



Rosamond Community Services District

Official Newsletter of Rosamond Community Services District - December 2021

**“I call on all Californians to voluntarily reduce their water use by 15 percent from their 2020 levels.”**

-GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM, EXECUTIVE ORDER N-10-21, 8 JUL 2021



### **Martin Luther King Jr Day Closure**

While our walk-in lobby and drive-up window continue to be closed due to the ongoing pandemic, our office remains open Monday through Thursday. You can reach our customer service team on these days at 661-256-3411. You can also send an email to [customerservice@rosamondcsd.com](mailto:customerservice@rosamondcsd.com) any day at any time.

***Our office will be closed on Monday, January 17, 2022, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr Day.***

If you have a water emergency, you can still reach RCSD 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at 661-816-5345.

Please remember that this number is only for water emergencies in RCSD's jurisdiction, which ends at your water meter. If you are having water issues on anything on your side of the water meter, it is your responsibility. Having our crews

respond to problems that are not an emergency or not in our jurisdiction may result in a \$120 after-hours fee.

### **Updating the Strategic Plan**

In our [November Newsletter](#), we introduced our five-year strategic plan to you. The RCSD board and general manager have been meeting over the last two months to review and update the plan to better serve our customers in today's unique landscape.

The plan has been renewed for another five years with these updates. Some highlights of updates they made are:

- **Fiscal Health and Reserves**- Keeping a financial reserve on hand to cover expected and unexpected costs saves a lot of money over borrowing money with interest to cover these inevitable costs. That being said, RCSD must finance some projects. For those, RCSD will be establishing a line of credit with more favorable terms.
- **Non-traditional Revenue**- It costs money to purchase, pump and treat water. Much of this money comes from our customers in the form of their monthly bills. RCSD is seeking new ways to increase income and decrease costs to protect our customers from unnecessary rate increases. Among these strategies are liquidating some investment assets and using solar to offset energy costs.

- **Training and Promoting Staff-** In many cases, the best people to fill a new job opening, especially those in leadership positions, are already working for RCSD. This enhances the goal of training RCSD staff to grow into higher positions through training and education.
- **Analyze and Adapt Personnel Needs-** RCSD has been consolidating smaller neighboring water agencies into our customer base out of necessity and recent legislation. This means more customers, more infrastructure, and the need for more staff to handle the larger workload.
- **Community Outreach-** Communicating with our customers was a significant area of our previous strategic plan, one of our areas of greatest improvement, and continues to be a major focus in the updated plan. We will enhance our outreach by strengthening our current outreach efforts, exploring new ways to reach out community, and training the RCSD board and staff on how to communicate better.
- **Maintain Water and Sewer Systems-** The RCSD team has been leveraging the vast experience of members of our team and focusing on preventative and predictive maintenance that saves money and reduces system failures and outages.
- **Water Acquisition and Security-** This is a high priority with the recent adjudication. RCSD is seeking out permanent water production rights that both provide the water our community needs and help protect and restore our local aquifer.

Even with the updated strategic plan covering the next five years, the RCSD board and staff will continue to reassess RCSD's vision and goals to ensure they best meet the needs of our customers and

community. In this sense, our strategic plan is very much a living document that can adapt and address RCSD's ever-evolving needs and opportunities.

As always, we value our customer's insight and comments. Please share them with us at our regularly scheduled public meetings or by reaching out to our customer service team.

### **Keep Shells Out of the Sewer**

It's easy to wash common kitchen food waste down the drain without a second thought, but some things should never be put down the drain. One item on this list may surprise you: eggshells.

Putting eggshells down your drain is like dumping sand into your sewer pipes. The shells don't dissolve; they get crushed into a sand-like substance that gets caught in pipes and filters. This build-up restricts the flow of sewer waste, reduces efficiency, and can lead to blockages and backflows.

We've touched on the importance of keeping FOG (Fats, Oils, and Grease) out of our sewers before. These substances are often liquid when dumped down the drain but quickly become thick, white, gelatinous logs the create nasty blockages.

All of these things should be properly disposed of in the trash, where they cannot contribute to sewer system blockages.

Healthy sewers help support a healthy community. Let's all pitch in to take care of the sewer system that takes care of us by keeping eggshells, fats, oils, and grease out of the drains and sewer lines.





# FREE!

# CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

DECEMBER 26 THRU JANUARY 10



## OPTION 1 Recycle your Christmas Tree into your GREENWASTE container!

- Remove tree stand, decorations, and nails.
- Cut tree into small pieces and place into greenwaste container.
- Container lid **MUST** completely close.

## OPTION 2 Drop off your Christmas Tree

- Remove tree stand, decorations, and nails.

## EAST KERN DROP-OFF LOCATIONS

### Boron Landfill

11400 Boron Avenue  
Sun, Mon, Tue, Thu: 12 PM-4 PM  
Sat: 8 AM-4 PM

### Ridgecrest Landfill

3301 W. Bowman Road  
7 Days: 8 AM-4 PM

### Mojave-Rosamond Landfill

400 Silver Queen Road  
Sun, Tue, Thu: 8 AM-12 PM  
Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat: 8 AM-4 PM

### Tehachapi Landfill

12001 E. Tehachapi Blvd.  
Sun: 8 AM-12 PM  
Mon-Sat: 8 AM-4 PM

### Kern Valley Transfer Station

6092 Wulstein Avenue  
Sun-Sat; closed Wed: 8 AM-4 PM

### Bear Valley Springs Solid Waste Transfer Station

28999 S. Lower Valley Road  
Sun, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat: 8 AM-8 PM

### Waste Management, Inc.

237 County Line Road  
Mon-Fri: 7 AM-4 PM

### Waste Management, Inc.

1731 Sierra Highway  
Mon-Fri: 7 AM-4 PM

### Waste Management, Inc.

416 N. Dennison Road  
Mon-Fri: 7:30 AM-3:30 PM  
Sat: 8 AM-12 PM

For a complete list of countywide locations, visit:

<https://kernpublicworks.com/2021/12/20/2021-christmas-tree-recycling-program/>