Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SEWER SPILL

San Marcos, CA – This morning the Vallecitos Water District responded to a sewer overflow caused by concrete pieces found in a manhole in a vacant field located near the intersections of Grand Avenue and Linda Vista Drive – resulting in an estimated 3,450 gallons of wastewater spilled that although reaching a City storm drain channel, will be 100 percent recaptured near Las Posas Road. At no time was service to Vallecitos customers affected.

Vallecitos staff received notification at 9:16 a.m. and immediately dispatched crews to the site. After arriving at 9:30 a.m. and observing water flowing from a manhole on the property, staff went to work, identifying the source and removing debris from a clogged line.

By 10:16 a.m. the blockage had been removed and the spill stopped. Because of staff’s quick response, the spill – estimated to have released 75 gallons a minute for 46 minutes – flowed to a storm channel tributary to San Marcos Creek, but District crews’ were able to divert 100% of the spill. This prevented the spill from reaching a second storm channel on Las Posas Road, allowing for the complete recapture that is currently in progress.

The source of the concrete is still under investigation.

The District has been in close contact with the County Department of Environmental Health and all other requisite health and environmental agencies. At this time, sampling at San Marcos Creek has not been required by the regulatory authorities.

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.

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