Partially Treated Sewage Spill into Richardson Bay

The Town has just received the following information from the Marin County Office of Emergency Services:

Last night between the hours of 5:30 - 8:30PM, an accidental release of partially treated sewage and storm water occurred at a sewage treatment facility operated by the Sewerage Agency of Southern Marin located at 450 Sycamore Avenue, Mill Valley. The amount of waste water released is currently estimated at 2.7 millions gallons of partially waste and storm water. The accidental release occurred when a pump at the water treatment facility failed along with an alarm system designed to alert officials of the pump's failure.

The County of Marin has partially activated its Emergency Operations Center for the purpose of providing public safety information and to support and coordinate the response by local officials and monitor the response to this incident. County, State and local officials are coordinating their response to this incident. This includes officials from the Marin County Department of Public Health, Environmental Health Services and the California Department of Fish & Game.

Environmental health officials are currently conducting tests of waters near the accident site to determine the area affected by the spill and any public safety recommendations. Environmental Health Services is posting warning signs at beaches and water fronts on Richardson Bay warning people of the contamination.
Although public boating has not been effected by the spill, the Marin County Public Health Officer and the Department of Environmental Health is warning the public to avoid any physical contact with bay water or sport fishing in and around the Richardson Bay area until further notice.

The Marin County Office of Emergency Services will provide updates on the Marin Sheriff's website at:

www.marinsheriff.org

The Town is posting potentially affected areas; we will distribute another bulletin if the level of threat increases or if additional precautions become necessary.

Thank you,

Town Staff