

# Join a Free Tour of the New Wastewater Treatment Plant

SATURDAYS AT 10:00 A.M.

July 16  
August 13

It's a high-tech wonder designed to protect water quality in the Bay, provide recycled water, decrease energy use and serve our community for decades.

## Special Bonus

Overlook and learn about the beautiful pasturelands and wetlands where we recycle wastewater, lower costs and keep our Bay clean.

Call to reserve one of the limited spaces available.

(415) 892-1694

## Treatment Plant Performance is Excellent

High storm flows are one of the toughest challenges for treatment plants to meet. The new treatment plant easily treated peak wet weather flows without any problems, despite the very wet winter.

The new treatment plant is also using less energy than anticipated, which lowers the plant's operating costs.



**THERE WERE NO TREATMENT PLANT CAPACITY OVERFLOWS THIS WINTER DESPITE THE HEAVY RAINFALL.**



**"THE NEW TREATMENT PLANT IS PERFORMING AS MUCH AS 3 TO 1,000 TIMES BETTER THAN REQUIRED. THE DISTRICT STAFF AND VEOLIA ARE PROUD OF THIS ACCOMPLISHMENT."**

*Beverly James,  
Manager/Engineer*



500 Davidson Street  
Novato, CA 94945  
Phone: 415-892-1694  
Fax: 415-898-2279  
www.novatosan.com

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

William C. Long, President  
Mike Di Giorgio  
Jean Mariani  
George C. Quesada  
Dennis Welsh

### Manager-Engineer

Beverly B. James

ECRWSS  
POSTAL CUSTOMER

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
UNICORN



JUNE 2011  
**NOVATO SANITARY DISTRICT**

## No Rate Increase This Year

*A detailed, independent financial analysis determined that a rate increase will not be needed this year.*

**Treatment Plant Cost Savings.** The District's contract with Veolia to operate the treatment plant is saving money. These savings, along with other cost-saving measures, have resulted in no need for a rate increase last year or this year.

**Long-Term Pension and Medical Retirement Savings.** The District has successfully begun controlling its long-term benefit costs by decreasing medical retirement liability. In July 2008, the District implemented a defined contribution retiree medical plan for new employees. This plan is similar to a 401(k) plan, and will lower the District's long-term retiree medical costs compared to the former defined benefit retiree medical plan.

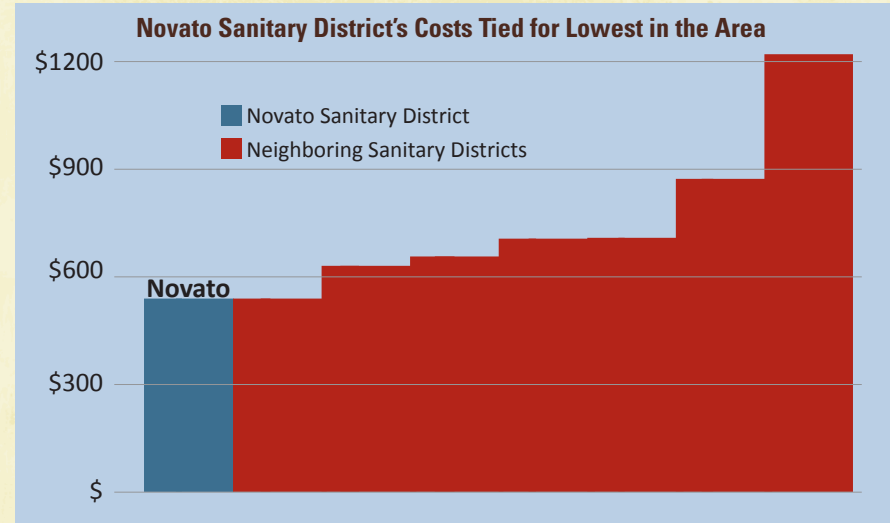
### Thank You Retired Director Jim Fritz

*After nine years of service on the Board of Directors of the Novato Sanitary District, James Fritz resigned, effective April 1. He was a great asset to the District and he will be missed.*

*The Board appointed Jean Mariani to fill Jim's vacant seat.*

*Novato Sanitary District has kept costs down and is tied for having the lowest sanitary costs in the area.*

*The amounts shown include the sewer charges and taxes projected to be collected by Novato Sanitary District and its neighbors during 2011-2012.*



call: 415-892-1694 • e-mail: info@novatosan.com • click to: www.novatosan.com

## Do NOT Put Medicine Down the Drain

### Help Us Protect the Environment by Properly Disposing of Unwanted Medications and Sharps

Wastewater treatment plants are not designed to treat many of the chemical pollutants in medications. These pollutants can end up in the Bay, rivers and streams, harming aquatic wildlife and the environment. Sharps—needles and syringes—can cause injury to waste disposal or sewage treatment plant workers.



### Here is where to safely dispose of unwanted medications and sharps in Novato: (please no controlled substances)

**Costco Pharmacy**  
300 Vintage Way

**CVS Pharmacies**  
1707 Grant Ave. and  
2035 Redwood Blvd.

**Kaiser (Sharps Only)**  
97 San Marin Drive

For additional drop-off locations for medications and sharps go to the Marin County Environmental Health website

at: [http://www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/CD/main/comdev/ehs/waste/sharps\\_drop-off\\_locations.cfm](http://www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/CD/main/comdev/ehs/waste/sharps_drop-off_locations.cfm)





# LEADING THE WAY IN PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

## Composting Food is Great for the Environment

The contents of the greenwaste carts are taken for composting to Redwood Landfill, where they are processed into soil.

Composting is a vital component of reaching Zero Waste goals, preserves landfill space, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and returns nutrients to the soil.

**FOOD WASTE COMPOSTING IS JUST ONE PART OF THE ZERO WASTE PROGRAM THAT DRAMATICALLY INCREASES RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING, DECREASING WHAT GOES TO THE LANDFILL**

## Zero Waste Program Expands- At No Additional Cost to Rate Payers

Novato Sanitary District recently amended its Franchise Agreement with Novato Disposal to make dramatic progress toward achieving its Zero Waste goals. The purpose is to take 80% of the trash collected and reduce, recycle, reuse or compost it, keeping it out of the landfill. Ultimately, the District seeks to eliminate waste altogether.

The District is the first community in Marin County to formally incorporate Zero Waste goals into a franchise agreement. The economies of scale and guaranteed stream of compostables and recyclables, along with the extended contract, will make it possible to meet the exceptional Zero Waste goals at no additional cost to the community.



## Helpful Tips About Composting Food Waste

### Here is What YOU CAN Compost

All food waste and unwaxed, food-related paper waste ARE compostable.

- All types of food waste, including fruit pits, nutshells, eggshells, tea, coffee filters and grounds, bread, grains, meat, dairy and all leftover food can be composted.
- Paper towels, napkins and unwaxed or uncoated paper plates are also compostable.

### Here is What YOU CANNOT Compost

Plastics or “compostable” plastics, such as “Bio-bags” or “Eco-cups” ARE NOT compostable.

*Putting compostable items in your free greenwaste bin results in less trash.*

*Call Novato Disposal with questions or to downsize your trash bin and save money.*

*(415) 897-4177*

### Disposing of Food Waste is Easy. Here is WHAT TO DO

- To compost, simply collect kitchen scraps and toss them into your greenwaste cart, or wrap in a paper bag or newspaper. If you currently don't have a greenwaste cart, contact Novato Disposal at (415) 897-4177.



**NOVATO DISPOSAL'S RATES ARE THE LOWEST IN THE COUNTY—ABOUT 20% TO 40% BELOW WHAT MOST OTHER COMMUNITIES ARE PAYING.**

## GRANTS AVAILABLE

**THERE ARE A FEW GRANTS STILL AVAILABLE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVE BASIS.**

**THE GRANTS ARE FOR \$1,500 OR UP TO HALF THE REPLACEMENT COST OF A HOME SEWER LATERAL, WHICHEVER IS LESS. CALL (415) 892-1694 TO APPLY.**

## Apply for a \$1,500 Lateral Replacement Grant

### How You Can Help—and Save Money

A major District priority is repairing deteriorating private sewer laterals that run from homes and buildings to the public sewer main in the street.

Privately owned sewer laterals are a major factor in sewer overflows and spills. Damaged laterals cost the entire community, which is why the District is proactively working to find solutions, such as a grant program that helps residents pay for repairs.

## Recent Sewer Projects Stop Spills

*Novato Sanitary District is continually making sewer system improvements as part of the long-range master plan that began more than a decade ago.*

One recent project successfully eliminated an area with potential sewage overflow problems by replacing deteriorating pipes with larger diameter plastic pipe that is stronger and more flexible than the old pipe.

A portion of the project replaced old sewer lines in the vicinity of the Olive Avenue railroad tracks, utilizing a method called “microtunneling”, which eliminates the need to excavate long trenches in which to lay pipe. This technique dramatically cut disturbances affecting the railroad tracks, neighbors and motorists.

*Large pumps are needed to send sewage to the treatment plant. The District recently replaced outdated sewer pumps with new technology stations that require much less routine maintenance, and will cost less in the long run to operate.*

