



No Drugs Down the Drain

At one time it was common practice to flush prescription medicines down the toilet. However, it is now known that flushing medications can be harmful to our environment - affecting both water quality and the health of our oceans and beaches. You can help keep our wastewater free of pharmaceutical contamination every day by joining Goleta West Sanitary District in supporting Santa Barbara County's "Operation Medicine Cabinet."

What should you do with your expired medications?

The Sheriff's Isla Vista Foot Patrol office has a white metal drop-box located outside the substation where residents can deposit their unwanted medications (both prescription and over-the-counter). Unwanted medications can also be dropped off at many local pharmacies. [A full list of locations that accept unwanted medication can be found at www.lessismore.org/materials/94-medicines](http://www.lessismore.org/materials/94-medicines)

Drop Off stations

Santa Barbara County Sheriff's
Office Isla Vista Foot Patrol
6504 Trigo Road
Isla Vista, CA, 93117

CVS Pharmacy 11216
7030 Hollister Avenue
Goleta, CA, 93117

CVS Pharmacy 09156
5875 Calle Real
Goleta, CA, 93117



For more information:

Call: 805-882-3615

Visit: www.lessismore.org/materials/94-medicines www.med-project.org/locations/santa-barbara

Announcing our New General Manager Brian McCarthy



We are pleased to announce the Board's appointment of our very own Brian McCarthy as the District's new General Manager. Brian has worked for the District since he was hired as our Chief Inspector in January of 2003. Since then he's been involved in all aspects of District operations, including supervising staff and environmental compliance programs, with the primary responsibility of administering the Pretreatment and Industrial Waste Program. Brian has routinely stepped in to cover General Manager duties when Mark was on vacation and has been working closely with Mark as an assistant General Manager for several months as we prepared for Mark's retirement.

Brian received his Bachelor of Science in Biology from San Diego State University in 1986. After graduating, he worked as a field biologist at Vandenberg Airforce Base for several years, followed by working in the local trades as a carpenter and a plumber. Prior to coming to GWSD he was employed by the City of Santa Barbara for nearly a decade, working initially as a Certified Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator and then as a Certified Lab Analyst in the City's Water/Wastewater Laboratory.

"We are fortunate to have Brian able and willing to step into the role of General Manager. This is a pivotal time for the District and Brian's experience combined with his knowledge of District operations and staff will create a seamless transition that will allow for our important projects and programs to continue without interruption," stated Director Eva Turenchalk.



What Not to Flush

- Antibacterial wipes; they harm the aquatic environment and block sewer lines, pumps and other facilities. Put antibacterial wipes in the trash!
- "Flushable" diapers; they get stuck on roots that have infiltrated sewer lines. Put disposable diapers in the trash!
- Plastics or cellophane. Put them in the trash!
- Toxic chemicals, pesticides, or paints. Take them to a household hazardous waste facility.
- Pharmaceuticals. Find an authorized disposal site.
- Cigarettes or matches. Use an ashtray.



Street Sweeping

Please remember to move your cars on street sweeping day to help keep our creeks, beaches, and wetlands healthy and clean.

Since 1964, Goleta West Sanitary District has been providing street sweeping services to its customers. The District was the first South Coast agency to implement a street sweeping program to remove trash and pollutants from storm water runoff that flows into our creeks, wetlands, ocean, and beaches. Unlike many government agencies, we own and operate our street sweeper, making this service reliable and flexible.

Moving your cars and other items such as basketball hoops off the street on your street sweeping day allows the street sweeper to remove the debris that accumulates along the curb before it goes into the storm drain. This helps us keep our creeks, beaches, and wetlands healthy and clean.

For more information on your street sweeping schedule visit our website at: www.GoletaWest.org/customerinformation/street-sweeping

Your Infrastructure Dollars At Work

Goleta West Sanitary District Newsletter

Fall 2022

GOLETA
WEST
SANITARY DISTRICT

Board of Directors

Larry D. Meyer
President

Eva Turenchalk
Vice-President

Dr. David C. Lewis

Craig Geyer

Dave Bearman, MD

Visit our Website!

www.GoletaWest.org

Contact Us

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After Three Decades Goleta West Wishes General Manager, Mark Nation, a Happy and Healthy Retirement

Fred Rogers of Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood fame, once said "Often when you are at the end of something, you're at the beginning of something else." That could not be more true for Goleta West's long-standing General Manager, Mark Nation. Mark tirelessly dedicated his professional life to the District for three decades. Under his leadership, the District has thrived and he created a working environment that was more akin to family than a job.

Mark started with the District in March of 1993 as a Vactor Truck Operator. Not long after, he was promoted to Operations Superintendent to supervise staff, oversee field operations, and coordinate pump station operations. His outstanding work ethic and skillset led to his promotion to General Manager/Operations Superintendent in 2001. Under Mark's leadership the District has received numerous awards and recognition for excellence in operations and management. He was awarded "Manager of the Year" in 2009 by the Santa Barbara County chapter of the California Special District Association, and the Board routinely receives compliments on Mark's professionalism and ability to negotiate complex issues from members of the public as well as sister agencies, regulators and non-profit organizations.

Mark is a dedicated father and husband. He has always enjoyed racing, both cars and motorcycles, and has stood on the top step of the podium at countless venues. Mark plans to continue racing motorcycles and traveling in his retirement. The District will miss his leadership, work ethic, and friendship, but we are excited for Mark to enter into this next phase and enjoy some well-earned rest, relaxation and continued racing.

"We hope that Mark enjoys his well-earned retirement. Mark was a hard worker and a fine manager. His work helped ensure that the District will continue to thrive in the future. We've been fortunate to have him with us all these years and he will be missed."

President of the Board of Directors, Larry Meyer



Goleta West Sanitary District, Headquarters & Building Upgrades

Long Over Due Facilities Improvement

For decades, the Goleta West Sanitary District has been providing uninterrupted wastewater services to its customers in the Western Goleta Valley and Isla Vista. Buildings dating back to the 1950's have served the District well. However, they have long outlived their usefulness. As a grouping of utilitarian cinder block buildings, these facilities lack the amenities and access expected of modern buildings and are long overdue for an upgrade.

The building currently serving as the District's administrative building was originally designed as a workshop and garage. It houses customer serving staff, management, and the Board of Directors' public meeting room. The building is not ADA accessible, lacks adequate restroom facilities, employee workspace, and boardroom accommodations.

The District started looking at potential improvements as part of a Site Facility Assessment that analyzed the functions, space, and condition of each building. The Study resulted in a Masterplan for a renovation and construction program that is intended to optimize the use of the site for the benefit of staff and the general public.

The Master Plan and associated environmental document acknowledge multiple challenges in implementing the necessary improvements, including, first and foremost, the fact that the work of the District is a 24/7/365 operation, which cannot be interrupted. Secondly, the Site's location immediately adjacent to the Goleta Slough Wetlands meant that all work needed to remain within the existing site footprint. This not only protects the property from flooding, in compliance with FEMA standards; it protects the nearby wetlands from run-off.

Our buildings are mostly utilitarian in nature and serve the operations of the District well, but lack the modern and accessible amenities that employees, customers, and the public deserve.



Existing District Buildings



Architect's Rendition of Proposed Administration Building

The following projects were approved by the Board and are currently underway:

- Several infrastructure upgrades, including upgraded SCE service to better serve the District's needs and reconditioning of critical infrastructure serving Pump Station #1.
- Repurposing the obsolete Pump Station #2 Building into a new Operations Building that will include improved staff work areas, a locker room with showers, and a new break room. Rooftop solar array and skylights, will significantly improve energy efficiency.
- The existing 2,400 square foot Equipment Garage will be expanded to accommodate all of the District's vehicles, including the Vactor Trucks, Street Sweepers and CCTV Truck.
- A new Administration Building will have a Public Lobby, and will house Administrative Offices as well as the Board Room. The Board Room will be directly accessible from the exterior, through a Courtyard, and will be ADA accessible. The Administration Building has been designed to be energy efficient and environmentally sustainable, and will be submitted for LEED Certification (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design).
- The site will be updated to provide adequate parking, including two Electric Vehicle Charging Stations, permeable parking areas, and native drought tolerant landscaping.