

Local Hazard Mitigation Planning Underway

The Airport/Larkfield/Wikiup Sanitation Zone (ALWSZ) will be included in the update of a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) to increase the reliability of its infrastructure during natural disasters. During the preparation of the updated LHMP, property owners, and members of the public in the ALWSZ are encouraged to submit input on the draft LHMP during an upcoming public comment period.

The ALWSZ is operated by the Sonoma County Water Agency (Water Agency). An update to the Water Agency's 2013 LHMP is currently under way, and will identify potential risks to its water supply transmission system and sanitation system from a variety of natural hazards, including earthquakes, wildfires, landslides, and floods. The Water Agency LHMP will include risks and mitigation measures for the ALWSZ wastewater collection.

Mitigation measures in the Water Agency LHMP focus on increasing the reliability of sanitation facilities and infrastructure in order to protect public health, safety, property, and natural resources. The Water Agency LHMP is intended to provide a framework for decision-makers to reduce damages to lives, property, and the economy from future disasters through the use of risk-based analysis. The ALWSZ is also developing an LHMP in order to qualify for federal disaster grant assistance.

The public comment period for the draft Water Agency LHMP is anticipated to be in early 2018. Copies of the draft Water Agency LHMP will be available to view online for the duration of the comment period at:

www.sonomacountywater.org/secureourwater.

Hard copies will be available for viewing during the comment period at the Water Agency office at 404 Aviation Blvd., Santa Rosa, CA 95403, and at the following branches of the Sonoma County Library System:

- CENTRAL SANTA ROSA LIBRARY
211 E Street | Santa Rosa, CA 95404
- PETALUMA REGIONAL LIBRARY
100 Fairgrounds Drivet | Petaluma, CA 94952
- ROHNERT PARK COTATI REGIONAL LIBRARY 6250 Lynne
Condé Way | Rohnert Park, CA 94928

Submit questions or comments about the draft Water Agency LHMP to LHMP@scwa.ca.gov or mailed to Mollie Asay, c/o Sonoma County Water Agency, 404 Aviation Blvd., Santa Rosa, CA 95403.



Water Rebates in Your Zone

Take advantage of the following water saving programs which are offered on a first-come, first-served basis while funding lasts:

Clothes Washer – Receive up to \$125 back on the purchase and installation of a new, qualifying high-efficiency clothes washer (HEW). For more information visit: www.sonomacountywater.org/rebates

Toilet Rebate – Get up to \$150 back on the purchase and installation of each new, qualifying high-efficiency toilet (HET) from the List of Qualifying Models. Download rebate application and learn more at www.sonomacountywater.org/rebates or call (707) 547-1918.

High-Efficiency Fixture Direct Install Program

A limited number of high-efficiency fixture retrofits, including toilet, urinal, faucet aerator and showerhead replacements, are offered at no cost to eligible properties. For more information, go to: www.sonomacountywater.org/direct-install.

Grass Removal

If you are a well user within the Russian River watershed, you may be eligible to save money and conserve water by replacing the grass at your home. To view a full list of the program guidelines and qualifications visit www.sonomacountywater.org/drought.





Airport/Larkfield/Wikiup Sanitation Zone
 c/o Sonoma County Water Agency
 404 Aviation Blvd.
 Santa Rosa, CA 95403

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.

In the aftermath of the October fires, the ALWSZ has received many inquiries from residents about hooking up to the wastewater collection system as they make plans to rebuild. The Water Agency and the County of Sonoma are working together to develop plans and procedures for residents who are not currently wastewater customers and may wish to connect to the ALWSZ system. We will be notifying residents within the sanitation zone boundaries as the planning process develops.

Water Agency Proposes Private Sewer Lateral Ordinance

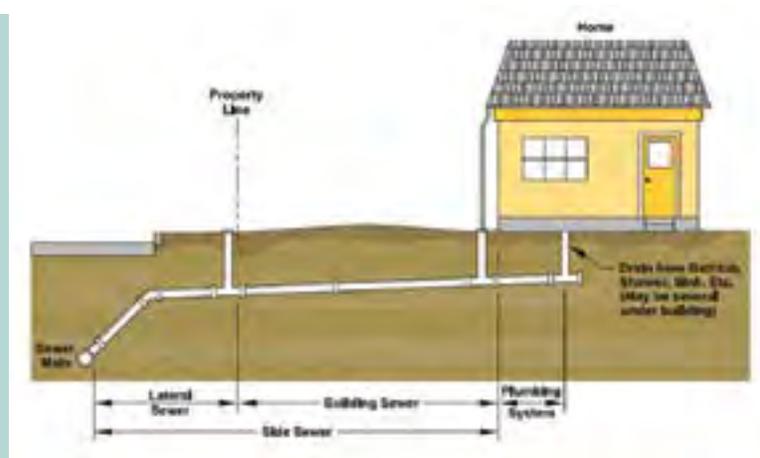
The Water Agency, which manages and operates eight sanitation zones and districts in Sonoma County, is proposing a Private Sewer Lateral Ordinance. The ordinance would provide the Water Agency the ability to inspect, and if necessary, require the repair of sewer laterals that are failing and contributing to pollution and sewer overflows.

The proposed sewer lateral ordinance would not include mandatory inspections or repairs at this time, but would allow the sanitation zones and districts to require repairs if during inspections faulty sewer laterals are detected.

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 ALWSZ.

Water entering faulty sewer laterals are one of the sources of storm water that can cause overflows.



TIMING

The Water Agency anticipates that a proposed ordinance would go to the Board of Directors in spring of 2018 and would take effect a year later. Community meetings will be held prior to Board consideration of the ordinance. The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors serves as the Board of Directors for the Water Agency and for the ALWSZ.

For more information, contact:

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 Barry Dugan, 707-547-1930, Barry.Dugan@scwa.ca.gov