#### Marina del Rey Sewer Maintenance District Facilities

Sewer Lines 12 miles
Manhole Structures 207
Sewage Pump Stations 1

Sewage Flow to City of

Los Angeles Facilities 1.27 mgd\*

City of Los Angeles' Annual

Sewage Disposal Charge \$597,071

\*mgd=million gallons per day

The following items were some of the major Districtwide accomplishments during the last fiscal year (July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011).

- 24 miles of sewer lines cleaned
- 336 manhole structures inspected
- 4 responses to service requests
- 123 pump station inspections
- 10 major pump station repairs
- 0 Overflows and/or floodouts

#### **Marina del Rey Sewer Maintenance District**

The sewer system in your community is operated and maintained by the County of Los Angeles Marina del Rey Sewer Maintenance District (District) and is managed by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Sewer Maintenance Division. The District provides a wide range of services, which includes sewer manhole inspections; sewer line cleaning; sewer system repair; and responding to service calls relating to sewer overflows, odor problems, insect infestation, and other emergencies. If you experience or observe any sewer-related problems simply call our emergency Hotline at 1-800-675-HELP (4357), 24 hours a day 7 days a week.





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

# MARINA DEL REY SEWER MAINTENANCE DISTRICT

7th Edition Annual Report





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

Residences, Businesses, Homeowner/Condominium Associations, Military Facilities, and Federal and State Complexes.

### **Keeping it Healthy**

It is never too late to start living healthy. Not just for you and your family, but for your sewer line too.

Did you know that Fat, Oil, and Grease (F.O.G.) is the leading cause of sewer backups?

You can help prevent backups by maintaining your sewer line. Here are some helpful tips:

- Never pour grease down sink drains or into toilets.
- Scrape grease and food scraps from trays, plates, pots, pans, utensils, grills, and cooking surfaces into a can or the trash for disposal.
- Pour fats, oils, and grease into a container such as an empty jar or coffee can. Once the materials have cooled and solidified and the container is full, secure the lid and place it in the trash.
- Do not put grease down garbage disposals. Put baskets/strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids and empty the drain baskets/strainers into the trash for disposal.
- Communicate with your friends and neighbors about the problem of grease in your sewer system and how to keep it out. The solution starts right at home with your actions.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

For questions or comments
regarding this Annual Report:
Call (626) 300-3399 or
Visit our website at www.dpw.lacounty.gov/smd/smd

Please send all inquiries to:
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Sewer Maintenance Division
P.O. Box 1475
Alhambra, CA 91802-1475

#### Who Should I Call?

If you are not sure whether it is our line or yours that is causing the sewer backup, you can call our Help Line and we will check it out for you.

1-800-675-HELP (4357)

# **Keep the Money in Your Wallet Not the Sewer**

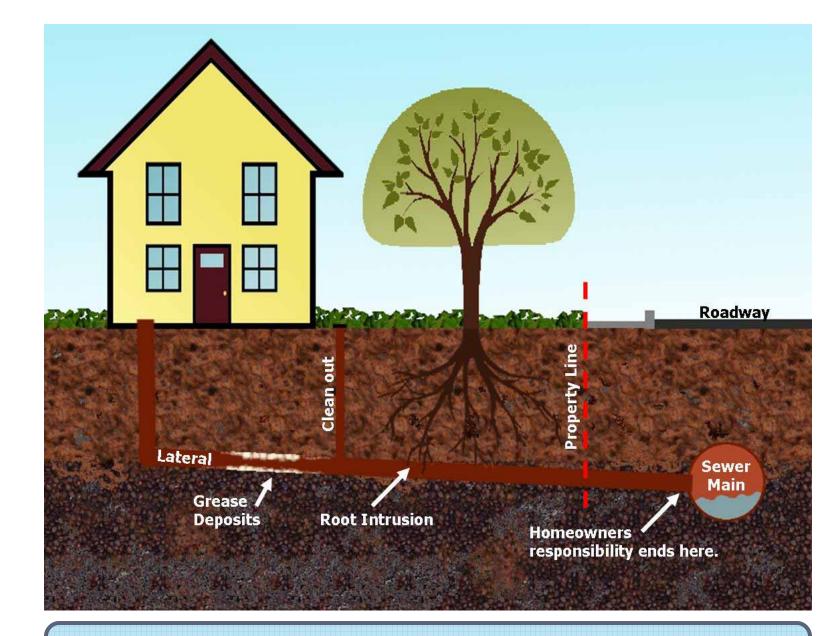
Another sneaky culprit that can damage your sewer line, also called a lateral connection, are tree roots. It is easy to forget about tree roots since they are out of sight thus out of mind.

Tree-root intrusion can be the most expensive cause for sewer maintenance for homeowners; therefore, prevention is the best method.

## To prevent tree roots from getting into your sewer line:

- Do not plant any trees or hedges near your sewer line
- Remove trees or hedges that are close to your sewer line
- Regular maintenance of your sewer line

Once roots are in your lateral they will likely cause a blockage. The best way to prevent this is to schedule regular cleaning of your sewer lateral. The common method of removing roots from sanitary sewer service pipes involves the use of augers, root saws, or high-pressure flushers. It is also important to keep your sewer lateral structurally sound (i.e., free of cracks, fractures, or breaks). Any structural fault can allow roots easy access into your sewer lateral. You may wish to hire a plumber to conduct a video inspection of your sewer lateral to determine its condition and if any repairs are needed. Consult your local plumber for more details.



#### **Notice of Violation Letters**

Have you received a notice indicating we found roots or other debris in your home lateral sewer line?

Through routine maintenance activities or our Condition Assessment Program Closed-Circuit Television Inspection Project, we find many sewer lateral connections with roots or debris in the lateral line that will potentially be impacting the main sewer line. The County Code below indicates it is the homeowners responsibility to maintain their connection to the sewer line. Please follow the actions requested on the letter to help prevent a sewer backup into your home or a sewer backup/overflow in the main sewer line. A sample of this letter is available for your review on our website.

#### County Code 20.24.080 Maintenance of Sewer Laterals states:

All house laterals, industrial connection sewers, septic tank outlet connections to STEP system, and appurtenances thereto existing as of January 23, 1953, or thereafter constructed, shall be maintained by the owner of the property served in a safe and sanitary condition, and all devices or safeguards which are required by this Division 2 for the operation thereof shall be maintained in good working order.