Hazard Mitigation Planning Underway

The Penngrove Sanitation Zone (PSZ) 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 PSZ are encouraged to submit input on the draft LHMP during an upcoming public comment period. Copies of the LHMP will be available to view online in the coming months at: www.sonomacountywater.org/secureourwater.

The PSZ 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 PSZ wastewater collection system, as well as the Geyserville Sanitation Zone and Airport-Larkfield-Wikiup Sanitation Zone.

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 PSZ is also developing the Water Agency LHMP in order to qualify for federal disaster grant assistance.

The public comment period for the draft Water Agency LHMP is anticipated to begin 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 Sonoma County 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 Drive | 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 by sending an email 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.
Because of the devastating fires throughout Sonoma County in October, publication of the semi-annual sanitation newsletters was delayed. We apologize for the delay and our hearts go out to everyone who suffered losses and were impacted by the terrible fires. We want to thank everyone who has worked so hard during this time: emergency responders, rescue workers, volunteers and all those who have assisted in the recovery and rebuilding efforts. We will continue to do our part in protecting the health and safety of our communities by operating reliable sanitation systems.

**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.

Currently, Penngrove Sanitation Zone (PSZ) does not have the funds to carry out mandatory inspection and repair programs.

**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 Zone.

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 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 to receive comments from the community. The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors serves as the Board of Directors for the Water Agency and for the PSZ.

**For more information, contact:**
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Securing our Future by Investing in our Water Resources, Environment & Community