

Join the Discussion!



Sonoma
Water

The Future of Flushing: Workshop on West County Sewer Regionalization

What happens after you flush in west Sonoma County?



In four communities (Guerneville, Forestville, Graton and Occidental), sewer is treated at small wastewater treatment plants, which struggle to keep up with stringent regulations, maintain aging equipment, and avoid wastewater overflows. Runoff or leakage from old or undersized septic and other onsite wastewater treatment systems has also been identified as a contributor to Russian River water quality problems.



Could “regionalization” (combining small systems or exporting wastewater to larger, regional treatment plants) make these systems more effective and less costly for ratepayers? A stakeholder group has been providing feedback to Sonoma Water and its consultants on a study of regionalization options. The study also looked at adding clusters of unsewered west county residents to the regionalized sewer system.



Sonoma Water released the final technical feasibility study and is now working on a report that lays out a roadmap for advancing the most feasible project(s).

The stakeholder committee is holding a workshop to help frame this Project Advancement Report, focusing on options for how a regionalization project could be phased, financed, and governed.

If you are interested in the future of flushing in west Sonoma County, join the workshop!

**Wednesday,
June 17, 2026
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.**

**Monte Rio
Community Center
20488 CA-116
Monte Rio**



If you are new to the project, please plan to arrive at 2:45 p.m. for orientation and visit: sonomawater.org/westcountystudy. Snacks will be served! To help us plan both materials and food, please RSVP by emailing facilitator Sam Magill, s.magill@csus.edu