

Bond Refinancing Will Save OMWD Property Owners Millions

At its July 24 meeting, OMWD's board of directors authorized the refinancing of its Reassessment District 96-1 bonds. These bonds financed the Olivenhain Water Storage Project, which provides customers an emergency water supply in the event of an unexpected shortage due to a major earthquake or other event. The bonds are to be repaid through property taxes on the 23,299 land parcels within the project area. The board's decision will reduce repayment costs for



OMWD property owners by about \$2.8 million until the bonds reach maturity in late 2027.

OMWD distributed a bid request in June to refinance the bonds. After receiving seven bids, OMWD selected JP Morgan, who had the lowest offered interest rate of 2.09 percent. Property owners within OMWD's service area will see the reduction on future property tax bills as line item "ASSMT DIST 96-1."

Emergency Preparedness: *Do you have water in your emergency kit?*

October is National Fire Prevention Month and is a good time to revisit your emergency response planning. In addition to protecting your home or business, protect your family from a fire, flood, earthquake, or another emergency by planning to evacuate early and packing an emergency supply kit. According to American Red Cross, kits should include a three-day supply of water (one gallon per person per day), a three-day supply of food for each person and pet, first aid kit, medications, important documents, and contact numbers.

OMWD has taken several measures to ensure emergency preparedness. Reservoirs are full of drinking water, and backup generators are on standby to continue water deliveries even if power supplies are interrupted. OMWD connects to the

regional Emergency Storage Project, a system of reservoirs, pump stations, and pipelines that can provide continued water availability should San Diego County imported water supplies be interrupted. In the event of an emergency impacting water service, please call 760-753-6466 or visit www.olivenhain.com for updates.



OMWD Recognized as "District of Distinction" for Sixth Time and Awarded Transparency Certificate of Excellence

Special District Leadership Foundation recognized OMWD for a sixth consecutive "District of Distinction" biennial accreditation in September. This accreditation recognizes sound fiscal management in district operations.

SDLF, a non-profit organization formed to promote good governance, conducts an independent audit review of the last three years of OMWD's operations to ensure prudent fiscal practices. In order to receive the

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

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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.

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recognition, OMWD met transparency requirements including posting to www.olivenhain.com election procedure and deadlines, board meeting schedules and agendas, budget, financial audits, and compensation data of board members and staff. Further, OMWD's board of directors and executive staff received training in public governance, ethics, and harassment prevention.

In addition to the District of Distinction accreditation, OMWD received SDF's District Transparency Certificate of Excellence in recognition of our efforts to promote transparency and good governance. This is the fourth time OMWD received the biennial transparency certification. OMWD demonstrated outreach best practices that engage and inform the public in our governance and operations, as directed by our board.



**October 8:
Basics of Backyard Composting and
Vermicomposting Workshop**

Save water and money by composting! Composting is the controlled natural decomposition of organic material, such as leaves, grass clippings, prunings, and fruit and vegetable scraps. Composting saves you water and money by improving soil health, increasing its capacity to hold water, and reducing the need to irrigate. It also reduces the need to purchase commercial fertilizers and soil amendments.

Learn the basics of backyard composting and vermicomposting (composting with worms) at our free two-hour workshop at Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve on **October 8, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** Instructors from the Solana Center for Environmental Innovation will share all you need to know to get started with a plan that fits your needs and lifestyle. Go to www.olivenhain.com/events for more information and to register.



Every Drop Counts

Free Containers Available to Begin Using Recycled Water on Your Yard



OMWD RESIDENTIAL
RECYCLED WATER
FILL STATION

Free recycled water is available to OMWD residential customers at our recycled water fill station in 4S Ranch. The fill station is open to help customers irrigate during San Diego's warm season, and free five-gallon containers are available to transport recycled water from the station to your yard.



After completing a brief user application, customers may fill up to 300 gallons per visit, with no limit on the number of visits. **This year, customers with a valid fill station user card may assign a designee (such as a landscaper) to obtain a user card and collect recycled water to be used solely at the customer's property.**

Recycled water is highly treated and is suitable for non-potable applications such as landscape irrigation. Learn more at www.olivenhain.com/fillstation.

Washing Machines Are a Sustainable Source of Water for Outdoor Irrigation



Graywater is water that comes from washing machines, bathroom sinks, and bathtubs (not water used to flush toilets). There are many ways to start using graywater on your landscape, including a simple, do-it-yourself project that enables water from your washing machine to flow onto your landscape rather than into a drain. One of the most common home graywater systems, "laundry-to-landscape," does not require a permit and can save the average family up to 1,000 gallons of water monthly.

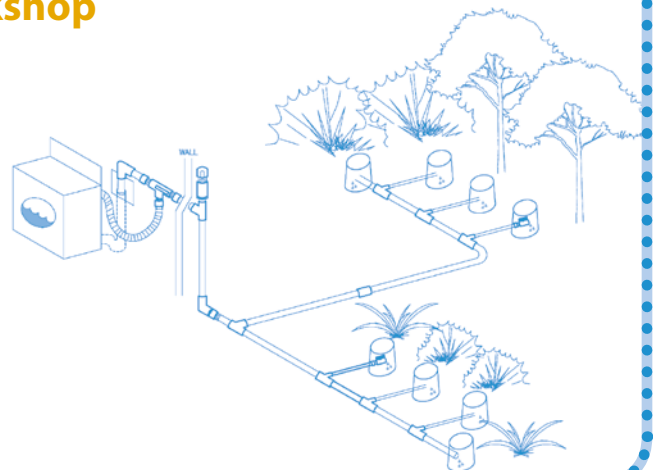
There are other advantages to installing a graywater system beyond reducing water use. As long as biodegradable, plant-friendly detergents are used to launder clothes, graywater from washing machines can contain phosphorus and nitrogen that

nourish your plants. Installing a graywater system also allows you to water your yard even when drought restrictions are in place.

October 22: Graywater Demystified Workshop

Learn more about the benefits of graywater and how to design a laundry-to-landscape system on **October 22, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**, at the Encinitas Community Center. This hands-on workshop will teach participants how to use their washing machine to irrigate with a low-cost, easy, and permit-free method of graywater reuse.

By the end of the day, participants will be able to design and install a laundry-to-landscape system with confidence. Visit www.olivenhain.com/events to register.



October 10:

Public Tour - Your Water System at Work

What does it take to turn water from the Colorado River into the water that comes out of your tap?

Or turn wastewater into recycled water that is used for irrigation?

See these processes yourself on our next public tour. OMWD offers public tours for customers interested in a behind-the-scenes look at our daily operations. Visit www.olivenhain.com/events for more information and to register for our **October 10** tour.



November 3:

Fall Back, Change Your Clocks and Your Timers

Daylight Saving Time ends on November 3. While you are changing the clocks in your home, don't forget to adjust your irrigation timer as well. Shorter days and cooler temperatures mean your landscape doesn't need as much water as it did during the summer.

OMWD offers a free water use evaluation to assist customers in determining optimal irrigation methods for plant health. A certified landscape auditor and architect will provide you with a custom list of ways to improve water use efficiency, answer questions, and develop an irrigation schedule specifically for your landscape. Visit www.olivenhain.com/evaluation to learn more and schedule an evaluation.

In addition to changing the irrigation schedule, now is also a good time to replace the backup battery in your controller. Without a fully charged backup battery in place, irrigation timers can reset to their factory settings during a loss of power, often causing an unexpected increase in water use.

