



WATER • WASTEWATER • RECYCLED WATER • STORMWATER • SOLID WASTE

## Preventing FOG Clog in Your Pipes



Most clogged sewer pipes are caused by one thing—fats, oils and greases (FOG) that accumulate and restrict flow. We typically pour fats, oils and greases down the drain when they are in a warm, liquid state. When they move into cool underground sewer pipes, however, it doesn't take long for them to turn solid and sticky, gathering to cause pipe blockages.

Blocked pipes can result in an unhealthy sewage overflow on your property or street, which create health risks and can result in costly cleanups. In some cases, residents are required to cover the cost of cleanup. Even when the city performs the cleanup, the added cost can affect your utility rates.

Sticky problem, simple solution.

The answer to this messy problem just takes a little retraining of old habits.

- Avoid putting things like shortening, butter, greasy foods and oils from cooked ground beef and other meats down the drain or into the garbage disposal. Instead, place small amounts in a can or other container and put them in the trash.
- For larger amounts of fats, oil and grease, place in a container and dispose of it at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility located at 3003 Fiddymont Road, Roseville. If you have questions, please call the facility at 645-5180 ext. 200
- When washing greasy pans, first pour any excess grease into a container. After soaking the pan, place a paper towel over the drain and pour the water used for soaking over the towel to catch fats and food particles. Then dispose of the grease container and paper towel in the trash.

These easy-to-follow steps can make a big difference to your home and neighborhood by preventing clogged pipes and messy sewage spills.

■ **If you have questions about disposing of fats, oils, or greases, please call us at 746-1876. Also check out our web site at [www.roseville.ca.us/eu](http://www.roseville.ca.us/eu) to see our new online streaming video, "Don't Dump That Down The Kitchen Sink Drain!" for more information.**

### If a Christmas tree falls in the living room . . . recycle it!



There comes a time every year when we must take down the Christmas tree and say goodbye to another holiday season. Even though the presents are gone from around it, your tree can keep on giving by becoming chips and mulch for use in the garden or city parks. The city's popular **holiday tree recycling program** recycled more than 250 tons of trees last year alone!

To recycle your tree, remove all decorations and lights and take the bare tree to one of the city's recycling centers located at—

- Maidu Regional Park, 1550 Maidu Drive, off Rocky Ridge Drive, follow signs
- Mahany Regional Park, 1545 Pleasant Grove Boulevard, near recycling bins
- Saugstad Park, 100 Buljan Drive, off Douglas Boulevard
- Washington Boulevard Recycling Station, across from the Fairgrounds

The tree recycling centers are open from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, December 31, and on January 1 and 7, 2006. If you have questions, please call us at 774-5780.



## Wastewater Master Plan Taking Shape

Providing adequate wastewater treatment is a vital part of protecting public health and the environment. In our region, the City of Roseville and its treatment plants are part of a partnership with Placer County and South Placer Municipal Utility District to convey and treat wastewater, as well as produce and distribute recycled water in south Placer County.

To ensure adequate resources and infrastructure are in place for the future, the city and its partners are currently updating a 10-year-old wastewater master plan. This proactive process is looking at the earlier master plan, what's happening today, and future plans for the region. The study will culminate in creating a guiding document that will continue to ensure the regional system can carry out its responsibilities to protect the public and environment.



## Neighborhood Santa Coming Soon!

**Santa will be visiting Roseville neighborhoods the evenings of December 5, 6, 8, 12, 13 and 15!**

This is Santa's ninth visit for Roseville's Neighborhood Santa, sponsored by Roseville Electric and Environmental Utilities, where Santa and his elves pass out candy canes and holiday cheer. Santa will be accompanied by his helpers from the Roseville Police and Fire Departments along with their lights and sirens.

- Starting November 14, you will be able to access Santa's route nearest to your home using a special GIS map of the city by simply clicking on the "Neighborhood Santa" link on the city's web site, [www.roseville.ca.us](http://www.roseville.ca.us).
- For more information you can speak directly with one of Santa's elves by calling the Neighborhood Santa Hotline after November 14 at 746-1388, Mondays through Fridays, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.
- For a recorded message with Santa's route information please call 774-5842.



## Stormwater Ordinance Update

Because anything that runs into stormwater drains goes directly into creeks and other waterways, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is placing increasing attention on keeping out dirt, debris and pollutants that easily damage sensitive waterway ecosystems. As required by the EPA, Roseville is continuing to move through the process of establishing a stormwater ordinance as part of implementing its municipal stormwater permit.

The stormwater ordinance sets forth the regulations and enforcement actions being put in place to enforce environmentally responsible handling of water runoff and other stormwater pollutants. The city has been conducting workshops on the proposed stormwater ordinance, including several that have taken place with the Building Industry Association of Superior California, Roseville Chamber of Commerce, the City's Economic Development Advisory Committee, Roseville Coalition of Neighborhood Associations, and others.

**For more information on the stormwater ordinance, upcoming workshops and other outreach programs call 774-5751 or visit [www.roseville.ca.us/eu/stormwater\\_management](http://www.roseville.ca.us/eu/stormwater_management).**

## Study Looks At Increasing Water Supply Reliability

Roseville's drinking water supply currently comes exclusively from Folsom Lake. While the lake has always provided ample water, the city is looking ahead to secure alternate sources to improve reliability, provide a redundant water supply, and join with others who receive water from the lake in protecting the environmental health of the lower American River.

A joint project is currently being studied to divert water from the Sacramento River near Elverta, treat it, and transport it through shared pipelines to Roseville and other water agencies. Partners in the project include the Placer County Water Agency, City of Sacramento, Sacramento Suburban Water District, and the City of Roseville. Currently, the project is undergoing an environmental impact study with a report expected in mid 2006 for public review and acceptance.

## Excitement Builds for New Utility Education Center

The city-wide contest for naming the new utility education center resulted in the submission of more than 160 names—from creative to formal, playful to serious. No results had been announced at the time this newsletter was written, but the final selection will be available very soon on the city's web site at [www.roseville.ca.us](http://www.roseville.ca.us).

Plans for the center include very imaginative indoor and outdoor exhibits that combine education and fun. The center will give children and adults the chance to see the latest innovations and the newest technologies available for lowering our monthly utility costs and protecting our environment through wise use of natural resources.

Construction on the 5,000 square foot facility is underway on this joint project of the Environmental Utilities Department, Roseville Electric, and Parks Recreation and Libraries Department. The utility education center is scheduled to be completed in late 2006.

Keep watching here and in the Roseville Electric's Electric Dispatch newsletter to see the latest information about the new utility education center.

## Our HEROES

Each month, our Customer Service Recognition Committee selects one of our employees to receive the department's Honoring Excellence and Rewarding Outstanding Employees (HEROE) award.

**Donna Blair**, administrative assistant at Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant, earned the August HEROE award for her willingness to help out and take on new responsibilities. As one of many examples, Donna saw a need and became trained in accomplishing process control lab analyses, which she now performs regularly. She was also spotted asking to borrow coveralls so she could help out with landscaping around the treatment plant!



**Neil Blomquist**, engineering technician in EU's Engineering Division, became a HEROE after recognizing an extremely large discrepancy between two sets of improvement plans. The discrepancy could have resulted in construction delays and additional costs on laying water and recycled water mains. Neil's heads up action averted a major problem and allowed plans to be revised before any pipe was laid.



✓ If there's an Environmental Utilities Department employee who has provided you with outstanding service, we'd love to hear about it—please call us at 774-5770.



TODAY is published for Roseville's residents by the Environmental Utilities Department of the City of Roseville. ©2005.

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

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[www.roseville.ca.us](http://www.roseville.ca.us)

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