



April 15, 2024

Dear Community Partner,

The Clark County Water Reclamation District (CCWRD) has become increasingly aware of incidents involving CCWRD manhole covers being tampered with or removed. We want to remind the public, businesses, and other organizations that it is illegal for anyone other than CCWRD employees, without prior written authorization from the District, to: (1) access or open a sanitary sewer manhole cover, or (2) to allow any substance to be discharged into a manhole or sewer system opening.

Tampering with sanitary sewer manhole covers is a safety hazard for a variety of reasons. People and animals can fall into open manholes, and any unintended objects or liquids which fall or flow into manholes are difficult to remove from the sewer system, cause blockages, and can be otherwise harmful to our collection system, our treatment facilities, and the environment. Moreover, gasses emitted from open manholes may be harmful or dangerous as flammable/explosive.

Properly replacing a sanitary sewer manhole cover requires expertise and an unsecured cover may create a danger to the public. Such unsecured manhole covers risk being fully dislodged by vehicles, becoming deadly projectiles, and leaving an open manhole as a hazard to pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists. Correctly removing and replacing a manhole cover requires prior training, specific procedures, and proper equipment.

Following extensive treatment, CCWRD returns reclaimed wastewater to the Las Vegas Wash where it eventually flows to Lake Mead. Anything poured down open manholes jeopardizes this water reclamation process and can pose serious risk to wastewater treatment facilities and equipment. For these reasons, stormwater must be diverted into storm drains and not through manholes connected to the sanitary sewer system, and licensed septage/liquid waste haulers are permitted to allow discharge only at a designated location at the Flamingo Water Resource Center.

If you have questions about the wastewater system, manhole cover security or how to properly dispose of septage or other wastewater, please contact CCWRD Collection System Services at 702-668-8354.

To assist in informing your staff of this issue, I have enclosed a flyer that can be distributed as you see fit. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in keeping our community's wastewater system safe and secure.

Sincerely,

-Tom

Thomas A. Minwegen, P.E.
General Manager

Enclosure

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5857 East Flamingo Road • Las Vegas, Nevada 89122 • (702) 668-8888 • (800) 782-4324
cleanwaterteam.com