

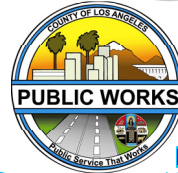
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LOS ANGELES, CA

<Name> or Current Resident  
<Parcel Number>  
<Address>  
<City, State, Zip>

Los Angeles County  
Department of Public Works  
Waterworks and Sewer Maintenance Division  
P.O. Box 1460  
Alhambra, CA 91802-1460



# Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District



## Enhancing Our Communities



# ANNUAL REPORT

## Second Edition

Residences, Businesses, Homeowner/Condominium Associations,  
Military Facilities, Federal, and State Complexes

Dear Customer:

We are back with our 2nd Annual Report which contains information on the District's facilities and describes work completed during the past year. We would like to thank you for all the feedback from the 1st Annual Report. Many great questions were asked, which have been included in a Frequently Asked Questions section.

As we continue to serve you, we would like to remind you to continue to keep your sewer fat-free and clear of any obstruction.

The information in this newsletter can be provided in an alternate format for people with disabilities. To request these accommodations, please contact the Sewer Maintenance - Direct Assessment Unit at (626) 300-3399 Monday through Thursday, from 7 a.m. through 5:30 p.m.



Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District Facilities	Length/Number
Sewer Lines	5,190 miles
Manhole Structures	114,520
Sewage Pump Stations	153
Wastewater Treatment Plants	4
Cities Served by the District	42
Sewer Maintenance Yards	5

Description of Work/Event	Last Fiscal Year's Work Accomplishment
Total length of sewer lines cleaned	7,111,507 ft/ 1,347 mi
Total number of manhole (MH) structure inspections	193,305
Total number of manhole structures adjusted to street level	935
Total service requests responses	1,247
Total length of sewer lines inspected by televising	78,390 ft
Total length of sewer lines treated for roots	14,795 ft
Total number of pump station (PS) inspections	10,395
Total number of major pump station repairs	234
Total number of parcels annexed to the District	13
Total length of sewer lines rehabilitated/reconstructed	25,878 ft
Total length of new sewer lines added	68.5 mi
Total number of sewer overflows/ flood outs	170

## Sewer Maintenance

The Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District of Los Angeles County (CSMD) is administered by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. The District's system serves greater than one-half of a million parcels and a population of approximately 2.3 million people within the unincorporated areas of the County (Marina del Rey not included), 40 cities, and 2 contract cities. The District's system includes over 5,100 miles of sanitary sewers, 153 pump stations, and 4 wastewater treatment plants. The estimated value of the District's system is more than \$1.5 billion dollars with the District's annual operating budget of about \$24 million dollars.

### Cities/County Areas Served by Sewer Maintenance Districts

Unincorporated County Areas	Glendora Hawaiian Gardens Hidden Hills Industry Irwindale La Canada-Flintridge La Habra Heights Lakewood La Mirada Lancaster La Puente Lawndale Lomita Malibu Palmdale	Palos Verdes Estates Paramount Pico Rivera Rancho Palos Verdes Rolling Hills Rolling Hills Estates Rosemead San Dimas Santa Clarita Santa Fe Springs South El Monte Temple City Walnut Westlake Village West Hollywood
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## CONDITION ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Since the last annual report, we have created a new program to further improve the District's sewer infrastructure.

John Adkins, Senior Civil Engineer, oversees the Condition Assessment Program. Below are some comments from Mr. Adkins regarding the primary objectives and goals of the program.

### Objectives:

The primary objectives of this program are to perform closed-circuit television (CCTV) inspections and structurally rate approximately 500 miles of sewer infrastructure each year. The televising will be prioritized to focus on those sewers with the most potential for repair needs. Maintenance history, past overflow records, sewer locations, and age will be some of the factors used to prioritize the televising schedule.

### Goals:

Our goal is to improve the quality of the District's sewer infrastructure.

### CCTV:

The Department of Public Works has selected a digital video pipeline inspection system. This system allows for the most consistent and thorough collection of data. Under this system, a CCTV van crew gathers video and data for each pipe segment to identify any deficiencies and engineers review the tapes and video logs to determine if the sewer facilities should be repaired or replaced immediately, or scheduled for future improvements.

### Benefits:

This program utilizes state-of-the-art digital video technology to inspect and identify the existing condition of the sewer collection system and to simplify a host of wastewater management tasks. This new system allows for the most consistent and thorough collection of data and helps comply with new State Water Resources Control Board Waste Discharge Requirements for sewer collection system owners and operators.

### Assessments:

The first project was launched in September 2005 and was completed by December 31, 2005, with a total inspection of 38 miles. The CCTV inspection revealed that approximately 98% of the area televised was in good condition and 2% of pipe segments had maintenance and structural defects. A priority list has been established to address the identified deficiencies, based on the severity and the need for action. A subsequent project started in January 2006 and was completed at the end of April, covering an additional 38 miles. Data gathered is currently being analyzed.

The Department has awarded a 3.8 million dollar contract for the condition assessment of an additional 500 miles of sewer line for the coming year.

Our objectives and goals have consistently been met on or ahead of schedule. With the continued enthusiasm, dedication, and the collective efforts of my staff, I am certain we will continue to meet or exceed our future goals.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Question:

Who do I contact about problems (odors, roaches/rodents infestation, sewer blockages, loose manhole cover, etc.) coming from the public sewer main?

### Answer:

You can make a request for assistance or report a sewer problem online or by calling our HELP line (800) 675-HELP. If this is an emergency, such as sewage stoppages/spills, please call us immediately.

### Question:

What are the Department of Public Works (DPW) and the property owner's responsibilities for the sewer?

### Answer:

The DPW is responsible for the public sewer lines, which are located in the streets and easements. The property owner is responsible for the house lateral, which includes that portion of the house lateral that extends beyond the property line into the public right-of-way. (Refer to diagram below)

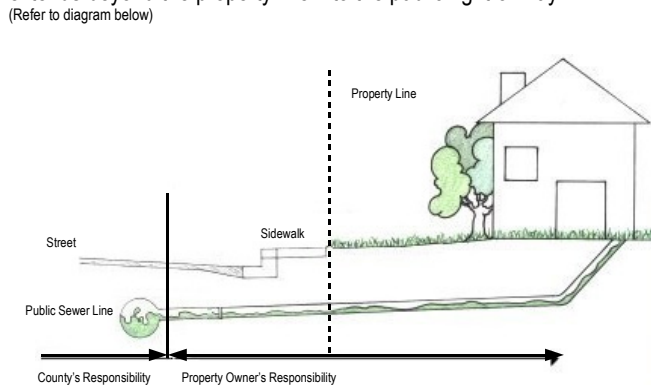


Diagram delineating County and Property Owner's responsibility.

### Question:

Sewage is backing up into my house/building through overflowing toilets, sinks, bathtubs, dishwasher, and/or washing machines. What should I do?

### Answer:

Call the HELP line. As a rule of thumb, if any of these conditions are occurring when water is not running from any of the plumbing fixtures in the house, the public sewer could be the cause. However, if it only occurs when the house plumbing is running, the sewer house lateral may have a problem. Please call your plumber.

### Question:

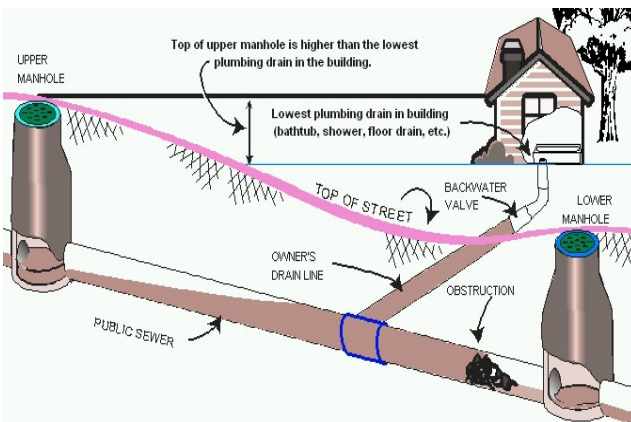
What is a sewer backwater valve and who is required to have them?

### Answer:

Most properties have been built so that an obstruction in the public sewer will not cause a sewage backup into the property.

Some properties, however, require the extra protection of a backwater valve in the owner's drain line. These properties have been built so that the drain of the lowest plumbing fixture (bath tub, shower, etc.) is lower than the upper manhole of the public sewer. The backwater valve is designed to automatically shut to prevent leakage out of the plumbing fixture if sewage from an obstructed public sewer backs up the owner's drain line.

If you have a backwater valve, regular maintenance is required to ensure that it is operating properly at all times.



### Question:

Why is there a fee for the CSMD on my property tax roll if my property is not connected to the sewers?

### Answer:

The CSMD charges are collected with your property taxes to save the cost of separate billings. Although your property is not currently connected to the public sewer, should your septic system fail, by law, you will be required to connect to the public sewer. The sewer line now fronting your property will be readily available for you to connect. That is why you are being assessed to maintain and keep it in good running condition.

### HELP PREVENT SEWAGE SPILLS!

Keep FOG, trash, rainwater, and roots out of our sewer system to minimize stoppages, sanitary sewer overflows, and reduce cost.



### Question:

How do you maintain the sewer?

### Answer:

A Preventative Maintenance Program consisting of regular inspection and periodic cleaning of the sewer system.

Public Works visually inspects all sewer manholes approximately every six months. Sewer inspection typically involves examining the pipe at a manhole to observe flow conditions. Flow is checked for depth (which should be less than 1/2 pipe diameter), smoothness, and restrictions or stoppages. Abnormal flow conditions are scheduled for cleaning to restore normal flow.

Materials impeding flow in the pipe are noted and recurring problems are placed on a periodic maintenance schedule to prevent a reoccurrence. Sewer pipes not fixed by cleaning or periodic maintenance are typically video-inspected using a closed-circuit television camera to determine the source (i.e. structural failure, illegal discharge, inflow/infiltration, etc.). Based on the results of the video inspection, further action to remedy the situation may be taken. This could include replacement or rehabilitation of the segment of pipe.

## CONTACTS

To locate your nearest Building and Safety office, please go to [http://ladpw.org/general/facilities/app\\_building.cfm](http://ladpw.org/general/facilities/app_building.cfm)

For questions or comments regarding this Annual Report, call (626) 300-3399

If you see a Sewage Overflow, notify the Department of Public Works IMMEDIATELY! ☎ 1-800-675-HELP (4357)

If you like to write to us, please send all inquiries to  
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Waterworks and Sewer Maintenance Division  
P.O. Box 1475  
Alhambra, CA 91802-1475

Los Angeles County  
Environmental  
Hotline  
  
For  
Proper Disposal  
Call

1(888) CLEAN LA  
1(888) 253-2652  
[www.888CleanLa.com](http://www.888CleanLa.com)



Medications, also called pharmaceuticals, include prescription drugs such as hormones, antidepressants, and antibiotics; over-the-counter medicines such as pain relievers, cold/flu remedies, and antiseptics; and veterinary medicines.  
[www.nodrugsdownth drain.org](http://www.nodrugsdownth drain.org)

Unused prescription and over-the-counter medications that are put in drains or flushed down the toilet pollute the environment, so please take as prescribed and dispose of unused portions properly.

### UNUSED MEDICATIONS SHOULD BE

1. Taken to a household hazardous waste collection center or event (no controlled substances allowed) or
2. Put in a sturdy, securely sealed container, then in a trash can where children and animals can't reach them.

