

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR MAINTENANCE SERVICES

In 2007 Valley Sanitation District contracted with Platte Canyon Water and Sanitation District to perform sewer operation and maintenance services along with limited administrative services. In considering an intergovernmental agreement between Valley and Platte Canyon, the Valley Board of Directors determined that Platte Canyon was capable of providing more reliable and cost effective services than other service alternatives under consideration. Services performed by Platte Canyon include the following:

- Responding to routine and emergency (24 hour) customer service calls.
- Preventive sewer system maintenance consisting of:
  - > video inspection of all Valley sanitary sewer mains on a four year rotating cycle
  - > sanitary sewer cleaning on an as needed basis as determined by video inspections
  - > sewer root cutting and root treatment services on an as needed basis as determined by video inspections.
  - > sewer main and manhole repair and rehabilitation services
  - > planning and consulting services related to development of short term and long term operations and capital rehabilitation and replacement plans

The video inspection of Valley's outfall sewer in 2011 will complete the initial four year video inspection cycle. Scott Hand, Platte Canyon operations supervisor, reports that the Valley sewer system is in relatively good shape considering the 50-plus year age of some of the sewer pipe. It has been determined that no capital rehabilitation or major repairs are needed in the immediate future.



Platte Canyon Maintenance Operations

## VALLEY BOARD AGREES TO ASSIST NEIGHBOR

Sheridan Sanitation District No. 1 (Sheridan) is a small wastewater collection service provider located generally on each side of Federal Blvd. between Mansfield Ave. and Hampden Ave. The District serves approximately 345



residences in the Sheridan Hills Subdivision and the South Park Mobile Home Park area. The District has struggled to retain an active Board of Directors

to oversee the management and maintenance of the District's wastewater collection facilities. As a result, some of the District's 8,600 feet of sewer pipe has fallen into disrepair and is in need of costly rehabilitation.

The Board of Directors of Valley Sanitation District agreed to conduct a video inspection of all Sheridan sewer pipe to determine its condition and to make a recommendation for needed repairs. All work performed by Valley was reimbursed by Sheridan so that Valley residents would incur no expense for the cooperative endeavor.

As a result of the sewer television inspections it was determined that approximately 4,500 feet of concrete sewer pipe is in need of immediate repair. Since the District has limited funds and lacks the ability to assess

current property owners for needed work, the District has applied for a grant from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. The request is currently under consideration.



Sewer Video Inspection

Once the necessary sewer repairs have been accomplished, Sheridan intends to dissolve the District and seek annexation into Valley. The Valley Board has agreed to consider annexation of the Sheridan service area subject to repair of all sewer system deficiencies and agreement of Sheridan residents. If the territory is annexed, the valley property tax mill levy will be imposed upon all properties within the annexed area. The Valley Board has determined that the property tax revenue will be sufficient to operate and maintain the additional sewer facilities with no subsidization from Valley residents. A public hearing to receive comments on the proposed annexation will be advertised and held prior to any Board action to approve or deny the Sheridan request.

If you should have any questions or comments regarding this matter, please contact Patrick Fitzgerald at 303-979-2333.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPTS STATUS QUO BUDGET

Valley's Board of Directors adopted a 2011 budget that maintains expenditures safely below anticipated revenue. The budget proposes \$152,657 in revenue and \$136,068 in administrative, operating and maintenance expenses. The excess revenue, if realized at year end 2011, will add to the District's reserve fund for future infrastructure upgrades and rehabilitation. The Valley District has rehabilitated a significant portion of its infrastructure, yet some facilities are over 50 years old and will need to be upgraded in the not too distant future. The reserve fund is designed to accommodate these future needs without increasing property taxes.

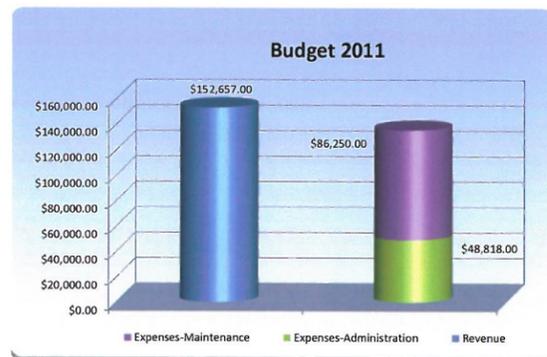
A 2.493 property tax mill levy will be assessed on all properties within the District in order to fund the District's operations. The mill levy has not changed for several years. Property tax revenue (\$146,081) represents 96% of all District

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPTS STATUS QUO BUDGET continued . . .

revenue while investment income makes up the remaining portion.

Other budget highlights include the following:

- > Sanitary sewer maintenance expenses for 2011 are budgeted at \$86,250, \$5,750 more than budgeted in 2010. These maintenance costs represent 64% of the District's total operating expenses.
- > Administrative expenses budgeted at \$48,818 for 2011, are \$1,000 less than the amount budgeted in 2010.
- > No capital expenditures are proposed for 2011.



If you have any questions concerning Valley's 2011 budget, please contact Patrick Fitzgerald at 303-979-2333.

## VALLEY PROMOTES FAT FREE SEWERS

Fats, Oils, and Greases aren't just bad for your arteries and your waistline; they are bad for sewer pipes as well. Sewer backups and overflows can cause health hazards, damage home interiors, and threaten the environment. An increasingly common cause of sewer overflows is pipes blocked with grease. Grease gets into the sewer from household drains as well as poorly maintained grease traps in restaurants and other businesses.

Grease can come from many sources, including meat fats, lard, cooking oil, shortening, butter and margarine, dairy products, sauces, and food scraps. Grease products are frequently washed into the sewer system through a kitchen sink. The grease coagulates on the inside of sewer pipes and, over time, builds up until the pipes become completely plugged.

Garbage disposals do not remove grease from the plumbing system. They only chop solid materials into smaller pieces and do not prevent grease products from flowing down the drain. Commercial additives, including detergents, that claim to dissolve grease may allow grease to pass down the pipe causing problems in other areas.

Grease buildups can result in sewer stoppages which can lead to backups in homes and businesses. They can also cause sewage to overflow the District's system resulting in environmental contamination. Finally, they result in increased operating costs due to the necessity for more frequent sewer cleaning operations.

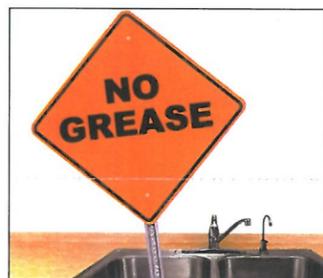


## How You Can Help

Homeowners and restaurant operators can assist the District in the following ways:

### Homeowners

1. Never pour grease down sink drains or into toilets.
2. Scrape grease and food scraps from plates and pots and pans into a can or trash for disposal.
3. Do not put grease down garbage disposals. Put baskets/strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids and dispose of them in the trash.
4. Advise your children, friends, and neighbors about the importance of keeping grease out of sewers. Call the District if you have any questions.



### Restaurant Operators

1. Install a grease trap if one does not exist.
2. Maintain grease traps by having them cleaned and inspected periodically.
3. Never put solids into drains that release into grease traps.
4. Be cautious of chemicals and additives that claim to dissolve grease. Some of these products merely pass the grease further down the District's sewer system.

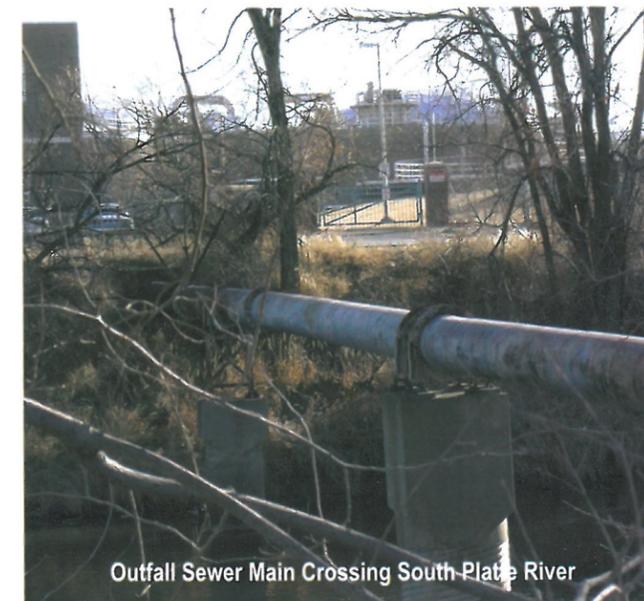
To obtain a free brochure titled Fat-Free Sewers: How to Prevent Fats, Oils, and Greases from Damaging Your Home and the Environment, please call Barrie Brinkley at the Valley Sanitation District office at (303) 979-2333.

# DISTRICT BEGINS VIDEO INSPECTION OF OUTFALL SEWER

The major maintenance activity scheduled for Valley Sanitation District in 2011 is the video inspection of the District's 4.8 mile long outfall sewer pipe. The concrete pipe, beginning at 12-inches in diameter and increasing up to 24-inches in diameter, extends miles from Berry Ave. and Lowell Blvd. to the Littleton-Englewood Wastewater Treatment Plant located at Santa Fe Dr. and Dartmouth Ave.

The outfall sewer runs through some very difficult terrain and access to the pipe and manholes will be a challenge for maintenance crews. The most difficult sections of pipe to observe will likely be those sections between W. Union Ave. to W. Oxford Ave. which extend through a number of commercial properties.

The proposed inspection will be the first time the pipe has been observed since Valley contracted with Platte Canyon Water and Sanitation District to perform sewer maintenance in 2007. Platte Canyon's operations staff is experienced in large pipe video inspections as it performs large pipe inspection services on over 283 miles of pipe in Platte Canyon and other sanitation districts (the largest pipe inspected is 60-inches in diameter).



Outfall Sewer Main Crossing South Platte River

The results of the District's television inspection endeavor will be reported in a future edition of Valley Newsletter.

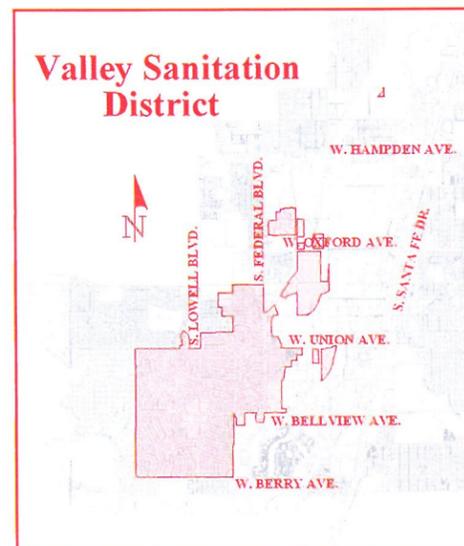
## WHAT DOES VALLEY SANITATION DISTRICT DO FOR ME?

Valley Sanitation District is a governmental entity that provides wastewater collection services for a portion of the Cities of Englewood, Denver, and Sheridan (see boundary map). Valley owns and maintains the sanitary sewer pipes that collect wastewater from homes and businesses located within the District's boundaries. The wastewater is transmitted through a series of pipes to the Littleton-Englewood Wastewater Treatment Plant located at Dartmouth Ave. and Platte River Dr. Valley contracts with the City of Englewood to treat and dispose of the wastewater. Englewood directly bills each Valley residence for treatment services. None of the money paid to Englewood is returned to Valley.

Valley is governed by a five member Board of Directors. Elections are held in May of even numbered years. All registered voters that reside within and/or own property within the District are eligible to vote for District directors. Current District directors are: Phyllis Gooden, Mary Alice Ledbetter, Frederick Boggs, Wilbur R. Hall, and Connie Kucharski.

Valley assesses a property tax mill levy for administration and operation and maintenance of the District owned wastewater collection system. The mill levy is set by the District Board of Directors during the budget process in October and November of each year. The levy is certified to the county tax assessors who collect the revenue and transmits it to the District.

If you have any questions regarding Valley Sanitation District, please contact Pat Harris, Manager, at 303-795-7712.



Valley District Boundaries