Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 9, 2012

SEWER SPILL

San Marcos, CA – Early this morning the Vallecitos Water District responded to a sewer overflow from a ruptured pipe that emitted approximately 25 gallons of wastewater solids into a storm drain channel that discharges into San Marcos Creek in San Marcos. At no time was service to Vallecitos customers affected.

Vallecitos staff received an alarm at 6:44 a.m. and immediately began to investigate the source. Despite the spill not being completely apparent, crews took proactive measures and laid sandbags as well as other diversion equipment to assist with containment.

Upon further investigation the spill was identified, and staff’s aggressive action resulted in complete containment by 7:05 a.m. The majority of wastewater was captured and pumped to a nearby manhole leading to the District’s Meadowlark Water Reclamation Facility.

Approximately 25 gallons that were not able to be retrieved entered a storm drain channel near 2310 South Rancho Santa Fe Road in San Marcos. The drain leads to San Marcos Creek, which eventually flows to Batiquitos Lagoon.

Vallecitos crews remained on site to pump and clean the storm drain and surrounding area. The exact cause of the pipe failure is being investigated. All necessary regulatory agencies have been notified. According to California Department of Public Health regulations, no water samples will be required due to the minimal amount of the spill.

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Vallecitos Water District is an independent, special district dedicated to providing water, wastewater and reclamation services to approximately 94,000 people in a 45-square-mile area that includes San Marcos; the community of Lake San Marcos; portions of Carlsbad, Escondido and Vista; and other surrounding unincorporated areas. The public is invited to Board meetings, taking place at 4 p.m.
the first and third Wednesday of each month at Vallecitos’ Administration, Maintenance, and Operations Facility - 201 Vallecitos de Oro, San Marcos.