

# MARINA SEWER MAINTENANCE DISTRICT

**11TH EDITION, 2016** 

We provide sewer maintenance services to protect the public and the environment in a highly efficient, effective, and responsive manner.









The Marina Sewer Maintenance District (District), managed by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Sewer Maintenance Division, provides a wide range of services to the unincorporated community of Marina del Rey. These services include inspecting sewer manholes, cleaning sewer lines, repairing sewer systems, and responding to service calls related to sewer overflows, odor problems, insect infestation, and other emergencies.







24-Hour Hotline 800-675-HELP 800-675-4357 Are you experiencing a sewer backup or overflow?
Are odors, vermin, and roaches coming out of manholes or drains?

**GIVE US A CALL!** 

Nothing should ever be flushed down the toilet except, well, the "unmentionables."



## Get to know the UNFLUSHABLES

The following products are often mistakenly flushed down the toilet or otherwise put into the sewer system, resulting in clogged pipes, broken pumps, and sanitary sewer overflows:

Disposable Wipes and Diapers

**Paper Towels** 

Condoms

Feminine Hygiene Products and Applicators

Cat Litter

**Shop Towels or Rags** 

Disposable Gloves

**Dental Floss** 

Q-tips, Cotton Balls, and Makeup Pads







#### **POLLUTION PREVENTION**

#### **BEGINS AT HOME**

There's no way around it — we live in a disposable society. From disposable plates, forks and napkins to disposable diapers, feminine hygiene products, and cleaning supplies, we use and throw away literally tons of things each year.

Unfortunately, many of us are misled by product labels and ad campaigns that say products sold as "disposable" are also "flushable." We're here to tell you they're NOT. Nothing should ever be flushed down the toilet except, well, the "unmentionables."

The fact is, your toilet and the sewer line it is connected to was specifically designed for toilet paper and human waste. That is it. Anything bigger, thicker, longer, stringier, stiffer, less water soluble, more fibrous can clog pipes, catch on tree roots in the line, or get caught in the pumps that move wastewater from your home to the wastewater treatment facility.

(Adapted from the City of Fresno at <a href="http://www.fresno.gov/NR/rdonlyres/A95D24DD-D029-4F89-8806-5F68C3C2459F/30598/DPU Flushables.pdf">http://www.fresno.gov/NR/rdonlyres/A95D24DD-D029-4F89-8806-5F68C3C2459F/30598/DPU Flushables.pdf</a>)

#### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

• Miles of sewer lines cleaned:

Hydro: 22 miles

Rodder: 0.60 miles

- 416 manhole structures inspected.
- 4 manholes raised to street level
- 11 responses to customer service requests
- 103 pump station inspections
- 17 major pump station repairs
- 3 overflows and/or floodouts

### Fight FOG

Keep Fats, Oils, and Grease out of YOUR drain!

### WHAT IS FOG?

FOG stands for Fats, Oils, and Grease and are found in common food and food ingredients such as meat, fish, butter, cooking oil, mayonnaise, gravy, sauces, and food scraps.

If poured down the drain or into the garbage disposal, FOG will build up over time, adhering to sewer walls. This could eventually cause an expensive sewer backup in your home.

Pour cooled fats, oils, and grease into a covered, disposable container and throw it in your trash.



Before washing dishes, scrape food scraps from plates, pots, and pans into the trash or compost.



Soak up remaining fats, oils, and grease with a paper towel and dispose it in the trash.



Avoid using your garbage disposal.

Use sink strainers to catch food waste while washing dishes.

COOL IT, CAN IT, AND TRASH IT!



Cleaning a sewer line using hydro jetting.





#### NO DRUGS DOWN THE DRAIN

#### PROPER DISPOSAL OF MEDICATIONS:

- Household Hazardous Waste collection events.
- Drop-off sites: Antelope Valley Environmental Collection Center, EDCO Recycling and Transfer Center, or City of Los Angeles Sanitation S.A.F.E. Centers.
- Designated Sheriff's stations or drop-off sites during National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day.
- Return to a pharmacy near you.

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:**

www.dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/hhw/nodrugs.cfm
(888) CLEAN-LA

#### PREVENTING SEWER BACKUPS

#### USING BACKFLOW VALVES

Backflow valves prevent sewage from the mainline sewer from entering your home/building. If sewage

enters your lateral from the mainline and reaches the valve, a flap floats up and blocks the sewage flow.



Backflow valves are installed at the exit point of the sewer lateral from your home/building, typically located outside of your home/building in an access box to make maintenance easy. Routine maintenance is required in order to be effective. If you are unsure if your home/building has a backflow valve installed or would like to have one installed, contact a licensed plumber. Your home lateral may need a backflow valve installed if any of your plumbing fixtures are located below street level or if the street level is steeply uphill.



Do not flush unused, unwanted, and expired medications down the toilet or put them in drains.



#### **FACILITIES**

**Sewer Lines** 

11.37 miles

**Manhole Structures** 

208

Sewage Flow to City of Los

**Angeles** 

1.246 mgd

City of Los Angeles Annual

Sewage Disposal

\$698,345

**Sewage Pump Station** 

1

Force main repair.





County of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works
Sewer Maintenance Division
P.O. Box 1460
Alhambra, CA 91802-1460

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS REGARDING THIS ANNUAL REPORT: (626) 300-3399

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:
www.dpw.lacounty.gov/smd/smd

Follow us on Twitter @LACoWater

PLEASE SEND WRITTEN INQUIRIES TO:

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