

Maintaining a Safe, Reliable, and Affordable Water Supply During a Pandemic

COVID-19 has continued to impact communities worldwide, but our essential staff has kept working hard to make sure you still get safe and reliable water at the turn of the tap.

SAFETY - OMWD's excellent water quality remains constant. You can be sure that the water you drink and use to wash your hands meets all state and federal drinking water standards.



Barrier filtration technology at our David C. McCollom Water Treatment Plant utilizes specialized membranes to serve as a physical barrier against viruses, bacteria, and other contaminants. Even in the unlikely scenario where pathogens, such as a virus, make it through the filtration process, they are disinfected when safe levels of sodium hypochlorite (chlorine) are added.

RELIABILITY - The water out of your tap flows as a result of the efforts of many highly skilled and trained individuals who have undertaken significant measures to ensure they remain healthy and able to do their job. Actions include daily health screenings, proper sanitation procedures, and social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19. OMWD has implemented telecommuting and staggered/modified shifts to

minimize exposure if an outbreak were to occur.

AFFORDABILITY - OMWD understands that some customers may be experiencing financial hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic that may cause a delay in paying your bill. Visit www.olivenhain.com/need-help-paying-your-bill for information and resources.



WaterSmart Landscape: Where Lifestyle and Water Efficiency Meet

Congratulations to this year's WaterSmart Landscape Contest winner, Laura Lisauskas! Lisauskas' colorful landscape features a variety of native and low-water-use plants. After purchasing the home, she decided to remove the existing grass and replace it with a functional landscape that serves many purposes, including creating habitat for pollinators and local wildlife, providing fruit for her family, and enhancing the beauty of the neighborhood.

Inspired by the diversity of San Diego County's ecosystems, her design divided the garden into multiple interest points and color schemes to highlight different plant collections and break up any monotony for those passing by. Lisauskas constructed the attractive, dry-stacked retaining wall herself — a real labor of love. The landscape utilizes drip irrigation and onsite rainwater collection, further reducing outdoor water use.



Landscape BEFORE



Landscape AFTER

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interest of an informed public.

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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 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.

Save More Green When Removing Your Grass!

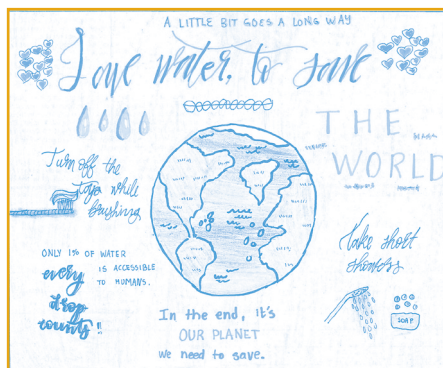


Great news! The rebate for landscape transformation projects has increased. Now, OMWD residential and commercial customers can receive up to \$3 per square foot of turf removed when they make the switch to a sustainable landscape. Switching to a low-water-use landscape is one of the most effective ways to save water. Visit www.socalwatersmart.com for program requirements and an online application.

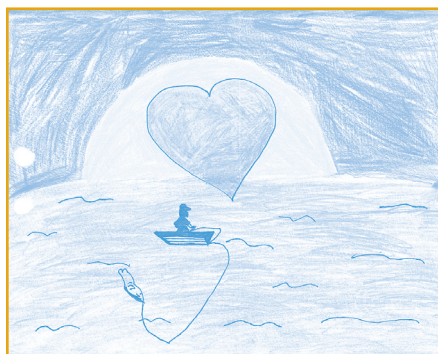
Let's Hear it For Our 2020 Poster Contest Winners!

Thank you to students who participated in the 27th annual North County Water Agencies' fourth-grade poster contest. This year's theme was "Love Water, Save Water," which encouraged students to find the value of water in their everyday lives and promote water conservation.

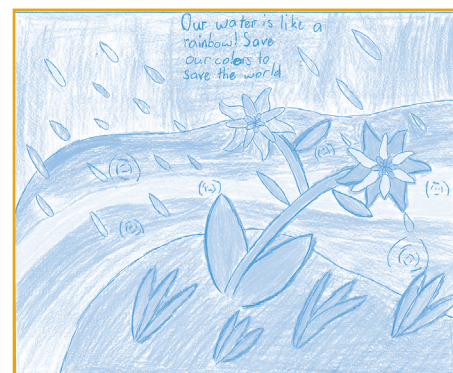
Despite the sudden and drastic changes that occurred during the second half of the school year, OMWD received many creative and thoughtful entries from talented fourth-grade artists in our service area. Winners received prizes and were honored at OMWD's September board meeting. Their posters will be featured in a 2021 Water Awareness Calendar as well as in OMWD publications.



Ruchika Kench
Stone Ranch Elementary



Ryan King
Flora Vista Elementary



Kylie Barbosa
Stone Ranch Elementary

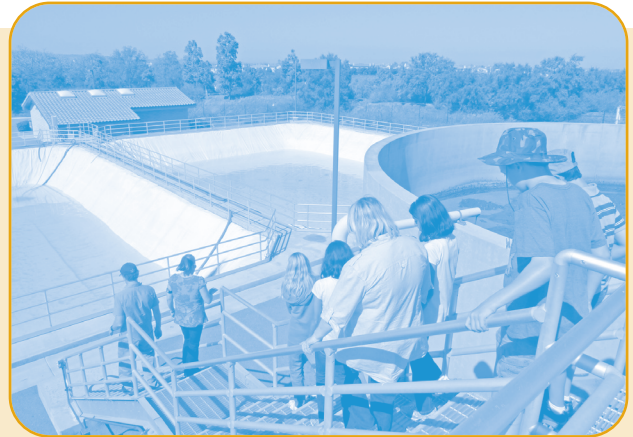
Congratulations



Take a VIRTUAL TOUR of OMWD Facilities

Each year, OMWD welcomes hundreds of visitors on facility tours. These behind-the-scenes tours provide attendees the opportunity to discover how water arrives at your tap clean and ready to drink, the science behind recycling water for local irrigation, and the beauty of our Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve.

While in-person tours have been canceled this year due to COVID-19, OMWD offers virtual facility tour videos at www.olivenhain.com/tour. View one today to learn more about the water system in your community.



Go Green!

eBills make it easy to receive your monthly water bill in your email inbox on the same day paper bills are mailed. If you still want a paper copy, you can print it from your computer or save it to a file. Newsletters that accompany paper bills are also available online.

Sign up today at www.olivenhain.com/ebill.



Fire-Wise Landscaping Workshop

Wildfires can happen at any time. The fall months pose an increased risk due to warm temperatures and strong, dry winds. Customers can protect their homes from fires while reducing water used for irrigation by installing a fire-wise landscape. OMWD, in partnership with City of Encinitas Fire Department, is

offering a virtual fire-wise landscape workshop on

October 13, which will take place from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The free workshop will include a presentation from local expert Greg Rubin and will cover the basic principles of landscape zoning and irrigation, along with fire-wise plant options.

Visit www.olivenhain.com/events for more information and to RSVP.



Bees in Your Meter Box? Give Us a Buzz!

Occasionally, bees make their hive inside a customer's water meter box. 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. **If you have bees in your meter box, please call OMWD at 760-753-6466.**

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.

