

## Continued Water Use Efficiency Efforts Encouraged After Dry Start to 2022

California experienced a wet start to winter, with December rains greatly improving water supply conditions statewide, including critical Sierra Nevada snowpack.

However, 2022 has been particularly dry. Reservoir and snowpack levels are now lower than average for this time of year. Additionally, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predicts below-average rainfall through May.

In response to ongoing drought conditions, California's State Water Resources Control Board adopted in January a Drought Conservation Emergency Regulation that prohibits practices that waste potable water. The prohibitions include:

- Outdoor landscape irrigation resulting in visible runoff to adjacent properties
- Outdoor landscape irrigation within 48 hours of measurable rainfall
- Washing cars using a hose without a shut-off nozzle
- Using potable water to clean hardscapes except in cases where health and safety are at risk
- Using potable water in non-recirculating ornamental fountains, ponds, or lakes



*Low water levels at Lake Oroville, early 2022*

*Continued on page 2*

## OMWD Wrapping Up Manchester Avenue Potable Water Pipeline Project Saving Ratepayers Money While Increasing Reliability

The pipes that bring you water each and every day are subject to extreme environments, including high pressure and shifting or corrosive soil. Unmonitored pipelines that silently reach the end of their useful life can cause big issues in your neighborhood. Additionally, water main breaks can waste millions of gallons of treated water and require costly emergency repairs.

To avoid water system leaks and ensure the continuation of uninterrupted water service to our customers, OMWD takes a proactive approach in repairing and replacing aging water infrastructure. As part of our rigorous maintenance program, our team is regularly monitoring over 465 miles of drinking water pipelines, 85 miles of sewer pipelines, and 67 miles of recycled water pipelines over our 48-square mile service area.

OMWD is currently completing pipeline replacement work near the intersection of Rancho Santa Fe Road and Encinitas Boulevard. Installed in 1961, the original pipeline was approaching the end of its lifespan. In total, 3,700 linear feet of aged potable water pipeline have been replaced, ensuring drinking water reliability to surrounding neighborhoods.



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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](http://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.

Water Use Efficiency...continued from page 1

OMWD continues to encourage  
water use efficiency in order  
to help ensure adequate  
water supplies now and  
in the future. To assist  
customers in their  
efforts to make  
conservation a way  
of life, OMWD offers  
rebates for water-  
efficient devices  
such as rotating  
sprinkler nozzles,  
high-efficiency  
toilets, weather-  
based irrigation  
controllers, and  
high-efficiency clothes  
washers. Customers can  
apply online and find out  
more information by visiting  
[www.socalwatersmart.com](http://www.socalwatersmart.com).



**Sprinkler Nozzles** - Rotating sprinkler nozzles use up  
to 20 percent less water than conventional spray heads.  
These nozzles use less water through a slower, more  
uniform distribution and resistance to misting, wind drift,  
and runoff. Rebates start at \$2 per nozzle for a minimum  
of 30 nozzles.

**Weather-Based Irrigation Controllers** - These  
irrigation controllers automatically adjust your irrigation  
system's run times based on the weather and your plants'  
watering needs. Households can save 10-15 percent of  
their total water use by upgrading from a standard clock  
timer to a weather-based controller. Rebates start at  
\$80 per controller or \$35 per station for landscapes over  
one acre.

**Turf Replacement** - Customers can receive a minimum  
of \$2 per square foot of turf removed when they make  
the switch to a sustainable landscape. Converting to a  
low-water-use landscape is one of the most effective  
ways to save water.

**Toilets** - Toilet flushing accounts for the largest  
percentage of indoor water use—about 30 percent.  
Premium high-efficiency toilets use about 20 percent  
less water than standard toilets, but can work just as  
well. Rebates start at \$40.

**Washing Machines** - About fifteen percent of indoor  
water use goes toward laundry. Replacing your standard  
washing machine with a high-efficiency clothes washer  
can save about 11,000 gallons each year. Rebates start  
at \$85.

**REBATES** START AT  
**\$2 PER NOZZLE**

**REBATES** START AT  
**\$80**

**REBATES** START AT  
**\$2 PER SQUARE FT**

**REBATES** START AT  
**\$40**

**REBATES** START AT  
**\$85**

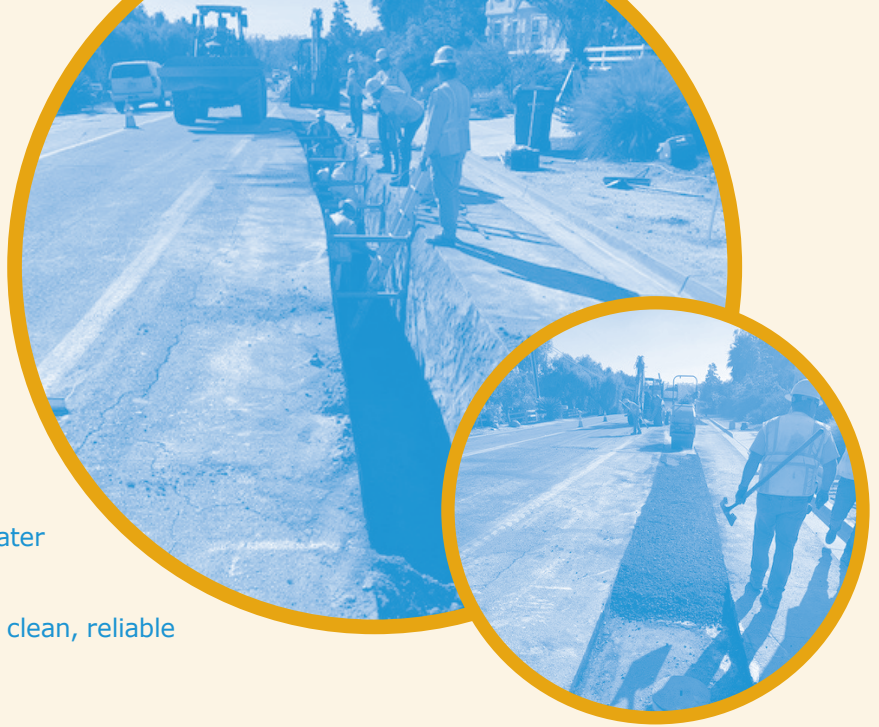




Project construction began in September 2021 and is finishing this month with no unexpected interruptions to water service in the area. To minimize impacts to the surrounding community, the majority of the work has taken place at night, and OMWD has coordinated closely with City of Encinitas on a detailed traffic plan.

Replacement of the pipeline has greatly reduced the likelihood of major breaks in the area, which prevents expensive flooding and property damage in our community. As California's drought continues, proactive projects like this that help save potable water become more critical in maintaining reliable water supplies.

Making sure that you don't ever have to worry about clean, reliable water getting to your tap is a top priority for OMWD.



## Congratulations to Our Fifteenth Annual Photo Contest Winners!

Our annual photo contest offers photographers an opportunity to share images of the natural beauty at OMWD's Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve. Entries assist in educating the public on local recreational opportunities and support EFRR's mission of protecting wildlife and natural resources.

Prizes were generously donated by San Diego Zoo, PC Photo & Imaging, REI, and contest partner Escondido Creek Conservancy. Winning images are on display in our Elfin Forest Interpretive Center Honoring Susan J. Varty through April 30.



*Best In Show - Serenity  
by Peter Montgomery*



*Animals - Reservoir Dogs Sleeping  
by CJ Edingfield-Murphy*

EFRR's 11 miles of hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian trails also offer views of the Pacific Ocean, Olivenhain Reservoir, Escondido Creek, and natural backcountry. For more information, visit [www.olivenhain.com/efrr](http://www.olivenhain.com/efrr).



*Plants - In The Details  
by Christie Lothrop*



*Youth - Cactus by Ashley Hahlen*



*Water Scenery - Morning Reflections  
by Brandon McDonald*

Be a  
Leak  
Detective  
for



Fix a Leak  
Week

EPA  
WaterSense

MARCH 14 – 20, 2022

## Celebrate Fix A Leak Week with a Free Water Use Evaluation of Your Home or Business

According to US Environmental Protection Agency, household leaks can waste nearly one trillion gallons of water annually. To serve as an annual reminder to check plumbing fixtures and irrigation systems for leaks, EPA WaterSense established Fix A Leak Week in 2009.

One way customers can learn to identify leaks to save both water and money is to schedule a visit from one of our water efficiency specialists. A certified landscape architect can check indoor devices for leaks, develop an irrigation schedule specifically for your landscape, and provide you with a custom list of

ways to increase water use efficiency. They can show you where the shutoff valves are to your home and landscape, and explain the steps you would take to determine if there is a leak on your property using the "leak detector" on your meter. Visit [www.olivenhain.com/evaluation](http://www.olivenhain.com/evaluation) to learn more.

Did You  
KNOW?



Water meters have  
leak detectors.

A ⊕ indicates water flow.

## Do You Love Your WaterSmart Landscape?

**Show it off to inspire others and win \$250!**

To further encourage customers to reduce outdoor water use, OMWD participates in a regional WaterSmart landscape contest to celebrate customers whose yards best exhibit the beauty of climate-appropriate, low-water-use gardening. Our first-place winner will be honored at our June board meeting with a \$250 prize, and featured in OMWD publications. The deadline to enter is May 13. Visit [www.landscapecontest.com](http://www.landscapecontest.com) for details.

