

State Declares End to Drought, Proposes New Water Restrictions

In April, Governor Brown rescinded the statewide drought-related state of emergency, and on the same day released a framework aimed to permanently mandate water conservation. Legislation has been drafted in support of the governor's proposal. This proposed legislation calls for new regulations that would restrict water use and assign new statutory authority to the State Water Resources Control Board. This would give broad authority to the State Board to create regulations that currently require a legislative majority approval.



Historic rainfall this winter replenished reservoirs across the state

Among the many changes proposed by the state, several will likely have a direct and/or indirect impact on the cost of water and how customers are able to use it. If passed, proposed regulations would dictate how much water an agency is allowed to sell its customers, regardless of local supply conditions, and permanently ban certain practices such as washing down driveways and sidewalks.

A significant change is a proposed water use target that agencies would be required to meet. OMWD would be assigned an allotted amount of water it would be allowed to sell its customers. The water use target would be based on efficiency standards, irrespective of supply. Water suppliers would be assigned a water budget that is based on a combination of water allowed for indoor and outdoor water use. Indoor use is proposed to be limited to 55 gallons per person per day, which is approximately 2 units per person each month. The outdoor allotment considers landscape area, and the calculation would give newer developments just over half of the water needed to maintain a lawn, with approximately 2.5 units per month for each 1,000 square feet.

Continued on page 2

Consumer Confidence Report Now Available

State and federal law require that we share our water quality data with you every year in a detailed Consumer Confidence Report. OMWD is proud to share this information with our customers as we continually meet or exceed all state and federal water quality standards for your drinking water. OMWD posts our Consumer Confidence Report online at www.olivenhain.com/CCR. Please call 760-632-4213 or stop by our offices located at 1966 Olivenhain Road, Encinitas, 92024 to obtain a copy.





Municipal Water District

1966 Olivenhain Road
Encinitas, CA 92024
760-753-6466

www.olivenhain.com



Published by Olivenhain Municipal Water District in the interest of an informed public.

Board of Directors

Lawrence A. Watt, President
Christy Guerin, Vice President
Edmund K. Sprague, Treasurer
Gerald E. Varty, Secretary
Robert F. Topolovac, Director

GENERAL MANAGER

Kimberly A. Thorner, Esq.

GENERAL COUNSEL

Alfred Smith, Esq.

BOARD MEETING DATES

Please visit our website at www.olivenhain.com for dates.

MISSION STATEMENT

Olivenhain Municipal Water District is a multi-functioning public agency that is dedicated and committed to serving present and future customers in a service-oriented manner by:

Water

Providing safe, reliable, high-quality drinking water while exceeding all regulatory requirements in a cost-effective and environmentally responsive manner.

Recycled Water

Providing recycled water and wastewater treatment in the most cost-effective and environmentally responsive method.

Parks

Safely operating the Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve and providing all users with a unique recreational, educational, and environmental experience.

Emergency Management

Complying with policies and procedures that adhere to local, state, and federal guidelines for national security and disaster preparedness.

Sustainable Operations

Pursuing alternative and/or renewable resources with the most sustainable, efficient, and cost-effective approach.

Continued from page 1

Though the water use target will be assigned to water suppliers such as OMWD, each customer will likely be affected by the actions implemented to achieve that target. Water suppliers would be required to report monthly consumption and enforcement data, and would be subjected to fines if the targets are not met. The proposed regulations would likely result in an increase in operating costs for OMWD, while restricting the amount of water OMWD would be allowed to provide its customers.

In addition to restrictions on residential water use, efficiency standard benchmarks would be assigned for commercial, industrial, and institutional customers. Properties over a specified size threshold would be required to install a dedicated irrigation meter, or implement an equivalent technology. Accounts over a specified size, volume, or percentage threshold would be required to conduct water use audits or prepare water management plans.

OMWD encourages policy makers to account for local supply conditions and its ratepayers' investments in supply development. Likewise, OMWD is committed to maintaining local control over local issues including the development of water use regulations when necessary. With intent to protect ratepayers' investments in recycled water and ensure the future development of this drought-resilient supply, OMWD co-sponsored Assembly Bill 869, which calls for the exemption of recycled water from the proposed mandated reductions in use. Recycled water is already heavily restricted, monitored for efficient use, and is equivalent to other water-efficiency measures because it is the ultimate form of conservation, using the same drop of water, over and over again, after extensive treatment. If agencies are mandated to use less recycled water than is currently being utilized, our recycling capacity may go unused while greater quantities of treated wastewater are sent to the ocean. AB 869 seeks to avoid wasting recycled water, stranding past investments in recycled water, and hindering the expansion of future projects that will reduce demand for expensive, potable water.

Much of the proposed regulations will require a majority vote from legislators. You can make your voice heard by contacting your local and state representatives and informing them on how you wish to be represented.



Recycled water irrigates school playgrounds and community parks, maintaining our quality of life, even in drought conditions.



Recognition and Honors



OMWD staff, consultants, and contractors accepted an APWA Honor Award for OMWD's Village Park Recycled Water Project

The American Public Works Association's San Diego and Imperial Counties Chapter has recognized OMWD's Rancho Santa Fe Farms Road Realignment Project and Village Park Recycled Water Project with Honor Awards for public works projects completed in 2016.

To complete the realignment project, and improve road safety conditions, OMWD coordinated with other public agencies, a developer, and residents to devise a plan to relocate an existing low-pressure water line while maintaining domestic and fire protection water service to all customers in the surrounding area. With the completion of the recycled water project, which included

a storage tank conversion, a pump station, and seven miles of pipeline, OMWD can now serve up to 114 million gallons of recycled water annually to Encinitas customers for outdoor irrigation rather than utilizing expensive, imported potable water.

July 13: Behind-the-Scenes Tour of OMWD Operations

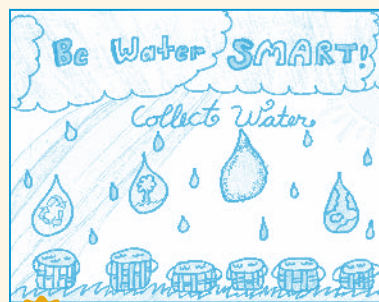
OMWD invites customers to enjoy a free tour of our facilities on July 13, including stops at David C. McCollom Water Treatment Plant, 4S Ranch Water Reclamation Facility, and Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve. Learn how water is treated before delivery to your home, how wastewater is recycled for irrigation purposes, and the many benefits of our 784-acre reserve. For more details or to register, please visit www.olivenhain.com/tour.



OMWD's David C. McCollom Water Treatment Plant

Fourth Graders Recognized for Water Smart Art

Young students are some of our greatest ambassadors for promoting efficient water use, at their homes and in the community. Our annual poster contest allows fourth graders living or attending schools in our service area to submit posters recognizing the importance of water in their everyday lives.



1st Catherine Schmidt



2nd Emma Reyes Moreno

OMWD would like to congratulate winners of this year's "Be Water Smart" Fourth Grade Poster Contest. Catherine Schmidt from Santa Fe Christian Schools took home first place honors, Emma Reyes Moreno from Stone Creek Elementary School and Maya Laffler from El Camino Creek Elementary School were awarded second and third place, respectively. Winners received prizes, and their posters will be featured in a 2018 Water Awareness Calendar, in OMWD publications, and on magnets on OMWD vehicles.



3rd Maya Laffler

Summer is Here!

OMWD would like to remind customers of important programs and information that can be helpful to customers during this time of year.



Free Water Use Evaluations

Water use tends to increase as the weather heats up, especially outdoors as plants require more water during longer, warmer days of summer. Be sure to speak with your landscape contractor about the amount of water

used to keep your landscape healthy. OMWD encourages customers to utilize our free water use evaluation service to answer your questions on programming your irrigation timer, using your water meter to check for leaks, or making your landscape water-smart. Through this service, a certified landscape evaluator will visit your property to meet with you and/or your landscaper, provide suggestions and guidance on how to improve water use efficiency, and develop an irrigation schedule specifically for your landscape. Visit www.olivenhain.com/evaluation for more information.

Moving Over the Summer?

If you are planning a summer move, please contact us at least three days prior to moving out of your property in order to close your account. Call 760-753-6466 or complete an online form at www.olivenhain.com/stop-service-form.

Updated Contact Information

Is your contact information up to date so we can reach you in the event of an emergency, or if your meter read shows a large spike in water usage which may indicate a leak? Please call 760-753-6466 so we can update our records.



Free Residential Recycled Water



OMWD customers can take advantage of free recycled water for landscape irrigation by visiting our recycled water fill station located at Campania Avenue & Camino San Thomas in the 4S Ranch area of San Diego. The fill station is currently open

Wednesday and Friday from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., excluding holidays.

Recycled water is wastewater that has undergone purification and disinfection processes to meet strict water quality standards. There is no limit to the number of visits you can make once issued a user card, and customers may transport up to 300 gallons of recycled water per visit. Find out more information at www.olivenhain.com/fillstation.