

CITY OF SANTA ROSA

P.O. Box 1678
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

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WHAT IS SANTA ROSA LOSING?

DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Santa Rosa does not know it but each ratepayer is writing a check for sewer charges every 001 month, and the city is then floating that money right down the river to the sea.

Why? Because the city is saddled with an irrigation system that uses the **wrong method** and the **wrong crop!**

Right now the city's archaic sprinkler system is used to give away water so farmers can grow crops. What do they grow - Hay! Not only is hay one of the least productive crops, it is one of the least valuable. And the system doesn't work in the winter!

Redwood trees are the most productive and valuable plant crop grown on Earth. One acre planted with 200 trees will grow up in 60 years to produce **10 MILLION** board feet of timber! At the current market value of \$1/bd.ft. for second growth redwood that's **\$10 MILLION DOLLARS!**

The technology has existed for 20 years to grow redwoods using sub-surface emitters which avoid the need for advanced treatment or disinfection, use all the nitrates in the water, irrigate every month of the year (including the winter wet season) at a rate much higher than the current Santa Rosa system, and do so at a fraction of the cost.

Santa Rosa currently has 6,000 acres under sprinkler irrigation. All the city needs to achieve year around **ZERO DISCHARGE** is 100-200 acres of Redwoods. This would absorb the excess beyond their current permit in the first few years, and as the trees grew eventually no water would be left to dump in the river.

A 200 acre forest planted at 200 trees/acre would produce at the end of 60 years a minimum of **2 BILLION** board feet of timber worth a minimum of **\$2 BILLION** dollars.

This does not even consider the fact that these trees would grow much faster than indicated above because of the stimulus that irrigation and fertilization with the city's wastewater would provide.

Each year that the consultants have delayed this solution has cost the citizens of Santa Rosa **\$30 MILLION** dollars in lost assets. Now you can see why private investors like Louisiana-Pacific are crazy enough to tie up capital in tree farms that take 70 years to mature. The profits are astronomical and well worth the wait.

Talk to your representatives in government. Over the last 10 years the consultants have cost you **\$300 MILLION** dollars over and above the mere **\$12 MILLION** you paid them.

You have taken a bath, and the only thing that got cleaned was your wallet!

