



Protecting Public Health and the Environment by Cleaning Water and Recovering Valuable Resources

## Clean, Green and Cost Effective Sanitary Services

The recently upgraded wastewater treatment plant is purifying the water to a higher level than before, and producing more valuable recycled products.



*Aerial view of the recently upgraded wastewater treatment plant.*

## New Treatment Plant Performing Above Expectations

**Exceptional Quality.** Goleta Sanitary District's treatment plant is purifying approximately six million gallons per day of community wastewater to a quality that is multiple times better than the strict state and federal requirements. The new plant ensures that all wastewater brought to the plant undergoes full-secondary quality purification to protect the public and the environment.

**Always Reliable 24/7 Service.** The District's wastewater treatment plant must operate 24 hours a day 365 days a year without interruption. In order to achieve this requirement, a continuous supply of power must be available. As part of the plant upgrade the District installed new emergency power generators that can run more processes in the plant while producing less air pollution.

**Cost-Saving.** The treatment plant was completed millions of dollars under budget and without the need for any rate increases since 2009.



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# Wastewater Treatment—Like Nature...Only Faster

THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IS A LARGE AND COMPLEX FACILITY, BUT IT IS PATTERNED AFTER RELIABLE, NATURAL PROCESSES THAT ARE EFFICIENT AND RESULT IN MANY ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMUNITY BENEFITS.



**The District reuses energy, produces recycled water, and generates a valuable soil amendment (biosolids), while protecting public health and the environment.**

## **Extensive Recycling and Reuse Help the Environment.**

The treatment of wastewater is based on a natural biological process that provides for the recovery of useful resources by processing the organic matter into several new recycled “products”.

## **Captured Bio-Gasses Provide Onsite Power.**

Bio-gas is a natural by-product of the decomposition of organic material in the plant’s anaerobic digesters. It is captured and used at the facility as a direct energy source.

## **“Biosolids” are Good for the Environment and Your Garden.**

Biosolids produced at the District can be reused by the community as a soil amendment in home lawns and gardens. Biosolids are distributed for FREE! Call to pick it up.

## **Recycled Water for Landscapes.**

Recycled water, a reusable by-product of the wastewater treatment process, is used throughout Goleta to irrigate landscapes at UCSB, parks and golf courses, among other uses. The new plant can provide more high quality water for increased recycling.

## **Long-Term Planning Makes for Lower Costs to Customers**

**Successful Long-Term Planning.** Planning for the treatment plant began many years before it needed to be built. A careful design process made it possible to build an extremely reliable and high quality plant for less.

**No Need for Loans or Debt.** Because of the long pre-planning period, the District was able to make two modest rate increases and start saving money to pay for the plant upgrade before starting construction. This “pay-as-you-go” program required no outside loans, bonds or other financing. The result is lower rates for customers.

## **No Substantial Rate Changes Expected.**

As a result of many cost-saving actions, the District has not increased rates since 2009 and no substantial rate changes are planned. Even with the recently completed \$40 million treatment plant upgrade, our rates are 15% below the county average and 6% below the State average.





*During the treatment process, air is injected to help support natural bacteria that purify wastewater.*

## Maintenance of the House Sewer Line is the Responsibility of the Property Owner.

A house sewer line is the sewer line that leads from a home or business, and connects to the District's sewer line, which is usually located under the center of the street.

**DO:** Periodically inspect your house sewer and backflow protection device if present, and, if needed, repair or replace it. The frequency of maintenance depends on such factors as the age of the line, proximity of trees and their roots near the line, and the amount of grease built-up in the line.



**CAUTION:** Use a qualified plumber to inspect and repair your house sewer, and be sure to have it inspected when purchasing a new home or commercial building.

**REMEMBER:** Never pour any grease down your sink drains. Doing so can cause backups!



## A Regional Facility that Benefits the Entire Goleta Valley

Goleta Sanitary District provides the only wastewater treatment service in the Goleta Valley. We serve:

- **Goleta West Sanitary District** collects wastewater in the western part of Goleta, and sends it to our plant for treatment.
- **University of California Santa Barbara's** wastewater from the main campus and other facility areas is treated at our plant.
- **Santa Barbara Municipal Airport's** wastewater from the terminal complex and adjacent commercial properties is treated at our plant.
- **Santa Barbara County's** wastewater from some of their facilities is treated at our plant.



## Goleta Sanitary District

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español en [www.goletasanitary.org](http://www.goletasanitary.org)

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## Recycled Water Provides Drought-Proof Supply for Goleta Producing Up to 3 Million Gallons of Recycled Water Every Day

Leaders of Goleta Sanitary District and Goleta Water District had the foresight in the early 1990's to work together to bring recycled water to the Goleta Valley. Our job is to produce the recycled water and provide it to the Water District for distribution to Goleta Beach Park, local golf courses, some modern buildings for toilet flushing, and to UCSB for landscaping.

**Saves, Precious Potable Water.** Every gallon of recycled water saves a gallon of precious and limited potable water for residential, drinking water and other critical uses.

**High Quality Supply.** Goleta Sanitary District starts with its high quality treated wastewater and treats it further to a higher tertiary level in a specially designed process. Tests are performed daily at the District's certified laboratory to ensure a high quality and safe water product.

### Updated Treatment Plant Makes Possible Recycled Water Expansion

The newly updated wastewater treatment plant can provide enough highly treated wastewater to allow expansion of the recycled water treatment plant if it is ever needed to provide additional recycled water to the community.



*The recycled water plant produces millions of gallons of drought-proof water every day for the Goleta Valley.*

The District has produced over 6.74 billion gallons of recycled water, equal to about 1.3 years of all the water used in Goleta.