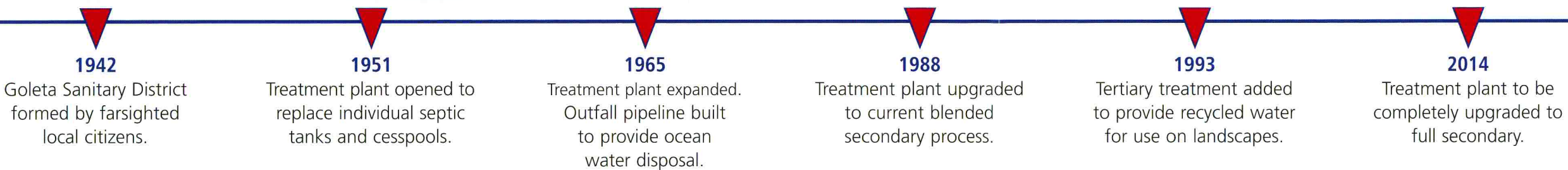


Treatment Plant Upgrade Advances

HISTORY OF REGIONAL TREATMENT PLANT



Environmental Benefits

In addition to providing a higher level of treatment, the plant upgrade project will explore a number of potential environmental improvements, including:

- Transforming biosolids into a marketable product that is similar to commercial soil amendments.
- Generating electrical power utilizing methane gas produced in the solids treatment process.
- The potential for expanding recycled water production.



Project Goes "Green"

"Green" design and building techniques will be utilized in the upgraded plant wherever reasonable, including use of renewable energy such as solar energy, and other environmentally friendly options.

HOW THE CURRENT TREATMENT PROCESS WILL BE UPGRADED

Goleta Sanitary District's current wastewater treatment process protects public health and the environment, and is in compliance with all current standards. Looking to the future, the treatment process will be upgraded to a higher level of treatment, called full secondary, to meet new requirements of the District's permit by 2014.



Primary Treatment

Mechanical screens and sedimentation tanks remove 65% of the solids from wastewater.

Secondary Treatment

Microorganisms consume organic material. This step will be the major component of the upgrade.

Biosolids

The upgrade process will explore alternatives to increase beneficial reuse of biosolids.

Disinfection

All treated wastewater will continue to be disinfected, and safely discharged to the ocean using state-of-the-art technologies.

Wastewater Recycling

Further treatment produces recycled water, which is used for irrigation, saving precious drinking water.

The upgraded treatment plant will meet stricter new permit standards. The project will evaluate both new and established technologies to accomplish full secondary treatment.

Financing the Upgrade

District Exploring Funding Options

The District's Board is considering various options for financing the treatment plant upgrade.

The final decision has not been made on financing the project which may include using some limited District reserve funds and/or borrowing all or part of the cost. But it is clear that a rate increase is needed to pay for the treatment plant upgrade. The Board is committed to carefully reviewing all financing options.

Project Schedule

Project planning and preparation of environmental documents are expected to be complete by summer 2008. Preliminary estimates place the total cost of the project at about \$30 million. Construction is to begin by April 2011 and will be completed by November 2014.

Cost of Upgrade Shared

The treatment plant is owned by Goleta Sanitary District to serve its own customers, and also serves under contract: Goleta West Sanitary District, UC Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara Airport and Santa Barbara County. Goleta Sanitary District's customer share is approximately half of the project cost with the remainder being paid by the other users.

Goleta Sanitary District's current service charge is below both county and state averages.

A rate increase is needed to pay for the mandatory treatment plant upgrade.



District Wins Award for Public Outreach

Keeping customers informed about important wastewater issues is a priority for Goleta Sanitary District. The District recently received a Public Education Award from both the local and statewide chapters of the California Water Environment Association. The award was given for the District's comprehensive public outreach and education program that includes periodic newsletters, open houses, tours, talks to local groups, school programs, booths at local fairs, and other activities, which were presented at the District's Open House.

Record Customer Turnout for District's "Environmental Safari" Open House

About 800 visitors attended the 18th annual open house in November 2006, the largest turnout ever for Goleta Sanitary District's annual event. Visitors took a tour on a miniature "safari" train, operated a real backhoe, viewed high-tech exhibits, visited the modern state-certified laboratory, learned about wastewater recycling, enjoyed hot dogs, and more.



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Protecting Public Health and the Environment

I Have Hazardous Waste In My House?

Details of Treatment Plant Upgrade Inside



WATCH YOUR MAIL FOR: Notice of Proposed Sewer Service Charge Increase

As reported in previous editions of this newsletter, the upgrade of Goleta Sanitary District's treatment plant to full secondary level is progressing, with facilities planning and environmental studies underway.

Funding options are also being evaluated. A rate increase will be needed to help pay for the project that is estimated to cost \$30 million or more, with the cost shared by all users of the plant.

See the inside pages of this newsletter for more information about the treatment plant upgrade and funding options. Also, watch your mail for a special notice with details about the proposed increase in the sewer service charge.

Yes, and they are all around you. Household toxics are harmful to you, the environment and the wastewater treatment process.

Improperly disposed of household toxics and pharmaceutical wastes are potentially harmful and expensive to remove from wastewater. Wastewater treatment plants are not designed to process and safely dispose of toxic materials.

Hazardous materials that are flushed into a drain or sewer pipe can also show up in biosolids, which would restrict their use as a soil amendment. It is vital that all hazardous waste be kept out of the wastewater collection and treatment systems.

How You Can Help With Proper Disposal



Don't dispose of household hazardous waste into indoor, sewer or storm drains. Take them to a free drop-off location:

Community Hazardous Waste Collection Center
UC Santa Barbara
Mesa Road, Building 565, Goleta

For information, phone: (805) 882-3602

For more information about pharmaceutical disposal, recycling and waste reduction click to www.LessIsMore.org

SOME EXAMPLES OF HAZARDOUS WASTE:

- **IN THE HOME:**
 - Ammonia cleaners
 - Oven cleaners
 - Aerosol sprays
 - Polishes
 - Nail polish/removers
 - Pharmaceuticals
 - Computer monitors
 - Television sets
 - Lights bulbs & tubes
 - Batteries
- **IN THE GARAGE:**
 - Antifreeze
 - Motor oil/filters
 - Gasoline
 - Waxes & polishes
 - Auto batteries
 - Engine cleaners
 - Brake fluid
- **IN THE WORKSHOP:**
 - Paint & thinners
 - Wood finishes
 - Glues & adhesives
 - Solvents
- **IN THE GARDEN:**
 - Pesticides/fungicides
 - Weed killers