1923, chad.singleton@scwa.ca.gov
Barry Dugan, 707-547-1930, barry.dugan@scwa.ca.gov

Our hearts go out to all of our customers who suffered losses and were affected by the devastating fires in October. We are grateful to the many emergency responders, volunteers and rescue workers who are helping during this crisis. Your sanitation district staff is working with the County of Sonoma and other partners on rebuilding our community and assessing the reliability of our sanitation systems. During the fire emergency, our staff worked diligently to ensure systems continued to function and to do our part in protecting public health and safety. We are committed to supporting our community as we recover from this tragedy and we thank you for your support and patience.