



BAY AREA POLLUTION PREVENTION GROUP

A Committee of Bay Area Clean Water Agencies

2023

ANNUAL REPORT



Covering reporting period of 1/1/23 – 12/31/23

BAPPG Chair: Autumn Ross

Prepared by: Joe Neugebauer

BAPPG Co-Chair: Robert Wilson

Submitted to: Bay Area Clean Water Agencies

BAPPG Vice Chair: Joe Neugebauer

Date: January 23, 2024

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Bay Area Pollution Prevention Group (BAPPG), a subcommittee of Bay Area Clean Water Agencies (BACWA), is comprised of 44 Bay Area wastewater agencies that work together to coordinate pollution prevention activities and leverage resources for smaller agencies to reduce the amount of toxic pollutants discharged into the San Francisco Bay and local waterways. Wastewater agency representatives meet monthly to share information, leverage resources, and develop regional activities that help member agencies meet regulatory outreach requirements and BAPPG goals.

2023 COMMITTEE UPDATES

All files pertaining to BAPPG are being added to the BACWA BAPPG webpage (<https://bacwa.org/committees/bay-area-pollution-prevention-group/>). This includes meeting agendas, meeting minutes, reports, presentations, and information on pollutants of concern.

2023-2024 BAPPG officers were selected:

- Chair – Autumn Rosse, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
- Co-Chair – Robert Wilson, City of Santa Rosa
- Vice Chair – Joe Neugebauer, West County Wastewater

CURRENT PROJECT UPDATES

This report serves as an update to BACWA and member agencies for all BAPPG projects, by pollutant, which took place from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023.

1. COPPER
2. FATS OILS AND GREASE (FOG)
3. MERCURY AND SILVER
4. PESTICIDES
5. PHARMACEUTICALS
6. TRASH AND WIPES
7. PFAS AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS OF CONCERN (CECs)

1. POLLUTANT: COPPER

POLLUTANT DESCRIPTION

Copper pipe corrosion has been a major concern to the wastewater community for more than a decade. For many years, the messages have focused on proper installation, including the use of a water-based flushable flux. In California, there are also alternatives to copper pipe for potable and non-potable installations, such as PEX. Further, copper is a pesticide used in swimming pools and spas and incorporated into fabrics.

KEY MESSAGES

1. Select only ASTM B813 water-flushable flux rather than petroleum-based flux (which is not flushable and increases pipe corrosion rates).
2. Incorporate additional BMPs during design, reaming, cleaning, and building commissioning that will reduce pipe corrosion rate.
3. Seek mitigation options for copper products that are used in swimming pools, spas, and fountain

treatments (often drained to the sanitary sewer), as well as copper-treated fabrics that are subsequently laundered.

NEXT STEPS

Baywise.org has resources for plumbers that focus on the key messages above. The Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 2, has confirmed that the outreach materials on Baywise.org are sufficient for copper education and outreach.

2. POLLUTANT: FATS, OILS AND GREASE

POLLUTANT DESCRIPTION

FOG is a top priority due to the associated regulatory and financial impacts on member agencies.

FOG is a major problem for sewer systems, causing sewer back-ups, sewer overflows onto streets, and foul sewer odors. Because of this, cities often spend millions of dollars a year responding to grease-related sewer blockages and infrastructure improvements.

KEY MESSAGES

Don't pour grease down the drain – collect and recycle used cooking oil

MATERIALS (downloadable “FOG Checklist”)

During 2022, SGA developed a custom downloadable FOG checklist for residents to print and use as a reminder to properly dispose of FOG (shown at right). It continues to be available on Baywise.org under the “FOG Checklist” button and is featured on the FOG landing page (<https://baywise.org/residential/fog/>).

The list includes reminders for lesser-known FOGs such as dairy products like cheese and butter, shortening, meat fats, sauces, dressings, gravies, and icing.

KNOW YOUR FOGs
FATS · OILS · GREASES

Fats, oils, and greases, or FOGs, should never be drained in the sink because they can solidify and cause sewer backups into houses or streets, bringing with them health risks.

Did you know that FOGs include more than just cooking grease and frying oils? These are some of the less known FOGs that also need to be disposed of properly:

- Dairy Products (such as cheese and butter)
- Shortening
- Meat Fats (including bacon grease)
- Sauces, dressings, and gravies
- Icing

Make sure to dispose of these foods properly, by simply putting them in your compost or trash bin instead of garbage disposal.

Or place them in a sealable container and discard them with your other garbage.

Dispose of FOGs properly to avoid costly pipe replacement and a greasy, smelly mess of pollutants entering your house or community!

Learn more tips about proper FOG disposal at BayWise.org/Residential/FOG

BACWA
BAY AREA
CLEAN WATER
AGENCIES

MATERIALS (Campaign landing page)

BAYWISE.ORG ABOUT RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS CONTACT FIND RECYCLING CENTER

FAT, GREASE AND OIL

What to do with your fats, oils, and grease from cooking?
Check out our free FOG tip guide and learn how you can maintain your sink clog-free!

[Download Here](#)

RESIDENTIAL ARTICLES

- Around Your Home
- In Your Home
- Your Toilet
- Your Garden
- Your Car

Never pour fats, oils, or grease into your sink, even if you have a garbage disposal.

Baywise.org continued to offer Google translation plugin. The website is **available in 13 languages**, including the most popular languages like Spanish, Chinese (both Simplified & Traditional), and Vietnamese.

NEXT STEPS

Staff from member agencies and the BAPPG outreach consultant will continue to monitor and update Baywise.org with relevant information. BAPPG will evaluate whether a FOG campaign is needed in 2024.

3. POLLUTANT: MERCURY AND SILVER

POLLUTANT DESCRIPTION

Outreach regarding best management practices for dental amalgam and silver fixer waste is essential to ensure member agencies continue to meet regulatory standards and prevent pollution of receiving waters.

KEY MESSAGES

1. Dental amalgam and silver fixer wastes are hazardous and shall not be disposed in dental office sinks.
2. Incorporate BMPs for dental amalgam, silver fixer, and other hazardous wastes within a dental office.
3. The mandated use of BMPs and amalgam separators has significantly decreased the mercury loads into the sewer.
4. As of July 2017, the USEPA is mandating the installation of amalgam separators and the use of several key BMPs that were originally developed and piloted in the Bay Area.
5. Provide support for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs and legislation that limits

or bans the sale of products that contain toxic pollutants when safer and effective alternatives are available.

Project	Description	Timeline	Budget
Dental Assistant / Hygienist Outreach	Stephanie Hughes served as a guest speaker in dental assistant / hygienist classes in local colleges throughout the Bay Area. The lecture was offered as either an online Zoom format or in-person.	Calendar Year 2023	\$3,500

Results
Reached 170 students and instructors at the following in-person site visits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Jose City College (2 visits) • Foothill College, Los Altos • Santa Rosa Junior College • City College of San Francisco • College of Marin, Novato

NEXT STEPS

Continue to provide a guest speaker to local colleges. The instructors have come to rely on these annual visits and have incorporated BAPPG’s program into their instructional calendar. Further, this is a relevant audience for other messages, such as wipes and pharmaceutical waste.

4. POLLUTANT: PESTICIDES

POLLUTANT DESCRIPTION

Indoor and outdoor application of pesticides can result in chemical runoff into the sewer systems and, due to low pollutant removal efficiencies at treatment plants, can lead to aquatic ecosystem degradation, as well as potential biosolids and water reuse management concerns.

KEY MESSAGES

1. Promote integrated pest management and less-toxic products as alternatives to pesticides.
2. Seek alternatives to fipronil and imidacloprid and other topical (collar and spot-on) pet treatments (conducted alternative analysis, completed talking points for veterinarians and messages for general public).
3. Work with pesticide regulators to improve their ability to address down-the-drain pathways to wastewater treatment plants during pesticide registration, support their monitoring efforts, and implement mitigation when needed.

Project	Description	Timeline	Budget
OWOW	Our Water Our World (OWOW) is a state-wide outreach program that promotes the use of less-toxic pest control methods and products in the home and garden through local retailers.	Calendar Year 2023	\$10,000

Results

Annual Program Implementation July 2022 – June 2023

Retail Partnerships

- Maintained strong corporate partnership with Home Depot's corporate office to facilitate statewide Home Depot participation.
- Successful collaboration with Outdoor Supply Hardware (OSH) led to bringing 11 of the 14 OSH stores into the OWOW program.
- Continued program implementation with Ace Hardware as well as independent garden centers.
- As of August 2023, 282 retail stores and garden centers participate in the OWOW program throughout California.
- Continued our seasonal e-Newsletter during Spring and Fall for retail staff to learn about current pest problems and eco-friendly solutions.

Retail Trainings

- 162 retail training conducted with 1,034 retail staff trained.

Direct to Consumer Outreach

- 168 public outreach events
- Approximately 15,000 people attended these outreach events (in person and virtually)
- 2,154 QR code scans from our QR code poster outreach product.

Trade Show Participation

- OWOW representatives attended the following trade shows to meet vendors and suppliers to learn about new products entering the California marketplace:
 - BFG Marketplace Expo, Reno, NV
 - Northern California Home & Landscape Expo, Sacramento, CA
 - NorCal Landscape trade Show, San Mateo, CA

Program Development

- Four factsheets (Ants, Yellowjackets, Fleas, and Pesticides and Water Quality) were updated for technical accuracy and translated to Spanish (completed December 2023).
- A Universal Product List Excel Spreadsheet was developed to provide enhanced user functionality for IPM Advocates and store management to sort products by pest, product name, brand, and active ingredient.

Future Considerations

- Continue with four factsheet updates to maintain technical accuracy and complete Spanish translations.
- Enhance Universal Product List for user functionality based on user feedback.

- To bring consistency to the OWOW program’s implementation, the *Implementing an IPM Partnership: A How-To Manual*, dated March 2000, will be revised to describe current practices and responsibilities for OWOW subscribing agencies, IPM Advocates, and participating retailers. The primary goal of the Implementation and Guidance Handbook is to describe the core elements of local implementation, establish an annual reporting schedule, and provide consistency in retailer trainings, materials, displays, and communication.
- To operate at a statewide scale, and in a sustainable manner, certain aspects of the existing OWOW program must be formalized and expanded. In 2022, CASQA began developing an outline for an IPM Advocate Training Program. As part of this initiative, CASQA intends to work with and potentially partner with the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR). CASQA will coordinate workgroups comprised of OWOW Subscribers, current IPM Advocates, and training experts to develop a framework for the IPM Advocate Training Program.

Project	Description	Timeline	Budget
Flea & Tick Outreach to Veterinarians and the Community	Evaluate flea products with regards to pathways to sewers. Develop and communicate recommendations for pet owners and veterinarians to reduce impact to sewers. Conduct trainings to veterinary students and professional associations.	Calendar Year 2023	\$14,000

Results

Veterinary Professionals

- As of January 2023, BACWA has been approved to provide 1.0 Continuing Education credits for both Veterinarians and Vet Techs for completing our course, “The Links Between Consumer Flea and Tick Control and Aquatic Toxicity.” BACWA has one approved instructor, Stephanie Hughes. All approvals are via the Registry of Approved Continuing Education Standards for Approved Providers of Continuing Veterinary Medical Education. The approvals are valid for all 50 states. In 2023, a presentation was provided to Pets In Need, a Peninsula animal shelter, and one of the staff members requested the certificate.
- Continued communications with the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Committee on Environmental Issues.
 - Prepared an abstract and was invited to speak to the AVMA’s national conference in Austin, Texas, in June 2024 (due to the ongoing communication).
 - Answered questions from the AVMA Committee on Environmental Issues about fate and transport of active ingredients indoors.
- Collaborated with the Veterinary Information Network (VIN)
 - Continued coordination on a (now possibly international) veterinarian survey to gauge knowledge of pesticide ecosystem impacts as well as their messages and recommendations to clients.
 - Sought VIN’s platform as the outlet for the veterinary survey (expected February 2024).
 - Was invited to be the speaker for a one-hour VIN presentation in February 2024 (due to the CE accreditation and the communication with and education of the VIN survey staff)

Project	Description	Timeline	Budget
Regulatory Tracking and Communications	<p>The BAPPG Pesticides Workgroup addresses pesticide pollution by engaging in pesticide registration reviews by both the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR). These registration review process includes opportunities for public comment. Typical annual activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● tracking and prioritizing USEPA and DPR re-registration reviews ● educating staff from DPR and USEPA about local pesticide pollution data and concerns; ● engaging in scientific and management conversations with USEPA and DPR regarding new scientific evidence linking pet flea control treatments and fipronil and imidacloprid in wastewater effluent; and ● submitting comment letters during the pesticide re-registration process through BACWA 	Calendar Year 2023	\$64,000

Results

- Coordinated with BAPPG to update the list of highest priorities pesticides for BACWA’s attention. Created an updated pesticide watch list for tracking purposes.
- Tracked pesticide-related regulatory activities by USEPA and DPR and new scientific information that have significant potential to affect BACWA member agencies. Notified BAPPG of such items as they arose. Provided a “crystal ball” near-term priorities tracking summary, updated monthly or bimonthly.
- On the basis of regulatory documents, relevant scientific information, and the regulatory context, made recommendations regarding regulatory participation or other follow-up steps on multiple USEPA and DPR actions.
- Convened a Zoom meeting with USEPA Office of Pesticide Programs leadership from their headquarters in Washington, D.C., to describe the need to include indoor uses in ecological risk assessments and the linkages between urban uses and endangered species.
- Met with DPR technical staff to obtain updates regarding their scientific studies and modeling updates.
- Provided significant feedback to DPR regarding their public draft of their Sustainable Pest Management Roadmap to ensure that urban uses obtain sufficient support.
- Continued communications with USEPA Region 9 to seek their support in communicating to USEPA headquarters the need to include indoor uses in ecological risk assessments.

Results

- Submitted comment letters to the USEPA which explained the pesticide transport route to the sanitary sewer and related scientific studies for priority pesticides:¹
 - submitted two letters regarding two priority pesticides with indoor uses and pathways to the sewer: etofenprox and cyantraniliprole;
 - submitted two letters regarding the importance of incorporating the pesticide transport route to the sanitary sewer when assessing impacts to downstream endangered species;
 - submitted one letter describing our concerns with the proposal to change the regulatory jurisdiction of all on-pet pesticides from USEPA to FDA.
- Coordinated and provided scientific support for communications with USEPA and DPR about wastewater pesticides discharges, wastewater pesticides monitoring, and improving wastewater pesticides predictive modeling to support registration decisions. Continued semi-annual informal information-sharing teleconference meetings between BACWA's pesticide workgroup and DPR's wastewater experts.
- Evaluated outcomes of BACWA input to USEPA and DPR and briefed BAPPG/BACWA pesticides leads on these outcomes to assess effectiveness of BACWA's work.
- Developed an agenda and materials for a monthly BACWA Pesticides Workgroup teleconference meeting to determine appropriate actions and to coordinate actions with the National Association of Clean Water Agencies and the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Board staff. Provided staff support during the meetings and an action item list after each meeting.
- Submitted a successful request to Santa Clara County during development of the County's Product Stewardship Plan for Unwanted Medicine from Households to request a greater emphasis on collection of pet medicines (including pet pesticides) from veterinary offices and other pet-specific locations.

In November 2023, the Regional Water Board presented the 2023 Dr. Teng-Chung Wu Pollution Prevention Award to the BAPPG Pesticides Subcommittee for its outreach and advocacy activities to reduce pesticides in stormwater and municipal wastewater. Dr. Kelly Moran, Stephanie Hughes, and Tammy Qualls accepted the award on behalf of the subcommittee (shown at right). More information is available in the press release from the [Regional Water Board](#) and in the presentation slides prepared by Regional Water Board staff ([link](#)).



¹ The BACWA USEPA pesticide comment letters can be found at bacwa.org/document-category/comment-letters/

NEXT STEPS

The BACWA Pesticides Workgroup will continue its collaboration with the AVMA Committee on Environmental Issues, VIN, and seek to release the veterinary survey.

To enhance and expand community outreach, the BAPPG consultants will present to BAPPG members the results of the pilot outreach efforts (Santa Clara library presentation, outreach to a county medical association and municipal pet shelter). The expectation is that such pilot efforts will encourage and support additional community outreach actions throughout the BAPPG membership.

With regards to regulatory issues, the workgroup will continue to track and comment on the USEPA and DPR re-registration process. In addition, the group will continue to seek opportunities to engage with USEPA and DPR staff and to support DPR at a legislative level as they seek to obtain additional funding for sustainable pest management in urban areas.

5. POLLUTANT: PHARMACEUTICALS

POLLUTANT DESCRIPTION

Pharmaceuticals can enter waterways through improper disposal into wastewater streams (e.g., flushing pharmaceuticals down the toilet). Pharmaceuticals can have endocrine-disrupting properties, and unintended exposure to pharmaceuticals by aquatic life and humans can lead to adverse health effects. Outreach surrounding safe disposal of pharmaceuticals is essential to ensure member agencies meet regulatory standards and prevent pollution of receiving waters. There is potential to combine water quality messaging with broader messaging surrounding health and safety to target wider audiences while still ensuring that safe disposal is the key takeaway.

KEY MESSAGES

1. No Drugs Down the Drain
2. Don't Rush to Flush – Meds in the Bin, We All Win!
3. Prevent Accidental Poisoning, Drug Abuse, and Water Pollution by disposing medicines properly

Project	Description	Timeline	Budget
Dental Assistant / Hygienist Outreach	Insights about proper pharmaceutical disposal included as part of dental waste discussion.	Calendar Year 2023	N/A*

**Included above with mercury and silver*

Results

Reached 170 dental trainees and instructors (per Mercury section).

Project	Description	Timeline	Budget
Don't Flush Tissues and Meds	From September 18 to October 15, 2023, SGA conducted a digital ad campaign aimed at educating Bay Area residents about the environmental impact of flushing facial tissues and medications.	September 18 –	\$8,000

	<p>In anticipation of the upcoming cold/flu season, the campaign aimed to promote the proper disposal of these items by sending the traffic to the existing Your Toilet page, where they can learn about the medication disposal locations.</p>	<p>October 15, 2023</p>	
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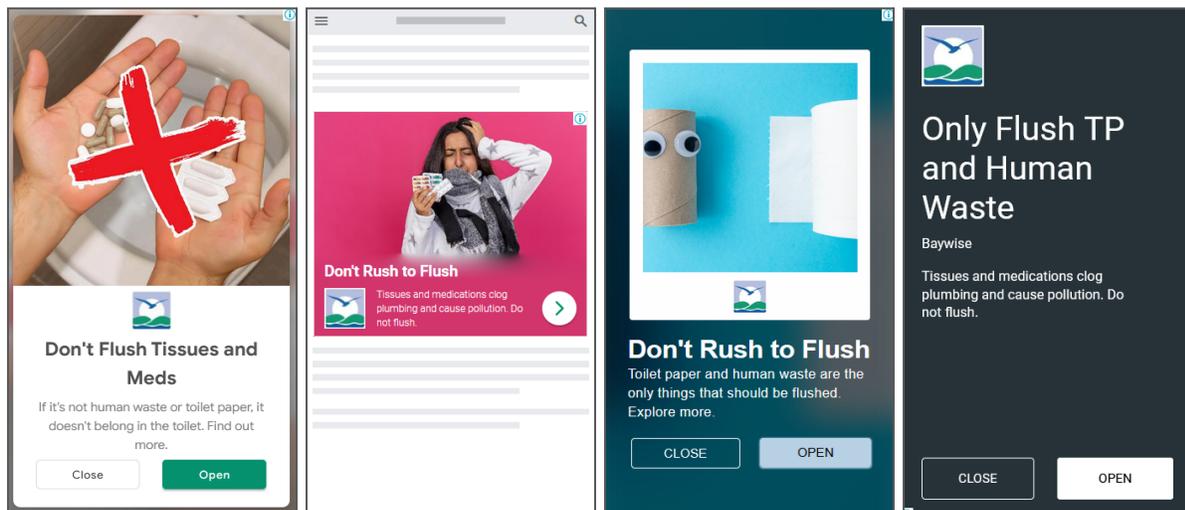
Results

Google Ads:

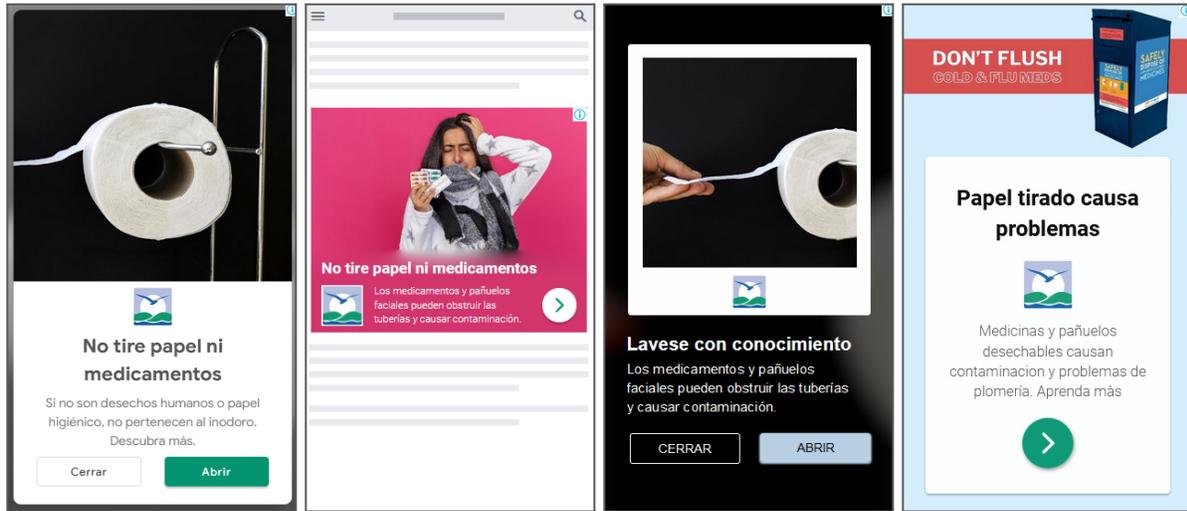
- Impressions = 2,139,658
- Total Clicks = 20,458
- Average Cost Per Click = \$0.17
- Clicks by County (Google Display Ads & YouTube Ads only)
 - San Francisco = 9,714
 - Santa Clara County = 4,836
 - Alameda County = 2,444
 - Contra Costa County = 1,217
 - San Mateo County = 1,045
 - Solano County = 463
 - Sonoma County = 406
 - Marin County = 183
 - Napa County = 128

MATERIALS (Google Ads Assets)

English Ads



Spanish Ads



NEXT STEPS

Continue to include discussions about proper disposal of pharmaceutical wastes in the outreach to dental trainees and instructors. Continue to coordinate with the pesticides subcommittee regarding disposal of pet medicines.

6. POLLUTANT: TRASH AND WIPES

POLLUTANT DESCRIPTION

Trash is a top priority due to the improper disposal of non-woven wipes and other non-flushable trash items such as hair, ear swabs and all products claiming to be biodegradable or flushable. Most consumer wipes products (labeled flushable or not) take much more time to disperse in water than toilet paper, which has caused issues for many Bay Area wastewater systems, including damage to pumping station equipment, grinders and other infrastructure, stoppages, and sanitary sewer overflows. Wipes and other non-dispersibles are also a safety issue for pump station employees that have suffered needle sticks from “deragging” pumps clogged with wipes.

KEY MESSAGES

1. Wipes Clog Pipes!
2. Toilets Aren't Trashcans

Project	Description	Timeline	Budget
Dental Assistant / Hygienist Outreach	As part of the dental waste discussion, speaker includes insights about microbeads and “flushable” wipes. This audience is very receptive to all BAPPG messages. More than 95% female, they are typically the primary purchaser for their families and as medical professionals, they are concerned about health and water quality.	Calendar Year 2023	N/A*

*Included above with mercury and silver

Results

Reached 170 dental trainees and instructors (same audience reached as “Mercury” results above).

Project	Description	Timeline	Budget
Don't Flush Wipes	<p>The purpose of the campaign was to educate Bay Area residents about the environmental repercussions of flushing so-called “flushable” wipes and the proper disposal of them.</p> <p>SGA revamped the Your Toilet page with engaging custom illustrations and bite-size content to enhance visitor experience. The page aims to educate consumers on the primary issue of "flushable" wipes, emphasizing their non-flushable nature right from the beginning. Additionally, it educates users about the three acceptable items for toilet flushing: Pee, Poo, and (Toilet) Paper, also known as the 3 Ps.</p> <p>SGA also conducted Google Responsive Display and YouTube ad campaigns in English and Spanish to drive traffic to the newly revamped campaign landing page.</p>	April 17, - May 14, 2023	\$8,000

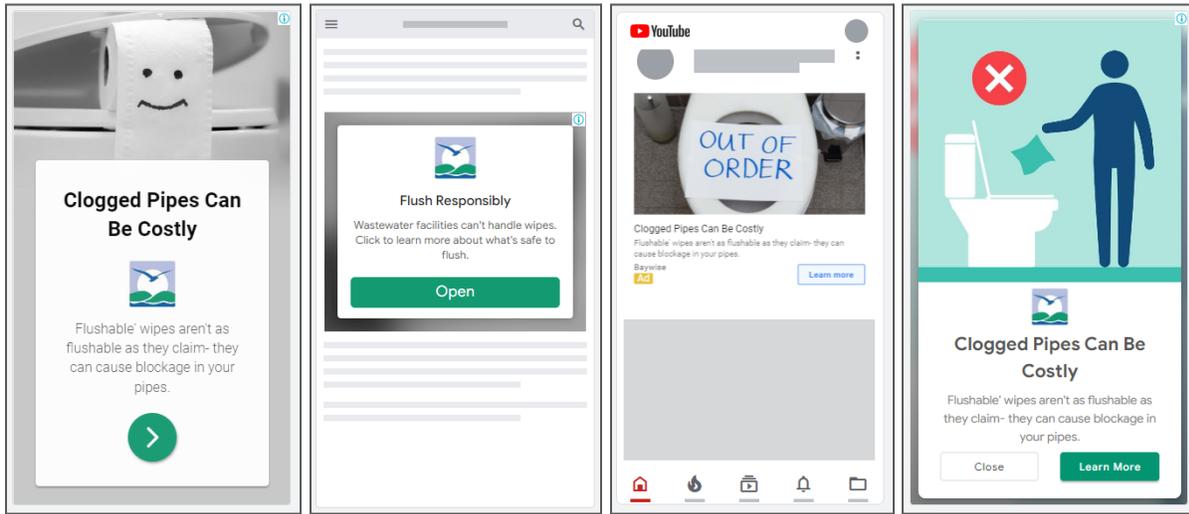
Results

Google Ads:

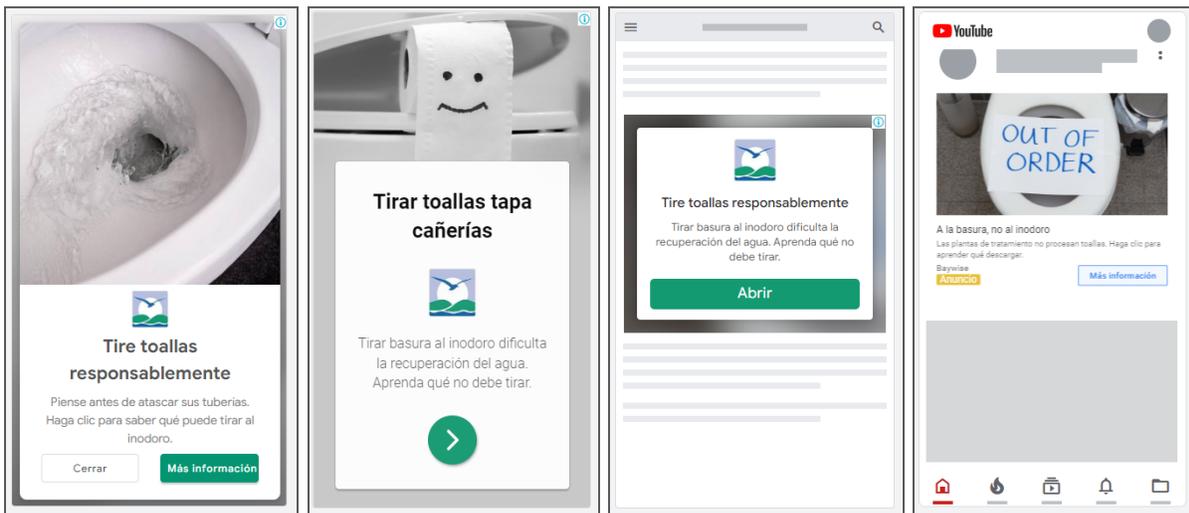
- Impressions = 1,134,003
- Total Clicks = 12,966
- Average Cost Per Click = \$0.11
- Clicks by County
 - San Francisco = 5,081
 - Santa Clara County = 4,961
 - Alameda County = 1,224
 - Contra Costa County = 519
 - San Mateo County = 365
 - Sonoma County = 148
 - Solano County = 557
 - Marin County = 48
 - Napa County = 56

MATERIALS (Google Responsive Display Ads assets)

English Ads



Spanish Ads



MATERIALS (Campaign landing page)

The screenshot shows the BAYWISE.ORG website. The header includes the logo and navigation links: ABOUT, RESIDENTIAL, BUSINESS, CONTACT, and FIND RECYCLING CENTER. The main content area is titled "YOUR TOILET" and features a large illustration of a toilet with a green checkmark and a red X, indicating what can and cannot be flushed. Below this, there is a section titled "Toilets Aren't Trash Cans!" with text explaining that "flushable" wipes are not flushable and can cause backups or overflows at wastewater treatment facilities. A "One Simple Guideline: The Three P's" section lists Poop, Pee, and Toilet Paper as the only items that can be safely flushed. A "Unwanted Medicine Disposal" section provides resources for safe disposal of medications. A sidebar on the right lists "RESIDENTIAL ARTICLES" including "Your Toilet", "Your Garden", "Your Car", "Out and About", "Ten Easy Tips", "Your Pool, Spa & Fountain", "Pest Control", "En Su Hogar", "Your Pets", and "Fat, Grease and Oil".

BAYWISE.ORG ABOUT RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS CONTACT FIND RECYCLING CENTER

YOUR TOILET

Toilets Aren't Trash Cans!

Did you know that so-called "flushable" wipes aren't flushable at all? Branding often likes to suggest otherwise, with claims like "breaks down like toilet paper" or "plumber certified" displayed prominently on the packaging. The truth is, "flushable" wipes clog sewers just like any other trash, causing backups or overflows at wastewater treatment facilities.

If you use disposable cleaning/disinfecting wipes, moist towelettes, baby wipes, personal hygiene wipes or similar disposable or "flushable" products, put them in the trash. **NEVER flush them down the toilet.** But if so-called flushable material isn't flushable, how can anyone possibly know what is?

One Simple Guideline: The Three P's

If you ever find yourself uncertain as to whether or not an item can be safely flushed, just remember the **Three P's**: Poop, Pee, and Toilet Paper!

Our waste management systems are constructed with a very narrow purpose in mind: that these three things can be processed and disposed of efficiently. Anything that can't break down in liquid, including common bathroom items like wipes, dental floss, or Q-tips, should never go into your toilet. Although it is easy to flush and forget, putting in unintended substances and objects causes **blockage, damage, and pollution** over time - to both public infrastructure and your own home!

Unwanted Medicine Disposal

Medications - whether they're pills or liquids - that you flush down your toilet or pour down the drains pollute waterways, including the San Francisco Bay. Rather than flushing or throwing out your medicine, here are some resources for safe disposal locations! For locations to safely dispose of medications, [visit our Medication Disposal Locations Page](#) or the [US Drug Administration's Disposal Location Finder](#).

For the latest news from CAS4 on wipes and waste disposal legislation check out the California Association of Sanitation Agency's [Wipes Clog Pipes webpage](#).

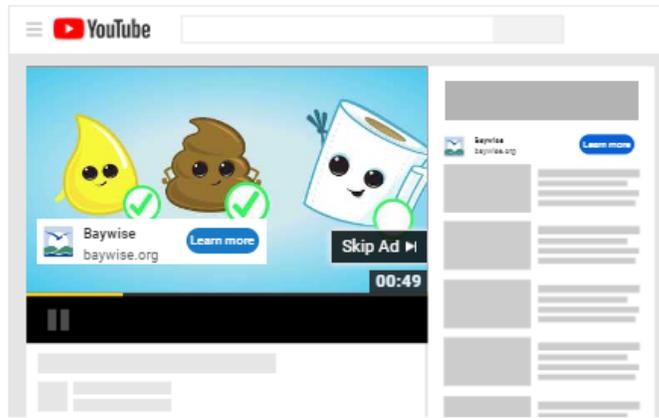
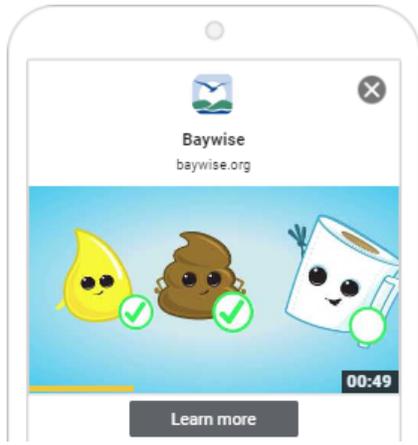
RESIDENTIAL ARTICLES

- Around Your Home
- In Your Home
- Your Toilet
- Your Garden
- Your Car
- Out and About
- Ten Easy Tips
- Your Pool, Spa & Fountain
- Pest Control
- En Su Hogar
- Your Pets
- Fat, Grease and Oil

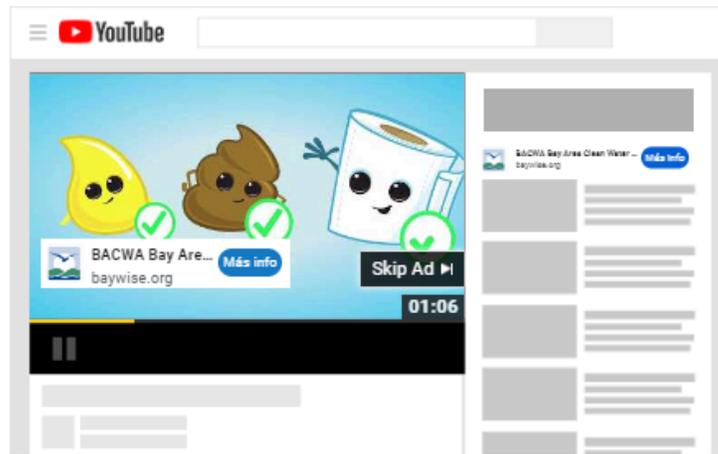
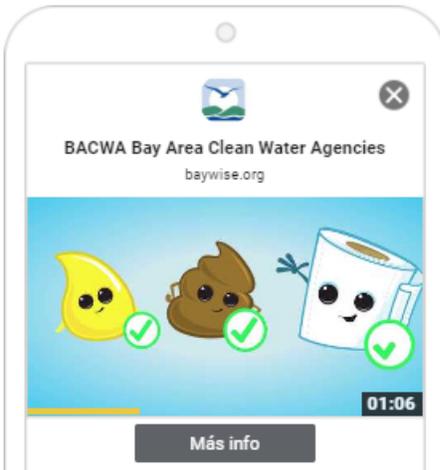
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MATERIALS (Youtube Ads assets)

English Ads



Spanish Ads



Project	Description	Timeline	Budget
NSAC	The National Stewardship Action Council (NSAC) is a network of local governments, non-government organizations, businesses and consumers who advocate that producers fairly share responsibility to achieve an equitable, circular economy.	Calendar Year 2023	\$10,000

Results

- National “WIPPEES” Act
 - Based on California’s AB 818 (Bloom), which was co-sponsored by NSAC, the bicameral, bipartisan introduction of SB 1350: Wastewater Infrastructure Pollution Prevention and Environmental Safety (WIPPEES) Act (2023) by Congressman Merkley (D-OR) and Congresswoman Collins (R-ME) on April 27, 2023, and HR 2964: WIPPEES Act by Congresswoman McClain (R-MI) and Congresswoman Peltola (D-AK) on April 27, 2023. HR 2964 is currently in the Committee on Energy and Commerce.
 - Requires the Federal Trade Commission to issue regulations requiring covered entities to label covered products clearly and conspicuously with “Do Not Flush” label notices & symbols. BAPPG signed onto a coalition support letter for HR 2964 that was submitted to the Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce on September 27, 2023.
 - On December 6, 2023, The Committee on Energy and Commerce favorably reported out the WIPPEES Act. The committee approved the amendment in the nature of the substitute (ANS) by voice vote and reported out the amended bill on a vote of 42-0. The reporting out of the bill allows the legislation to move to the House floor for a debate and vote.
- Collaboration with the Responsible Flushing Alliance (RFA)
 - RFA is an independent, nonprofit trade association committed to educating consumers about responsible and smart flushing habits, to reduce damage to our nation’s sewage systems, formed in response to AB 818's Consumer Education and Outreach Program requirements. AB 818 requires covered entities to “participate in a collection study conducted in collaboration with wastewater agencies for the purpose of gaining understanding of consumer behavior regarding the flushing of premoistened nonwoven disposable wipes and to conduct a comprehensive multimedia education and outreach program in the state.” The Outreach Program will continue until January 1, 2027.
 - Collaboration with RFA and NSAC included promotion of Flush Smart Day, a nationwide observance established in California, thanks to a proclamation by AB 818 Author Assemblymember Bloom in 2022, to recognize every July 1st as an opportunity to educate the public on what not to flush. NSAC also spoke at RFA’s

second virtual Annual Meeting on March 7, 2023, which was attended by wipes manufacturers, wastewater and sanitation agencies, consumers, and the media.

- Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act
 - NSAC was one of the key negotiators for the passage of SB54 (Sen. Ben Allen) requiring EPR for packaging with real source reduction and refill targets and \$5 billion for cleaning up California of plastic pollution. This bill will single handedly do more to reduce plastic packaging litter than any other bill ever passed. In fact, SB54 ensures that by 2025, if polystyrene does not have 25% recycling rate, it can no longer be sold in CA. There is no chance that polystyrene can hit that target when it is at 4% now.

NEXT STEPS

BAPPG will continue to include messages about trash and wipes when meeting with medical, hospice, and dental professionals and trainees. BAPPG will also distribute collateral during professional presentations and regional outreach events. BAPPG will also continue to support the NSAC as they continue to look for opportunities to initiate and support legislation regarding extended producer responsibility for products containing pollutants that affect wastewater and stormwater quality.

7. POLLUTANT: PFAS & OTHER CONTAMINANTS OF CONCERN (CECs)

POLLUTANT DESCRIPTION

PFAS, including PFOS and PFOA, are a class of thousands of different compounds that are persistent, toxic, and bioaccumulative with multiple adverse effects on human health and the environment. People are exposed to them via household products such as food packaging, textiles, cosmetics, and personal care products. Results from a special study conducted by BACWA and the San Francisco Estuary Institute indicate PFAS concentrations in wastewater treatment plant influent, effluent, and biosolids. The final report was completed in December 2023 and found that PFAS in wastewater can be traced back primarily to residential sources, with limited additional inputs from commercial and industrial sources.

KEY MESSAGES

1. Support legislation banning and/or restricting the use of PFAS substances in household products.
2. Support legislation addressing other emerging contaminants of concern.

Project	Description	Timeline	Budget
Regulatory Tracking & Communication	The National Stewardship Action Council (NSAC) advocated for several Assembly bills regarding the manufacturing or sale of products containing PFAS in the State of California and microfiber filtration for washing machines.	Calendar Year 2023	N/A*

**Included above with trash and wipes*

Results

- AB 246 (Bloom): PFAS in Menstrual Products
 - Commencing January 1, 2025, prohibits any person from manufacturing, distributing, selling, or offering for sale in the state any menstrual products that contain regulated PFAS, and requires a manufacturer to use the least toxic alternative when removing regulated PFAS in menstrual products to comply with the provisions.
 - BAPPG sent a letter of support with assistance from NSAC.
 - The bill was vetoed by the Governor on October 8, 2023 due to lack of regulatory oversight.
- AB 727 (Weber): PFAS in Cleaning Products
 - Commencing January 1, 2025, would prohibit a person from manufacturing, selling, delivering, distributing, holding, or offering for sale in the state a cleaning product that contains regulated PFAS, as specified.
 - The bill was vetoed by the Governor on October 8, 2023, due to lack of regulatory oversight.
- AB 1423 (Weber): PFAS in Artificial Turf
 - Commencing January 1, 2026, would prohibit a person or entity from manufacturing, distributing selling, or offer for sale in the state any covered surface that contains regulated PFAS. This bill would also prohibit a public entity including a city, county, school or private institution of higher learning or a public or private school serving pupils in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12 from purchasing or installing a covered surface containing regulated PFAS.
 - The bill was vetoed by the Governor on October 8, 2023, due to lack of regulatory oversight.
- AB 1628 (McKinnor): Microfiber Filtration
 - This bill would require, on and after January 1, 2029, all new washing machines sold for residential, commercial, and state use in California contain a microfiber filtration system with an unspecified filtration rate or an unspecified mesh size. The bill would also include legislative findings and declarations.
 - The bill was vetoed by the Governor on October 8, 2023, due to concerns over increased costs to consumers in advance of further research being completed by the State Water Board assessing the potential impacts of microplastic pollution to aquatic ecosystems as well as humans through exposure in drinking water.

NEXT STEPS

BAPPG will continue to support the NSAC as they look for opportunities to initiate and support legislation regarding extended producer responsibility for products containing pollutants that affect wastewater and stormwater quality. In 2024, NSAC will be working to introduce a bill requiring marine flare extended producer responsibility (EPR) in an effort to limit boaters discarding marine flares that contain perchlorate into waterways. There are currently no collection opportunities due to the explosive nature of marine flares. NSAC is also working to introduce a household hazardous waste EPR bill to ensure all household hazardous waste includes lifecycle costs in the product price and has a safe and convenient disposal plan that does not burden local governments with the costs. NSAC is also working with Environmental Working Group and others to strengthen the enforcement provisions that the Governor referenced in his veto messages regarding the PFAS bills in 2023. NSAC is also drafting a support letter for SB 903, which would be a much broader ban on the use of PFAS in a wide range of consumer products.

BAPPG will also continue to partner with BACWA, the San Francisco Estuary Institute, the Water Board, and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control to identify consumer products with PFAS that have a potential nexus to wastewater, stormwater, and surface waters like San Francisco Bay.