# SASDnews



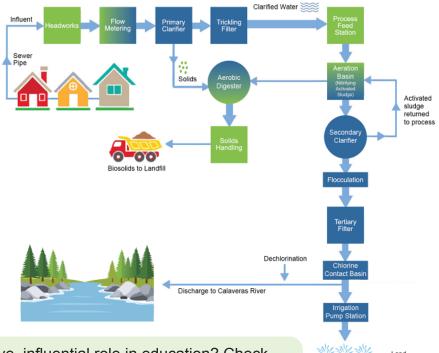
The official newsletter of San Andreas Sanitary District

**Fall 2024** 

### SASD UPDATES AND REMINDERS

## Check out new updates at www.sasanitary.com!

SASD has updated its virtual plant tour to reflect recent infrastructure improvements and additions at the wastewater treatment plant. The tour provides an overview of the treatment process and pop-up photos of the actual equipment with descriptions of the roles and purposes of the equipment. The virtual tour is a great learning tool for adults and kids alike!



Did you know the SASD plays an active, influential role in education? Check out SASD in Education on the website and learn about the District's partnership and activities offered to San Andreas elementary and high school students.

#### DISTRICT RECEIVES FIVE YEAR NPDES PERMIT

Every five years, the District is required to renew its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The permit, regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency and enforced under the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, is essential for any sanitary system to operate. The renewal was granted in June 2024 and remains in effect until 2029. For the San Andreas Community, the permit not only allows the District to operate, but it also demonstrates that the District adheres to stringent treatment and disposal standards that ultimately protect the health and safety of the San Andreas community and environment.

#### **KEEP YOUR PIPES CLEAN!**

Fats, Oils, Grease (FOG) can wreak havoc on your home's pipes when proper disposal methods are not used. Remember to:

- Scrape food scraps from plates and serving ware into the trash or composting bin before rinsing.
- Cool hot liquids before pouring in the trash or pour the liquid into a sturdy container to cool, then throw it away.

Reminder - only flush toilet paper with waste! Sanitary products, paper towels, diapers, cleaning and hand sanitizing wipes belong in the trash. Even if a product says "flushable", it is not, and can be an issue for both your pipes and the sanitary sewer system.



#### **DISTRICT ACQUIRES NEW EQUIPMENT**

Ever wonder how the sanitary district clears a large clog from the sewer lines? Meet the Jetter Hydro Washer (Jetter), a high-powered machine that combines water with considerable force to remove stubborn or large blockages and roots from the sewer pipes. The District's old Jetter was over 28 years old, well beyond its useful life and was not suitable for any more overhauls. District staff vetted replacement options based on functionality, availability, and cost. The new unit was authorized by the SASD Board at a cost of \$104,000.



Use of the Jetter requires special training to ensure safe and proper handling. While all SASD Operators are involved with sewer cleaning, Eric Werner, a Grade 2 certified operator, takes the lead to maintain the new Jetter. The Jetter is towed on a trailer and, given the size of the truck and trailer combined, safety cones are placed around active maintenance areas. For everyone's safety, be sure to slow down when you see the cones!

#### SASD STAFF NOTES



Congratulations to Jessie Smith, Grade 3 Certified Operator, celebrating her 5-year anniversary! Jessie is a valuable member of the team and has acquired experience to complete tasks in-house that used to require outside contractors. Her knowledge and efficiencies are a great attribute. She also participates in the annual Dinner with a Scientist, a Calaveras County Office of

Education event, and participates in the District's annual San Andreas Elementary School wastewater treatment plant tour.



Denise Bettencourt is a 15-year veteran with SASD and serves as an essential member of the District's administrative team. Her exemplary service keeps the District's financial health in good shape by maintaining payroll, grant-financed project reimbursements, vendor

management, and provides support to the General Manager and Board of Directors. She also coordinates the educational outreach efforts for the District. Denise is an indispensable part of the team!



SASD welcomes Anthony Velazquez to the team. Anthony is an Operator-in-Training (OIT) and is currently earning on-the-job training hours to obtain a Grade 1 Certification.

#### **HOW TO REACH US**

Contact the District at office@sasanitary.org or (209) 754-3281.

Stay updated on District news at **sasanitary.org**.

After-hour emergency? Call the District's 24-hour Service Line at (209) 754-3281.

