

[The City of Newport Public Works](#)

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**MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release**

DATE: June 5 2018

SUBJECT: Dust abatement program for unpaved streets

Contact person:

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The City of Newport Public Works Department will be conducting dust abatement application on Wednesday June 13th and Thursday June 14th on Newport's unpaved streets. The material being applied is lignosulfonate, a naturally occurring polymer found in wood that acts like glue. It is non-corrosive and non-toxic, easily washed off with soap and water if needed.

Lignosulfonate works by binding the road surface particles together. Water evaporates from the lignin as it dries, and the dust particles are trapped by the high-viscosity, naturally sticky material. In addition, over time the lignin becomes completely insoluble due to solar heating.

Extensive studies have been conducted to evaluate the effects of lignosulfonates on the environment. Results show that they are not harmful to plants, animals or aquatic life when properly manufactured and applied. Lignosulfonates have been used as a treatment for dirt roads in Europe and the United States since the 1920's.

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