

Community Focus Statement C: Improve public safety, health and welfare within the community.

C3

Action Statement C.3: Advocate for improved water quality and sewage infrastructure throughout the community, resulting in less groundwater pollution and water quality issues within local waterways.

Benchmark: Improved water quality and sewage infrastructure.

Champion: Volunteer group or person or can be identified by the community

Estimated Cost: variable depending on projects proposed



Underground setup of septic system.
Photo source: [Redstarpublishings](http://www.redstarpublishings.com)

Mentone can advocate with the County of San Bernardino, the City of Redlands, and other municipal water/ wastewater agencies for improved water and sewage infrastructure throughout the community. To facilitate meaningful collaboration and communication, Mentone community members should identify specific infrastructure issues and document resulting pollution or water quality issues. Advocates for improved water quality in Mentone could schedule regular meetings with stakeholders to create innovative solutions for infrastructure issues.

Since septic tanks and leach field systems are used in most of Mentone, educational materials about septic system maintenance could be distributed to the community. Improperly designed, located, constructed, or maintained septic systems can leak bacteria, viruses, household chemicals, and other contaminants into the groundwater, causing pollution. Older septic tanks are more susceptible to leaks or other issues; however, with

regular maintenance, septic systems can operate properly for decades.

Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Hold a meeting to establish a task force to advocate for improved water quality in Mentone.	Champion	Month 1	City of Redlands Municipal Utilities and Engineering http://www.cityofredlands.org/MUED/water
2. Select a leader of the task force.	Mentone water quality task force	Month 1	
3. Schedule regular meetings with the County, the City of Redlands, and other municipal water/ wastewater agencies to discuss water quality and infrastructure issues in Mentone.	Mentone water quality task force	Annually	San Bernardino Special Districts Department http://specialdistricts.org/index.aspx?page=66
4. Develop and innovate water quality solutions in coordination with local jurisdictions.	Mentone water quality task force	Annually	