

# customer Pipeline



November • December 2019

## STORMS FLOOD SEWER PIPES

### As fall winds

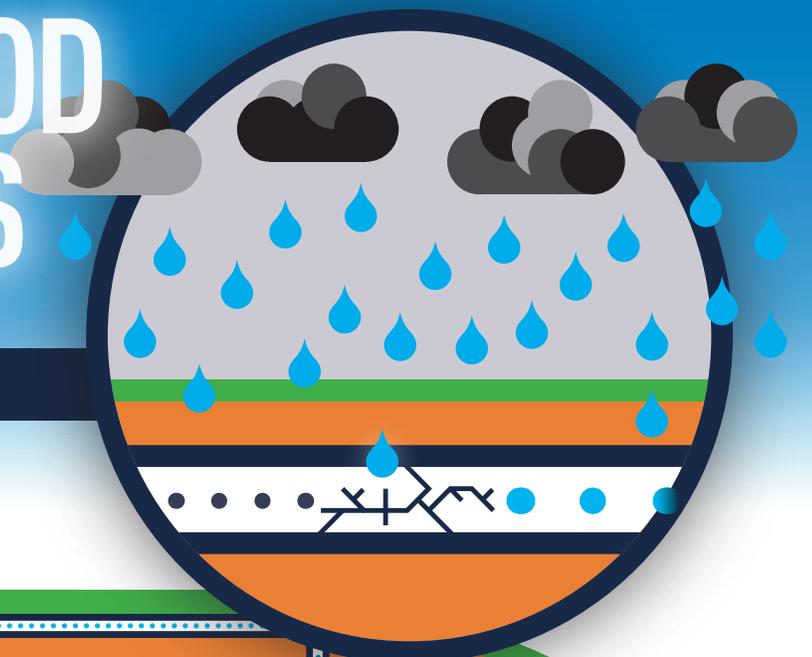
down and winter revs up, EBMUD is preparing for our wettest months of the year.

Rain or shine, 24/7, the folks at EBMUD's Main Wastewater Treatment Plant make sure that wastewater collected from communities in the East Bay is treated so it's safe to release to San Francisco Bay. During dry months, EBMUD handles about 50 million gallons of wastewater a day — removing solids and other contaminants. In rainy months, the amount of wastewater that pours into EBMUD's Main Wastewater Treatment Plant can increase to 500 million gallons per day. During heavy rains, stormwater seeps into soils and drains through paths of least resistance. It infiltrates the sewer system through cracks in private sewer laterals, which connect individual homes and businesses to public sewer lines in the street.

Operating the plant during big storms is challenging. Since every storm is different, EBMUD activates a unique and strategic response for each storm, using our wet weather facilities to manage the excess rainy day flows. Crews who operate these

facilities — sometimes in the dead of night, and always in the cold rain — must respond to changing weather conditions, as well as unexpected power outages. It's not an easy job preventing excess flows from spilling untreated sewage into the bay.

EBMUD is doing its part to protect San Francisco Bay and you can help. How? If you are a homeowner or a business, fix your cracked or broken private sewer lateral so it doesn't contribute excess flows to the sewer system. By federal and state law, property owners in the EBMUD service area are required to have their private sewer laterals inspected and certified leak-free. You can do this any time, but it's required when you sell, remodel or change water meter size. Homeowners' associations and properties within HOAs have different requirements, including a deadline to submit documentation this year. Compliance certificates are good for either seven or 20 years.



Main Wastewater Treatment Plant



### Don't Put Off an Inspection

If your private sewer lateral is leaking, it's polluting San Francisco Bay. Learn more at [eastbaypsl.com](http://eastbaypsl.com)



# MORE POWER TO YOU

## EBMUD is more than

a water agency. As stewards of our environment, EBMUD also produces renewable energy. We do it at both ends of the water cycle, from snowflake to bay. In the Sierra Nevada foothills, EBMUD's Pardee Dam Power House churns millions of gallons of water through turbines daily as we release it from Pardee Reservoir to Camanche Reservoir. Camanche Power House also generates renewable energy as we release water into the Mokelumne River. The turbines are connected to generators, which create

hundreds of thousands of megawatt hours of emission-free hydropower each year.

EBMUD also generates power from the sun. Our solar program stretches west from Camanche Reservoir to Oakland, El Sobrante, Richmond, Walnut Creek, and San Lorenzo. Each year, solar panels on our buildings, reservoirs, and watershed lands convert the sun's energy into about 2,600 megawatt hours of photovoltaic power. And we're currently working to bring another large 5-megawatt solar project in Orinda.

Along the East Bay shoreline of San Francisco Bay, sewage from El Cerrito down to Oakland and Alameda arrives at EBMUD's Main Wastewater Treatment Plant where we collect and treat it. One beneficial byproduct of the biological treatment process is biogas, which we combust to generate electricity. EBMUD was the first wastewater facility in the nation to generate more electricity than the plant needs to operate in a year. Today, our wastewater plant continues to produce more energy than the plant needs to operate.

For all our power generating facilities, EBMUD uses the power right where it's made, and sells the excess renewable energy to our partners, benefitting the environment and our ratepayers.

### Every Megawatt Helps

In the 2019 fiscal year, EBMUD sold approximately \$9.6 million in hydropower, and \$700,000 in surplus electricity from biogas.

*Above: An EBMUD electrical technician makes repairs to the circuits at Pardee Power House where EBMUD converts water into hydroelectricity.*



**EAST BAY  
MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT**

P.O. Box 24055 • Oakland, CA 94623  
1-866-403-2683  
[www.ebmud.com](http://www.ebmud.com)

### EBMUD Mission Statement

To manage the natural resources with which the District is entrusted; to provide reliable, high-quality water and wastewater services at fair and reasonable rates for the people of the East Bay; and to preserve and protect the environment for future generations.

Connect with us:



Printed on recycled paper