

CCSD Newsletter

Newsletter of the Crockett Community Services District

June 2024

P.O. Box 578 / **Community Center & Tennis Courts:** 850 Pomona Street, Crockett, CA 94525 Phone (510) 787-2414 Fax (510) 787-2459

Sanitary Services & Maintenance: 1 Rolph Park Drive, Crockett, CA 94525 (By Appointment) Phone (510) 787-2992



Photo by Hugh R. Yelp

OUR DISTRICT - Crockett Community Services District

The Crockett Community Services District (CCSD) provides certain municipal services for the unincorporated towns of Crockett and Port Costa including sanitary sewer services, recreation, and maintenance. The Recreation Department offers Crockett and Port Costa residents access to the Crockett Community Center, Swimming Pool, Alexander Park, bocce ball courts and tennis courts. Upcoming events are listed on the pool schedule. Maintenance services include maintenance of Crockett's Memorial Hall (Legion Hall), Crockett's downtown plaza, Crockett's decorative green street lights, and numerous green iron fences on either Pomona St. or Rolph Ave.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to you from the administrative offices of the Crockett Community Services District (District). As the current Board President and Interim General Manager, I have the honor of updating you on the what has been happening.



The District has undergone some significant changes over the last year. We have a new Board member who previously served on the Recreation Committee. There are new faces on the Crockett Sanitary Commission and Police Liaison Committees. A former Board member became an employee serving as Administrative Services Manager. For the first time, the District hired a district secretary who is largely responsible for posting agendas and minutes so that you can be informed of actions that are happening in the community. The calendar

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SEWER EMERGENCIES - Call (510) 303-2313

For sewer emergencies in Crockett or Port Costa call (510) 787-2992 during business hours or for after-hour and weekend emergencies call (510) 303-2313.



IT'S AN ELECTION YEAR

In addition to this being a Presidential election year, the District will have 3 Board seats up for election on November 5. For those interested in running for a seat, the Contra Costa Elections Division will be your point of contact for those who have ever considered running for elected office.

The **filing period is July 15 through August 9** and paperwork will be available at the Contra Costa Elections Division in Martinez. www.cocovote.gov/upcoming-elections/ The Candidates must be a U.S. Citizen, be a registered voter of the District at the time the Declaration of Candidacy is issued, and not have been convicted of a felony involving accepting or giving, or offering to give, any bribe, the embezzlement of public money, extortion or theft of public money, perjury, or conspiracy to commit any of those crimes. The term of office is 4 years.

You may call us at (510) 787-2992 for more information on running for election. Board members of the District are not paid.

Recreation & Other

Crockett Community Services District

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RECREATION NEWS

The Recreation Department has made several improvements. The community center auditorium's floors were cleaned and polished. Who thought you could get excited about a floor? The original craftsmanship is really impressive. The pool house was just remodeled with a new ADA-compliant bathroom. Bocci ball season is in full swing, and the pool is officially open. Want to hear even more exciting news? Recreation has hired a new pool manager and several lifeguards. What does this mean? We can now offer pool parties.



On a sad note, our long-time recreation manager, Ron Wilson will be retiring after 30 years of managing all things recreation in Crockett. Ron has raised over a million dollars to improve and maintain the pool, parks, tennis courts, bocce ball courts, programming, and more. Ron has been an integral part of the community for over 40 years, before Crockett became a special district. He has served passionately both as an employee and volunteer. We are sad to see him go and wish him a well-earned retirement.

FOR FOODIES

Since our last newsletter update, there are three new eateries that are excited about: Crockett Cusina (previously Judy's Place), Lucia's Craft Sandwich, and Bobby Mac's (previously Wanda's). We hope you love them as much as we do. A Crockett staple and long-time business is under new management, Club Tac. In addition to new ownership, they have expanded their interior to include live music. Crockett and Port Costa have several unique shops and eateries. We encourage everyone to visit the Crockett Chamber of Commerce to learn more about what commercial services are available in town. The Annual Crockett Sugartown Festival is underway and scheduled for July 21st from 11 am to 6 pm. We hear this may be the last year so try to make it if you can.



A happy resident is an informed resident!

www.town.crockett.ca.us

Click on the blue box at the bottom right corner.

Join our mailing list



LIGHTING & LANDSCAPE COMMISSION MEASURE L - YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK!

Last year, the community of Crockett approved ballot Measure L to fund the maintenance of public outdoor spaces and amenities. Four commissioners were appointed and have made great progress in cleaning the Bridgehead and Downtown Plaza. There is one seat open and you are invited to apply to be on the Lighting and Landscape Commission. The Commission is currently working on a maintenance plan.

Ms. Molly Batchelder is a certified arborist and instructor at Merritt College. Her students participate in a bi-annual field trip where they get hands-on experience pruning trees. The Crockett Bridgehead is their go-to for this exciting learning experience.



THE FORMER HOSSEKUS CHAPEL THE NEW HOME FOR THE SANITARY & MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENTS

CCSD purchased the Hasselkus Chapel in 2020. The property is now known as 1 Rolph Park Drive and is where our sanitary staff conducts its daily operations. The Board is coordinating an Ad Hoc committee to spearhead the next steps to get us back on track to making the building productive and open to the community. Appointments are recommended. Call (510) 787-2992.

You may have noticed the new coffee shop, Revival. What a great name right? This comfy “outdoor” coffee shop has been a great addition to the community. They are open daily from 6 am to 6 pm. Come check them out.



A COMMUNITY OF VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers have been the backbone of Crockett for decades but those numbers have gradually reduced in numbers. Measure L was created as a means to help mitigate the fewer volunteers, but it does not mean that we are short of selfless members in the community.

We wanted to bring special attention to Sochna Dice. She loves gardening and enhanced the edges of the 1 Rolph Park Drive property. CCSD has paid for the flowers, she has put in endless hours planting, watering, maintainig and beautifying the property.



NO WIPES DOWN THE PIPES

During Covid-19, you likely started disinfecting your home and business with wipes. It is crucial to remember that disposable wipes, even those marked “flushable”, should NEVER go down the drain. Flushing wipes, or anything other than toilet paper, including



paper towels and other paper products, could cause blockages to CCSD’s collection systems and treatment plant. Flushing wipes may also damage home plumbing systems creating significant costs to property owners.

GREASE GOES IN THE TRASH NOT IN DRAINS

Please dispose of grease with garbage, not down your drain. When people pour grease down a sink, it cools, solidifies, and sticks to the inside of the pipe. If that happens within your drain, you’ll need a plumber. Things get worse when grease from thousands of sinks builds up inside sewers. Those gross globs of

grease can grow until they completely clog pipes! Our crews work tirelessly to find and destroy them before they cause overflows.



DON'T FLUSH DRUGS, CHEMICALS, OR PAINT

Wastewater treatment facilities are not equipped to remove all traces of pharmaceutical chemicals or metals.

Do not pour unwanted chemicals such as ammonia or unused paint down the drain. Whatever ends up in your toilet can potentially impact the water environment, so it's important to keep household wastes such as window cleaners, paint thinners, and any products with copper or mercury out of toilets and drains and dispose of them properly. Washing of latex paint brushes etc. is

acceptable but oil based paint brushes should be cleaned with cleaning solution and disposed of properly.

Don't flush your drugs! Flushing unwanted medications down a toilet, or pouring them down the drain, is a bad idea. If you flush your drugs, a portion of those contaminants will reach local waters. Scientific studies show the chemicals in many drugs can harm aquatic life. Remember that many fish our local water shores. Proper disposal of unwanted medications helps protect your family, your community and the environment.



TOILETS ARE NOT TRASH CANS

On that note, please don't use your toilet as a trash can. While convenient, you should also never flush:

- Feminine hygiene products
- Condoms
- Dental floss
- Tissues
- Paper towels
- Drugs: prescribed or not

These and many other items can clog your sewer pipes, causing overflows, damage wastewater treatment plant equipment, and contribute to water pollution. **There are only three things that should go into the toilet:**



Pee, Poop & (toilet) Paper.

Everything else goes in a real trash can.

DISTRICT STAFF:

- Interim General Manager
- Nick Spinner - Board President
- District Secretary
- Sonia Rivas, MBA
- District Engineer
- Gaunt Murdock
- Sanitary Department Manager
- James Barnhill
- Administrative Services Manager
- Jena Goodman

RECREATION STAFF:

- Recreation Department Manager
- Ron Wilson
- Facilities Manager - Susan Witschi
- Event Supervisors:
- Dolores Morales & Ray Villegas
- Pool Manager - Alisa Maria

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CONTACT US:

Sanitary Services: (510) 787-2992
Recreation Services: (510) 787-2414
Appointments are recommended.

ELECTRONIC AND UNIVERSAL WASTE DROP OFF

The West County HHW Collection Facility has a Hazardous Waste drop-off center at 101 Pittsburg Avenue in Richmond which will accept e-Waste and dispose of common household hazardous waste that might otherwise harm the environment. Residential drop-off is available Wednesday through Saturday from 9am - 4pm (closed Noon -12:30 pm). Call 1-888-412-9277 for more information. You can also get helpful information from their website at www.recyclemore.com.

We can accept your old household batteries, compact fluorescent light bulbs (which contain mercury), barometers, thermostats, and neon lighting which are known to contain universal waste such as mercury, lead, and cadmium that are hazardous to human health and the environment. These items cannot be discarded in household trash nor disposed

of in landfills. These smaller items can be dropped off at our Sanitary District office during regular office hours.

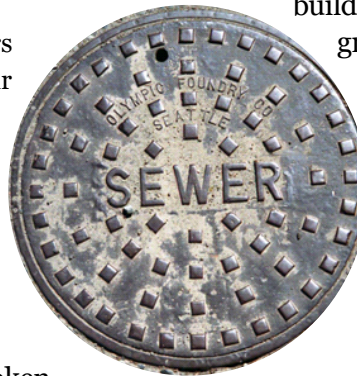
Due to changing regulations and reimbursement rates to E-Waste recyclers, it is no longer viable for the District to collect electronic waste such as televisions, VCRs, radios, and other electronic items.

Sign up for community wide drop off days on our website. www.town.crockett.ca.us



SEWER INSPECTION REQUIREMENT

The District is in the 17th year of its lateral inspection program, requiring property owners to obtain a "Certificate of Compliance" for their sanitary sewer laterals prior to the sale of their property. The program ensures that sanitary sewers are operating properly, are not leaching into the ground, and are not leaking into storm drains that flow to the Bay. It has been a very successful program; helping to reduce infiltration from patio drains, roof gutters, and from cracks in broken



building lateral sewers. Less rainwater and groundwater that enters our sewer system means lower treatment costs.

More information on this program can be found on our website at <https://www.town.crockett.ca.us/sewer-lateral-compliance-ordinance>. You or your realtor may also contact the District office to find out more information on this important requirement.

AGING SEWER SYSTEM BEING REPLACED

Did you know that Crockett has over 15 miles of underground sewer pipes? Most are clay pipe, 71% of which are more than 55 years old. Some pipes are over 100!

We are continually proactively replacing aging neighborhood sewer pipes with a goal of replacing at least 2% per year for at least the next 7 years. Over the last few months you have seen the underground construction project at Alexander Park through Pomona Street.

We are aware that these construction projects can be inconvenient and appreciate your patience and understanding while we replace pipes that reach the end of their useful lives or perform critical maintenance tasks at our pump stations and treatment plant facilities. These improvements in Crockett and Port Costa will help ensure reliable, trouble-free service for our communities for years to come. And for that we thank you.



WANT TO KNOW MORE?

We have more information to share with you but too much for this mailing.

For a copy of the entire newsletter, please visit the website at: www.town.crockett.ca.us/newsletters



For your convenience, you can pick up a printed copy at the following locations:

- Community Center
- Crockett Museum
- Crockett Library
- J&L Market
- Revival Coffee Shop

section on the District's website has links to all agendas and minutes and other items of interest for your convenience. We encourage everyone to attend our weekly meetings or at least visit the website to learn more of what is going on in the community. In fact, we welcome you to sign up for updates on the website and you choose what topic you want to be notified of. Look for the sign-up link at the bottom of the right side of the website. Cancel anytime.

The workload has been heavier than usual with multiple regulatory reports and reduced time to complete them. Our

two new staff persons are helping get things caught up and done. The Joint Use Agreement with C&H will expire in June. We have a great wastewater team working on renewal negotiations.

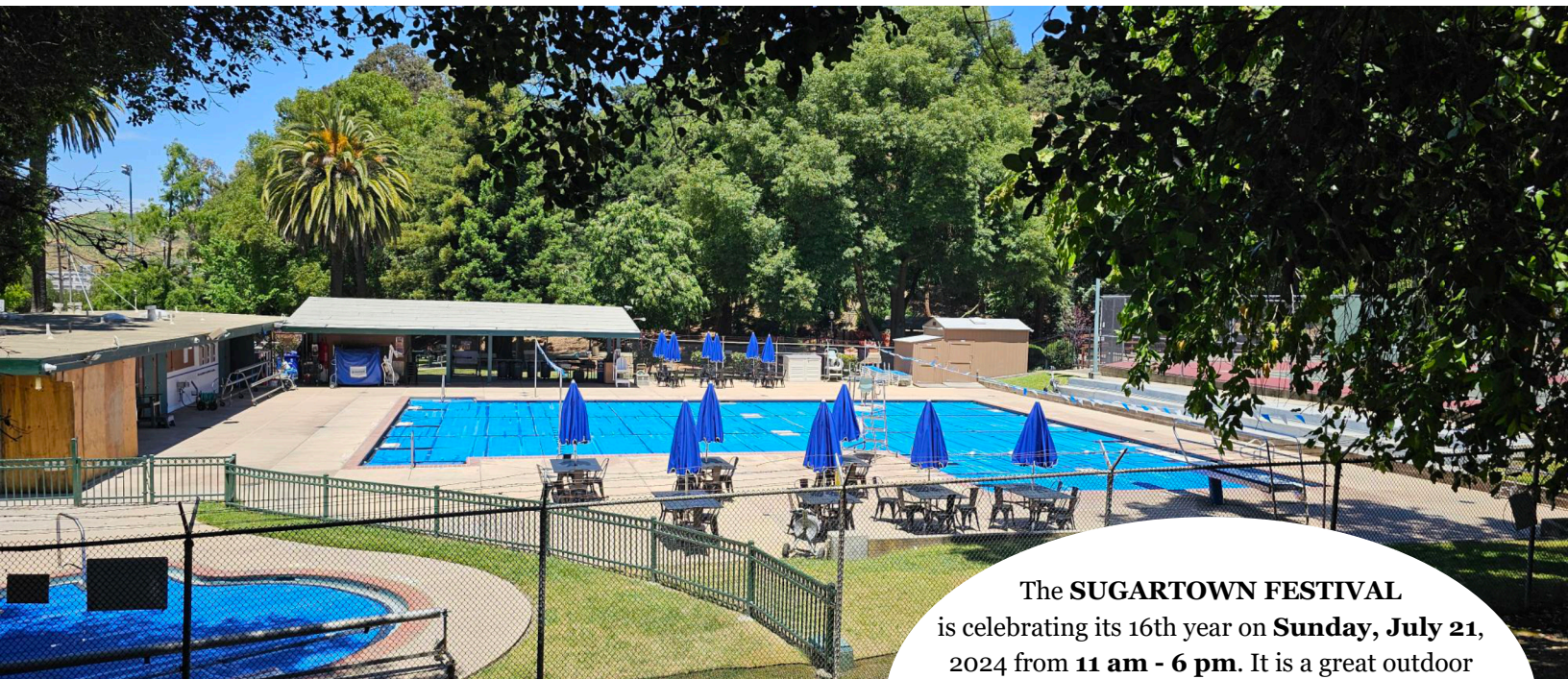
As the President and Chair of the CCSD Board, I would like to thank all of the other Board members, Commissioners, and Committee members (current and past) for their many hours of volunteer service. Without their efforts, we would just be a little part of Contra Costa County without a voice.

I encourage everyone to get actively involved with our local community. There are so many opportunities

available here to get involved. There are always more ideas to better our town than implementers to do it. Please encourage the volunteers around you who are working to make this a better community for all of us.

In closing, I would like to thank you for taking time to learn a little more about the place we call home. Again, I want to thank the District staff and all the volunteers in town for their hard work and dedication to making our district a great place to live.

Your Neighbor,
Nick Spinner



GET INVOLVED! JOIN/ATTEND A COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE / MEETING.

CCSD BOARD

4TH Wednesday @ 7 pm

COMMISSIONS

Recreation (REC)

1ST Monday @ 6 pm

Port Costa Sanitary (PCSAN)

2ND Wednesday @ 6 pm

Lighting & Landscaping (L&L)

3RD Tuesday @ 7 pm

Crockett Sanitary (CVSAN)

3RD Wednesday @ 4 pm

COMMITTEES

Police Liaison

2ND Tuesday @ 7 pm

- 3 vacancies

The **SUGARTOWN FESTIVAL** is celebrating its 16th year on **Sunday, July 21, 2024 from 11 am - 6 pm**. It is a great outdoor music festival and street fair featuring Arts and Crafts, Food, Beer, Wine and Live Music. Seating and dancing spaces are available but you are welcome to bring your lawn chairs to set up at one of the stages.

Kids Under 12 Free.

Vip Seating Is Available @ EventBrite Link Down Below

\$5.00 Pre-Sale, \$10 At the Gate

\$40 VIP Pre-Sale, \$50 VIP At The Gate

Free For Crockett And Port Costa Residents With Proof Of I.D.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sugartown-festival-street-fair-2024-tickets-890353891457/>
www.sugartownfestival.com for more info.