



Points of Interest

- Less-Toxic Solutions for Ants
- Help for Mobile Washers
- Improvement Projects
- Tip of the Season

Volume 13 Issue 1
January/February 2017

Serving you since 1952

**Sewer blocked or overflowing?
Call us first at 644-8949**

VALLEJO SANITATION & FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

Currents

CONTROLLING ANTS IN YOUR HOME

Argentine ants are frequent invaders. They are tiny and come inside a few at a time (at first), and then in long lines, following scent trails to a food source. If you deal with ants when they first come inside, a few simple steps can take care of the problem.

Find what ants are after (usually leftover food) and where they are entering the room (usually through a crack in the wall). Mark the spot so you can find it again.

Spray lines of ants with soapy water and wipe up with a sponge. Clean up any food or spills.

Block entry points temporarily with a smear of petroleum jelly or a piece of tape.

Place a bait station in an out-of-the-way spot on the line the ants have been following. Remove the bait station when the line of ants has disappeared so you don't attract more ants.

Store food in the fridge, or in containers that seal tightly.

Keep things clean and dry, and fix leaking faucets and pipes. Weather-strip doors and windows.

Put pet dishes in a soapy moat—partially fill



a wide, shallow container with soapy water and place pet bowls in the water.

If ants are nesting in a potted houseplant, move it outdoors. Water it thoroughly and place the pot in a bucket filled with water that comes an inch below the rim of the pot.

Use a stick to make a bridge for ants to get out of the pot and the bucket without getting in the water. The ants will soon begin carrying their white-colored young to safety. When no more ants emerge, drain the pot and return it to the house.

For more tips on less-toxic approaches to getting rid of ants, visit www.ourwaterourworld.org or call (707) 633-8949 ext. 292 and we'll mail you a free fact sheet.



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INFORMATION FOR MOBILE CLEANERS

If you (or a contractor you hire) are performing wet cleaning work, preparation up front is the best way to keep harmful pollutants out of waterways. It's always easier to prevent pollution than it is to clean it up after the fact.

Remember the three C's:

Control your workspace. Perform as much dry cleaning as possible before you start using water. Remove any harmful chemicals or debris.

Contain any water that reaches the ground. Take steps to ensure none of this water leaves your work area.

Capture the dirty water and dispose of it properly. Water should always be discharged to the sanitary sewer, unless it contains hazardous materials, but never into a septic system.

To help, the District has created two free brochures aimed at helping power washers, carpet or steam cleaners, and other

mobile washers stay in compliance with clean water regulations.

The brochures are available on our website at www.VSFCD.com, or you can call (707) 644-8949 ext. 292 and we will mail you a set.



Tips for Carpet and Steam Cleaning



Helpful hints for keeping in compliance and protecting Vallejo's waterways.

Stormwater Tips for Mobile Washers



Helpful hints for proper automobile, power, and pressure washing.



Tip of the Season

It's easy to prevent storm drains from clogging and overflowing during heavy storms by keeping debris off of them. Leaves, branches, and litter sometimes cover the top of storm drain grates, preventing rain from flowing through.

You can rake the debris off the grate, and dispose of it in your trash or yard waste bins as appropriate.

Don't ever reach into a storm drain; if one is clogged below street level, please call us at (707) 644-8949 and we will send a crew to investigate.

RECENT SEWER IMPROVEMENTS

The District is required to complete \$1.25 million per year of collection system improvements as part of our wastewater discharge permit. These improvements are designed to reduce infiltration and inflow, which occur when groundwater or stormwater enters the sewer system. This results in dilution in sanitary sewers and may cause sewage volumes to exceed our treatment capacity.

Two recent projects to prevent this are the North Camino Alto Sanitary Sewer

Replacement Project and the Bonita Court Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project.

The North Camino Alto Project replaced 775 linear feet of 8-inch sanitary sewer main by pipe-bursting. Pipe-bursting is a cost effective, trenchless repair method that pulls a new pipe into an existing pipe as it is expanded and broken. The majority of the work was completed this past November.

The Bonita Court Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project will replace 825 linear feet of 6-inch sanitary

sewer main by pipe-bursting.

Both sewer lines were replaced because of the frequent maintenance required to clean the sewer pipes due to root intrusion and the potential for infiltration.



Currents is printed on recycled paper using soy-based inks. It is produced bimonthly by the Vallejo Sanitation & Flood Control District. For more information, visit www.VSFCD.com or call (707) 644-8949 ext. 292.

