



Napa Sanitation District
1515 Soscol Ferry Road
Napa, CA 94558



CALL US First...

258-6000 ext. 9

Day, night, or weekends, if you've got a problem with your drains, just call us first! If the problem is in our portion of the sewer line, we can save you the cost of a plumber. However, if the problem is inside your house or within your portion of the lateral line, a call to the plumber will still be necessary. When you call, our answering service will take your name, address, and telephone number and a District crew member will call you back or be on your doorstep within 30 minutes. Our services are free of charge and could save you a plumber's fee.

We Do Sewers, Not Garbage!

The Napa Sanitation District provides sewer service for our customers.

For Garbage Collection and Recycling Service, call Napa Recycling & Waste Services at 707-255-5200.

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The Pipeline

Jill Techel, Chair Keith Caldwell, Vice Chair Peter Mott, Director Charles Gravett, Director Charles Shinnamon, Director

Electrifying News: Big Savings for Ratepayers

Projects to generate and store power offer great savings over 25 years!

Earlier this year, the Napa Sanitation District approved two exciting — we might even say “electrifying” — projects to generate and store millions of watts of electricity, while saving millions of dollars for ratepayers.

This fall SunPower, Inc., will start work on a 1-megawatt photovoltaic solar power array located on four acres of District land on Soscol Ferry Road. This state-of-the-art system will efficiently capture the sun's energy to produce up to 2.1 million kilowatt hours (kWh) annually. That's a lot of electricity — enough to run nearly 200 typical households for a full year — to help the District power its operations. The District already produces 33% of its electricity by running a cogeneration engine using biogas from the wastewater treatment process. When the solar power project comes online in early 2016, the District's self-generated electricity will increase to almost 60%.



Photo: SunPower Corp.

Typical SunPower array

Using this clean source of power reduces the use of non-renewable energy sources and cuts greenhouse gas emissions. By nearly doubling the generation of its own power at a significantly lower cost than utility rates, the District's power expenses will be kept lower. Those lower power costs translate to ratepayer savings of almost \$2.9 million over the next 25 years.



Artist's rendering/example of Tesla commercial battery

At the same time, the District is working with Tesla Motors to install a 1-megawatt (that's one million watts) Powerpack commercial battery system, now nearing completion. The District will use the battery to store its self-produced energy, and then use that stored power at times when electricity costs are high. Using the battery system will help reduce peak stress on the power grid,

and PG&E is providing a \$1.9 million grant toward this project making it a really fantastic deal for the District and its ratepayers.

These are great examples of how the District is constantly seeking new ways to reduce its operating costs. With the sustainable, environmentally-friendly use of the new solar power array and battery system, the District is continuing to lead the way in ensuring power and cost savings for decades to come.

- Q & A**
- Where does water go after it goes down the drain?
 - How about when you flush?
 - How is recycled water made?
 - What are biosolids, clarifiers, and a cogeneration engine?

Find out all this and more at the...



Napa Sanitation District Open House

- when: **Saturday, October 17, 2015**
- time: **10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**
- where: **1515 Soscol Ferry Road, Napa**
- what: **Drop in for Treatment Plant Tours, Large Equipment Demos, Lab Visits, Fun for Kids!**

For more information, call 707-258-6000 or visit www.napasan.com



Dissolved Air Flotation Clarifier

Let's Be Clear:

Conversion of Clarifying Process is Less Costly, More Eco-Friendly

An obviously important part of the wastewater treatment process is removal of solids — and the District has implemented a new process which is not only more environmentally-friendly, but less-costly as well.

Until now this process utilized flocculating clarifiers. This involves adding chemicals and polymers to the wastewater, which causes algae and other solids to clump together as sludge and settle to the bottom of the clarifier, where it can be collected.

The District has converted to a more efficient Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF) Clarifier (shown above). This process dissolves air under pressure in the wastewater, and when the air is released it forms bubbles which adhere to the suspended matter, causing it to float to the surface. From there it is removed by a skimmer.

The advantage of the DAF process is that it uses significantly less chemicals and polymers, and overall the cost of treatment is lower than with the flocculating clarifier process. This is one of the many projects undertaken by the District aimed at reducing costs, while improving processes to make them more friendly to the environment.

District Expands Production of Recycled Water

With work complete on the District's two-year expansion of its recycled water system, a lot more of this drought-resistant resource can now be utilized, saving vast quantities of valuable drinking water.

Capacity nearly doubled with completion of \$16 million project

This \$16 million project (including a \$4 million US Bureau of Reclamation grant) has nearly doubled the District's capacity to produce recycled water, from 2,000 acre feet up to 3,700 acre feet in the summer months. The District can now produce up to about 1.2 billion gallons of recycled water each summer for landscape irrigation and certain industrial uses. The District's recycled water meets the highest quality standards set by the State of California.

The project was implemented to help meet the ever-increasing demand for recycled water, which is especially needed in the midst of the most severe drought in California's recorded history. The District is already a significant supplier of local irrigation water, selling this sustainable resource to several golf courses, a cemetery, a large city park, Napa Valley College, surrounding business parks, construction firms for dust control, and some vineyards. Every gallon of recycled water is a gallon of drinking water saved for other critical uses. This expanded capacity means that the District can better satisfy the growing market for recycled water.

The other part of this equation is a delivery system to bring recycled water to customers, and two new pipelines are nearing completion: one is a five-mile line reaching the Coombsville area east of Napa, and the other extends nine miles to serve the Carneros grape-growing area. These pipelines are being built in partnership with Napa County and the Los Carneros Water District, and are being paid for through special tax assessments and federal and state grants.

As the customer base for recycled water expands to new areas, the District recycled water expansion project places it in a good position to meet increasing demand. By doing so, the District will be saving millions upon millions of additional gallons of drinking water for the community's use.



Purple pipelines are bringing recycled water to more customers

Recycled water pump station



Don't Put Food Scraps Down the Drain — Compost Instead!



Do you put food scraps down the drain, turn on the water full blast, and activate your disposal to grind it up and wash it away? Wouldn't you rather 1) save water 2) reduce sewer backups, and 3) help produce compost for local use?



Many households in our area have a curbside yard waste bin and a small kitchen compost pail (shown in photo) provided by Napa Recycling and Waste Services. That's the place for your food scraps! You can also throw in your used paper napkins, paper towels, and other soiled paper items, plus paper take-out boxes and containers, coffee grounds and filters – even greasy pizza boxes!

Along with yard waste, your food scraps and other compostable items get turned into wonderful, rich compost, to be used as a soil amendment for landscapes, gardens, farms, and vineyards - closing the recycling loop locally and sustainably (learn more at www.naparecycling.com).

When you turn on your kitchen faucet to wash food scraps through your disposal, you probably use more water than you think - and that water down the drain can really add up. Every little bit saved helps, and composting instead of grinding is one more way to save water in your household— about 900 gallons per household annually! You'll be helping protect the environment, saving water and money, and keeping fats, oils, and grease out of the sewer system (which can cause sewer blockages leading to overflows).

Visit the NSD Website

Looking for details on sewer rates, District job announcements, clean water tips, FAQs, or other information? Visit the NSD website:

www.NapaSan.com



Fats • Oil • Grease

Don't Let FOG Clog Your Pipes

Here's a simple thing you can do to help avoid the hassle and expense of clogged pipes in your home: Don't pour FOG (fats, oils, and grease) down your drain. Not even if you wash it down with hot, soapy water — when the FOG cools it sticks to the pipes, building up until it causes a clog. Those clogs can cause water and sewage overflows in your home (nobody wants that!) and contribute to backups and overflows elsewhere in the sewer system.

Cooking oil, bacon grease, meat fats, food scraps, butter, margarine, and food products such as mayonnaise, salad dressings, and sour cream — these are all things that should NOT go down the drain!

Instead, pour FOG into a container, let it cool, then wrap the container and dispose of it in the yard debris. You can recycle used cooking oil by joining the City of Napa's Recycle More Program. They'll pick up your used cooking oil curbside for FREE, for recycling into biodiesel. Call (707) 255-5200 to sign up.

Large quantities of FOG from local food service facilities are delivered to the District's grease receiving station. There, it's added to the wastewater treatment plant's "digester" where it boosts the methane gas output thus increasing the District's self-generated electricity and reducing the need to purchase electricity.

