Water Quality Requirements

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

Water Quality Regulations

- Clean Water Act- Federal statute to addresses water pollution.
- National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit-Municipal Regional Permit (MRP)
- Basin Plan-Water Quality Objectives
 - 303 d Listing process focused investigation
 - TMDL –Total Maximum Daily Load
- Trash is addressed in the MRP and the Basin Plan >one source of the trash is Homeless Encampments
 Source Of the trash is Homeless Encampments

Water Distric

Chronic Homelessness is a trash, litter, hazardous materials and human waste challenge.

- If the MRP and the following permits goals are met;
 - 40% reduction by 2014
 - 70% reduction by 2017
 - 100% reduction by 2022
 - Then the permittees will likely have addressed the 303 d listing and probably avoided the complicated and time consuming TMDL process
 - Hazmat and human waste-
 - Hazardous materials clean up and disposal at taxpayers expense.
 - Human waste is either infiltrated, left on the banks or dumped in the creeks



Issues and Impacts to SCVWD

- Significant expenditure investigating, posting, and cleaning up homeless encampments
- Staff could be working on flood control, other pollution prevention or stream stewardship challenges rather than litter and trash removal
- Costly to coordinate employee safety training and team deployment. The SCVWD spends a significant amount of \$ on safety training and Personal Protective Equipment and site evaluations that again are dollars that could be put to better use on other stewardship issues.



Top 3 Troublesome Behaviors

- Trash and Litter-blatant disposal of trash and litter along riparian corridors-
- This is a counter productive to or "Community Based Social Marketing"-"Fostering Sustainable Behavior" (FSB) goals
- Human Waste-sanitary facilities are not nearby or if nearby the homeless population is not always welcome to use the facilities. Counter to FSB!
- Employee safety in the field! Our employees spend a significant amount of time watching out for biological hazardous in the field as well as being cognizant of the potential for human to human confrontations.



Top 3 Barriers to address the issue

- No place for Homeless population to go. shortage of housing facilities.
- Homeless trespassing- Some need housing, some need medical care. The District has limited legal authority.
 The legal avenue may not be the best avenue to deal with the chronic homeless.
- A very significant and growing population of individuals without housing.
- The application of a one size fits all solution is useless!

