



OMWD's Efforts to Fight a New Tax on Water Are Successful

Earlier this year, Governor Gavin Newsom released a draft state budget that called for a new tax on drinking water to fund water quality projects statewide. While OMWD agrees with the state having a goal to assist disadvantaged communities that do not have access to safe drinking water, it strongly opposes adding a new fee or tax to

each water bill. OMWD actively engaged legislators and provided testimony at hearings to offer alternatives to a new tax on water. OMWD is pleased to report that, on June 13, this year's state budget was approved without a water tax. At this time, funding for safe drinking water programs within disadvantaged communities will come largely from the state general fund.



California's Water Supply in Good Shape, but Local Water Supply Development Continues

California has received above-average precipitation throughout the majority of the state this rainy season. The water or hydrologic year starts on October 1 and ends September 30. Since October, San Diego's Lindbergh Field received 12.82 inches of rain, 126 percent of average as of July 22. The Sierra Nevada region received 202 percent of its average snowfall.

The Sierra Nevada acts as an integral component in the state's natural water infrastructure. Snow accumulated during the winter and spring slowly melts and flows to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The Delta is a major component of the State Water Project, which transports water to Southern California.

This successful water year has left the state's reservoirs in good shape for warm summer months. Most reservoirs are above their average historic capacity, and some are nearing their total capacity.

Even with favorable water supply conditions, OMWD encourages efficient water use. In addition to promoting water conservation, OMWD continues to reduce demand for potable water within our service area by expanding our recycled water system. OMWD also continues to study the feasibility of brackish groundwater desalination in the San Dieguito Valley. A test well was installed in April, and a 12-month pump test is underway. Find out more about the project at www.olivenhain.com/groundwater.

FREE Water Use Evaluation

In hot, summer months, irrigation needs can double compared to winter months. Most of a typical customer's water use goes toward irrigation, and increased irrigation times can result in larger than expected water bills. OMWD offers a free water use evaluation service to answer questions on monitoring monthly water usage, programming your irrigation timer, using your water meter to check for leaks, or making your landscape water-smart. For more information visit www.olivenhain.com/evaluation.



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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.

Carlsbad Resident Wins WaterSmart Landscape Contest



Congratulations to Melanie Buck, this year's winner of OMWD's WaterSmart Landscape Contest. Ms. Buck's Carlsbad home was originally landscaped with large grassy areas and pine trees. She began incorporating succulents into her yard over several years, and recently completed a total landscape redesign with beauty and water efficiency in mind.

Her stunning new landscape requires less than half of the water required by the original design and features welcoming entertainment areas. In addition to reduced water bills, Ms. Buck also enjoys reduced maintenance costs. Her home truly demonstrates the beauty of water-efficient landscapes with its vibrant colors and variety of textures.

The WaterSmart Landscape Contest is held annually by water agencies throughout San Diego County to showcase attractive, water-efficient landscapes.



Photos of the award-winning landscape, as well as other winning landscapes from throughout the county, are available at www.landscapecontest.com.



Are You Frustrated with Your High-Maintenance, Water-Thirsty Lawn?

TURF REPLACEMENT PROGRAM Offers Cash for Landscape Transformation

OMWD customers are encouraged to consider transforming their turf-heavy yards into water-efficient landscapes through the Turf Replacement Program. Program participants receive \$2.00 per square foot of eligible turf removed.

This program is available for both residential and commercial customers. Applicants must apply for and receive approval prior to starting their project. Program criteria include a landscape plan, an efficient irrigation system, rainwater capture, mulch, and a minimum number of plants. This rebate program does not allow for the use of synthetic turf and is available on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are exhausted. Learn more about the program, including application procedures, at www.socalwatersmart.com.



Before



After





The Government Finance Officers Association honored OMWD with its Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for our 2018-2019 budget. This marks the **eighteenth consecutive year** OMWD has achieved this award.

In order to receive this recognition, OMWD's budget document was required to meet the highest principles of governmental transparency and budgeting that satisfied nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. GFOA determined that OMWD's budget document effectively serves as a financial plan, a policy document, an operations guide, and a communications device.

As part of OMWD's commitment to transparency, the budget document is accessible to the public online at www.olivenhain.com/budget.

OMWD's Recycled Water Pipelines Named "Project of the Year"

American Public Works Association's San Diego and Imperial Counties Chapter recognized OMWD's Avenida La Posta Recycled Water Project as a 2019 "Project of the Year." The award celebrated OMWD's engineering and project management efforts. The project consisted of the installation of over 600 feet of recycled water pipeline in a high-traffic area among critical electrical, gas, and fuel infrastructure.



OMWD collaborated with Diegueño Middle School, San Dieguito Union High School District, Flora Vista Elementary School, Encinitas Union School District, and the Villanitas homeowner association to expand recycled water service in a cost-effective manner.

Pollution Prevention Week: September 16-22

You can help prevent water pollution by making these five simple lifestyle changes.

Take your car to the carwash.

Washing your car at home results in contaminated water flowing untreated into a nearby storm drain or waterway. Carwashes capture the polluted water to be recycled or sent to a wastewater treatment plant.



Stop over-irrigation.

Runoff from over-irrigation and misaligned sprinklers carries chemicals such as pesticides and fertilizers into storm drains. Reducing irrigation run times and properly aligning sprinkler heads also makes your landscape more water-efficient!

Clean up after your pet.

Not only does pet waste carry harmful bacteria and parasites, it reduces water quality by lowering oxygen levels and releasing nutrients that can lead to algal blooms.



Sweep hard surfaces rather than hosing them down.

Using a broom and dustpan instead of a hose protects our water quality and saves water!

Keep slopes vegetated to avoid erosion.

Plant roots help anchor the soil, keeping it where it belongs and not in our storm drains and waterways.



The Buzz on Bees – Safely and Humanely

Bees play a key role in our ecosystem. Pollinating insects like bees are responsible for the production of about one-third of the world's food crops – and they perform this service free-of-charge! Can you imagine the time and cost of hand-pollinating all of those crops?

Occasionally, bees make their hive inside a customer's water meter box. **If you have bees in your meter box, please call OMWD at 760-753-6466.** Meter boxes are attractive to bees because they offer a cool, dark environment protected from the elements. However, their presence in meter boxes can be hazardous to residents and utility workers.

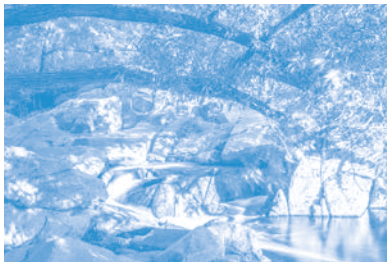
OMWD is doing our part to be environmentally responsible by contracting with local live bee removal businesses. After being safely removed from the meter box, the bees are relocated to a more appropriate location where they can thrive and continue to benefit the ecosystem.



Fourteenth Annual Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve Photo Contest: September 2 Deadline

The deadline is quickly approaching for amateur photographers of all ages to submit entries in our Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve's photo contest. Entries must feature the reserve as their subject, or be taken within the reserve from any trail.

Visit www.olivenhain.com/photo for official contest rules and to upload your entries. Winners are eligible for prizes donated by Jake's Del Mar, San Diego Zoo Global, PC Photo and Imaging, REI, and the Escondido Creek Conservancy.



"Secret Falls"
Lance Hanekamp
Winner – Scenic View



"Just Around the Corner"
Daniel Tomczak
Winner – Animals



"Water. Fall."
William Arboleda
2018 Best in Show

Irrigate Your Landscape for Free This Summer!

Free recycled water is available to OMWD residential customers at our residential recycled water fill station located in 4S Ranch. The fill station is now open to help customers irrigate during San Diego's warm season. After completing a brief user application, customers may fill up to 300 gallons per visit, with no limit on the number of visits. Recycled water is highly treated and is suitable for non-potable applications, such as landscape irrigation.

Go to www.olivenhain.com/fillstation for more information.

