



SEWER LATERAL “SURGE”

Under certain conditions when sewer mains in the street are being cleaned, the inability of the property owner’s sewer lateral to “breathe” may cause a back pressure in the lateral forcing water in the lateral to surge up in the toilets.

There are a variety of causes of the “surge” that include:

- Blocked Homeowner Air Vents
- Various Sewer Lateral Conditions
- Various Main Line Conditions
- Cleaning Truck Operating Pressure

A “surge” is a rare occasion and the Sanitary District has witnessed eight (8) “surge” conditions in the past 15 years. The sewer mains in the street are usually cleaned once per year.

It is possible to prevent a recurrence of a surge if the property owner insures their air vent is clear and the District knows ahead of time the property has previously experienced a “surge” condition. Please contact the District if you have ever experienced this condition.

Please address questions and comments regarding “surge” conditions to the District as follows:

Email: jrevak@cmsdca.gov

Engineering: (949) 645-8400 ext 229

Management: (949) 645-8400 ext 222