

## Water Recycling Program Awarded \$25 Million Grant

Novato Sanitary District is a partner in the six-agency North Bay Water Reuse Authority (NBWRA). One part of the program involves Novato Sanitary District providing recycled water to North Marin Water District to help meet customer water needs. This project will receive a share of a \$25 million federal grant that was authorized in March.

Recycled water is already used extensively in the region and is growing rapidly in popularity as a sustainable and wise use of resources, and a drought-proof source of water.

**Where recycled water is proposed to be used.** Specifically, the proposed local projects include: recycled water delivered by North Marin Water District to urban users west of U.S. 101, Novato High School and other irrigated playing fields, and areas south along Redwood Boulevard via new pipelines. Another recycled water pipeline would allow continued service to Stone Tree Golf Course. Fireman's Fund and Valley Memorial Park Cemetery would also receive service.

*Sports fields irrigated with recycled water in Terra Linda. Recycled water use has been used in Marin County for several decades and is growing in popularity.*

**Participate in Environmental Review This Spring.** Environmental studies for the water recycling program will be released to the public in early spring. There will be public meetings and ample opportunity for the public to participate in the decision-making process.

**FOR MORE DETAILS ABOUT THESE PROJECTS,  
VISIT THE NBWRA WEBSITE AT [WWW.NBWRA.COM](http://WWW.NBWRA.COM).**



## Help Us Protect the Bay

### Dispose of Hazardous Waste Properly

**DON'T** pour toxic substances down the drain or into storm drains

DO take them to a hazardous waste disposal center

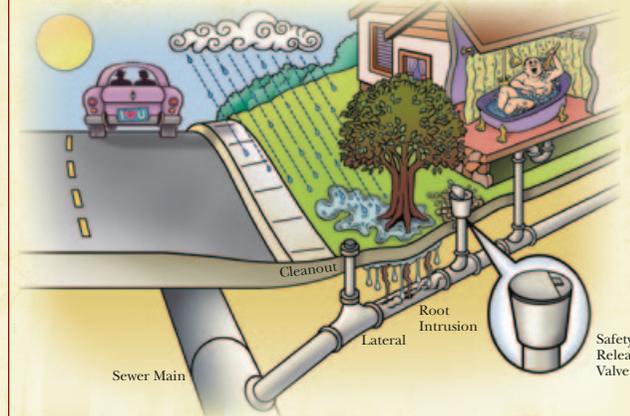
**Novato Recycling Center**, 7576 Redwood Blvd;

1st and 3rd Sunday and Monday of each month

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (415) 892-7344

**NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED**

## Inspect and Maintain Your Lateral



Inspect and maintain your sewer lateral when you have sewer drain problems or when you purchase a home or building.



500 Davidson Street  
Novato, CA 94945  
Phone: 415-892-1694  
Fax: 415-898-2279  
[www.novatosan.com](http://www.novatosan.com)

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**Tour Your New Wastewater Treatment Plant**  
**April 25, 2009 at 10:00 AM or May 9, 2009 at 10:00 AM**  
**Call 892-1694 to reserve a spot. Space is limited.**

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SPRING 2009  
**NOVATO SANITARY DISTRICT**

## New Treatment Plant On Schedule, On Budget

Construction of the new wastewater treatment plant is advancing steadily. Initial startup operations are scheduled to begin this fall. The District is currently evaluating the most cost-effective approaches to managing and operating the plant.

### Update: Construction on Schedule and Budget

The project to consolidate treatment facilities in a single enlarged and modernized Novato Wastewater Treatment Plant is now 50 percent complete, on schedule and on budget. Change orders to date total less than one percent of the contract.

The upgraded plant is coming on line in phases as part of a total \$90 million, multi-year improvement of our treatment facilities. The improvements already have resulted in better processes and improved water quality.

Meanwhile, the Ignacio Pump Station, converted from an aging and inefficient treatment plant, has been in full and effective operation as a pump station moving wastewater to the Novato plant.



### Tour Your New Wastewater Treatment Plant

- See the construction progress
- Learn about options for managing and operating the plant
- Have your questions answered

**April 25, 2009  
at 10:00 AM  
or**

**May 9, 2009  
at 10:00 AM**

**Call 892-1694 to  
reserve a spot.  
Space is limited.**

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# SELECTING THE BEST WAY TO OPERATE THE DISTRICT'S NEW TREATMENT PLANT

## **Key Goal: Provide Additional Resources to Staff During Startup Period.**

### **Two Alternatives:**

It will take nearly three years to completely start up, test and transition the new plant to full operation. During this time, we must continue to operate the existing plant and the new plant.

Two alternative approaches are being considered to provide the necessary additional staff, skills, training, and management systems for the start up of the new plant: (a) to retain a number of consultants, or (b) retain a single contract operator. A thorough study shows that the contract operator option is the lower cost and the most practical as described below. However, more detailed evaluations are underway, and the Board will make a decision this summer based on what is best for the ratepayers.



### **Public Retains Full Control and Ownership**

Under contract operations, the District retains full ownership of all facilities, and the elected Board retains full governance over all policy decisions and rates.

### **Accountability**

District and public accountability are retained, and arguably are enhanced, due to risk transfer, guarantees, insurance, and bond coverage provided by the contract operation to the District.

### **Environmental and Public Health Protections**

A review of operational performance of public and privately operated facilities in the Bay Area shows that contract operated plants typically perform as well or even better than other plants.

### **Employee Protections**

The District's highly valued operating staff would be provided guarantees of comparable wages and benefits if a contract operator is chosen.

## **TOUR YOUR NEW WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

- See the construction progress
- Learn about options for managing and operating the plant
- Have your questions answered

**APRIL 25, 2009 AT 10:00 AM or MAY 9, 2009 AT 10:00 AM**

**CALL 892-1694 TO RESERVE A SPOT.  
SPACE IS LIMITED.**

### **Future Flexibility**

It is proposed that the contract for startup operations of the new treatment plant be limited to a period of five to seven years. The District will retain the right to cancel the contract at any time, and can choose whether to renew after the initial contract is complete.

### **Making the Best Decision**

The District is still evaluating both of its options for managing the startup of its new treatment plant. Final decisions will not be made until summer 2009.

**MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE  
CONTRACT OPERATIONS PLAN CAN  
BE FOUND AT [NOVATOSAN.COM](http://NOVATOSAN.COM)**



**OVER \$12  
MILLION IN  
SEWER AND  
PUMP STATION  
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NEXT 5 YEARS.**



## **District Accelerates Program to Improve Sewer Lines**

**Collection System Improvements.** Progress also continues on upgrading of the pipeline collection system.

About \$5.5 million each year is being invested to improve sewers and pumping facilities, as well as improving or replacing more than 20 miles of sewer pipelines.

The District is currently rebuilding pump stations in Bel Marin Keys.

The new stations will be more reliable, quieter, and safer.

We also are designing several projects to remove bottlenecks in the sewer system that have caused sewer system overflows. Homeowners along the routes of these improvements will be contacted and encouraged to repair their sewer laterals at the same time.



## **Specially Equipped Trucks Allow for Thorough Pipeline Cleaning**

Our field crews that provide sewer maintenance utilize special trucks with vacuum and water jet capabilities, which allow for a thorough cleaning of the collection pipeline system. This is one of the ways we maintain the high performance of our sewer system. It is part of our commitment to provide the best possible and most reliable service at the lowest reasonable cost.