

ENVIRONMENTAL UTILITIES CITY OF ROSEVILLE Today

February 2013



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WATER • WASTEWATER • RECYCLED WATER • STORMWATER • SOLID WASTE

Keeping a Wastewater System in Good Shape



The next time you turn on the faucet, take a shower, wash clothes, or flush a toilet, you might want to say a quiet thank you to the people who make that possible. Our award-winning Wastewater Collection Division crew is the group that maintains and repairs our sewer system, keeping wastewater flowing to our treatment plants. They're so good at it that the California Water Environment Association (CWEA) singled out the division for its 2010 "Collection System of the Year" award among large wastewater systems statewide. And that's just one of many awards they've received.

You'll sometimes see division crews near open manhole covers, either using the Vactor® system to clear out a sewer line or doing a video inspection to make sure there are no breaks in the lines or clogs

caused by fats, oils and greases (FOG) or plant roots. They're also the people who work underground to replace or reline faulty pipes.

So smile and wave the next time you see a collection system crew at work. After all, it's their dedication to keeping the sewer collection system flowing that makes it possible for the rest of us to take its benefits for granted.

At a Glance: Environmental Utilities and You

There are many benefits to living in Roseville, including exceptional customer care, convenient services, and reliable water, wastewater and solid waste utility services. Here's a quick look at some of the many benefits you enjoy as a Roseville resident:

- ✓ Clean, refreshing drinking water
- ✓ One Big Bin for easy waste recycling
- ✓ Green waste recycling
- ✓ Utility Exploration Center events and classes
- ✓ Free doorstep pickup of FOG (fats, oils and greases), electronics, and universal waste
- ✓ Recycled water program that conserves drinking water
- ✓ Convenient recycling drop-off sites
- ✓ Personal, one-to-one customer service
- ✓ Rebate programs to help cover water efficiency upgrade costs
- ✓ Well-maintained sewer collection and wastewater treatment systems
- ✓ Rates that are among the lowest in the region





MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Celebrate the Earth Festival

Saturday, April 20, 2013

10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

1501 Pleasant Grove Boulevard

Now in its sixth year, our annual *Celebrate the Earth Festival* has become a favorite Roseville tradition. This year's celebration will include live music, family entertainment, demonstrations, local green-product vendors, and a variety of food and drinks. While you're there, make sure to pick up your free Planet Protector comic books.

www.roseville.ca.us/explore

Keep Your Pipes FOG Free

Fats, oils and greases (FOG) that go down the drain too often end up as sewer clogs—and clogs can result in sewer spills. As anyone who's dealt with the problem knows, unclogging pipes and cleaning up sewer spills is messy and costly.

When it comes to FOG clogs, prevention is the way to go.

- Scrape fatty foods into the trash and pour greasy liquids into sealable plastic containers.
- We'll even pick up the sealed FOG containers from your home at no charge. To arrange a pickup, call 774-5780.

Remember



to water with the weather.

Spring Cleaning? We Rent Dumpsters

It's the time of year to clean up the yard and clean out the closets. To help, we provide weekly rentals of six-yard dumpsters for light yard and household refuse. For those really big jobs, we also rent construction/demolition dumpsters of various sizes.

- To see what's available and pricing, visit the Large Clean Up Projects page at Roseville.ca.us/eu/solidwaste.
- To arrange a dumpster rental, call 774-5780.

ONE BIG BIN: Many Big Benefits

One of the great things about living in Roseville is how easy it is to recycle. You don't need to think about every item you throw away or sort trash into separate recycling bins. Our One Big Bin program lets you toss all trash into a single bin and take it to the curb. We take it from there to the Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) where automated equipment takes the first pass at separating out the recyclables. MRF employees perform the final sort before sending items that can't be recycled to the landfill.

Besides being easy for you, centralizing recycling makes it possible to cover 100 percent of residential and commercial customers, which greatly increases the volume of recyclable material we keep out of the landfill.

To learn more about the One Big Bin program and watch a video on the process, visit OneBigBin.com.



When the Ants Come Marching In

While ants find plenty of food and water outside during warmer months, they often seek shelter in your home's walls during winter, turning their appetites to food scraps, crumbs, and pet food. Everything edible becomes fair game to the tiny pests, who seem to know you don't want to spray poisons on countertops or near pets' dishes.

Fortunately, there are a number of ways to fight back safely. Tactics include caulking cracks and weather stripping doors and windows. You can also place pet dishes in shallow containers of soapy water. Dusts, such as diatomaceous earth (DE) that dehydrate ants are relatively harmless to people and pets. They can be placed in cracks or gaps that ants use for access.

When ants find their way in despite your best efforts, you can use ant baits made from a mix of foods that ants like and pesticides. The ants carry the bait back to the nest and share it, which can sometimes eliminate an entire nest. There are several ant baits on the market that will do the trick.

- The Our Water Our World fact sheet also contains other safe and practical ideas for controlling ants. You can find out more about the baits on the ant fact sheet at OurWaterOurWorld.org.

Nearly One Billion Gallons of Recycled Water Used Last Year

We're very big on recycling here in Roseville. In addition to recycling trash and green waste, last year we recycled 893 million gallons of wastewater.

Those purple pipes you see around town carry recycled water to irrigate golf courses, parks, streetscapes, and some commercial properties. We also use recycled water for equipment cooling at our Roseville Energy Park power generation facility.

By using almost a billion gallons of recycled wastewater for irrigation and cooling, we were able to conserve that same amount of precious drinking water.

To learn more visit www.roseville.ca.us/RecycledWater.



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TODAY is published for Roseville's residents by the Environmental Utilities Department of the City of Roseville. ©2013.

Comments and suggestions are welcome—please send to the attention of Sean Bigley.

www.roseville.ca.us/eu

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