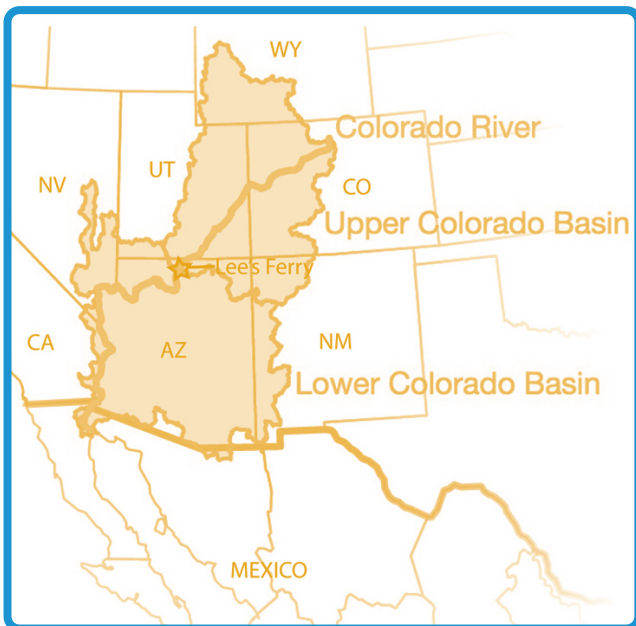


## Crisis on the Colorado River

The Colorado River is a critical water resource for Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming, as well as Native American tribes and Mexico. The river not only provides water supply and hydropower generation but also supports fish and wildlife habitat.

In late 2022, the levels of water storage reservoirs along the Colorado River were alarmingly low, prompting the US Bureau of Reclamation, which manages the river, to give the seven basin states until the end of January 2023 to discuss a new joint agreement and water reductions. In response, six of the seven states submitted a joint proposal. California submitted a separate proposal. The deadline came and went with negotiations between the states remaining unresolved.



However, after additional negotiations, the seven basin states reached an agreement in May to reduce consumption of water from the river by 3 million acre-feet (nearly one trillion gallons) over the next three years. USBR is now analyzing the agreement for impacts to the environment.

The deal is not a permanent solution to issues with the river—it will require the states to continue working with USBR to determine how to address water shortages after 2026, which could require additional cuts. But until that time, the states have successfully avoided intervention by the federal government. Looking forward, all scenarios will require California and the other partners to continue investing in climate-resilient water infrastructure projects to supplement Colorado River water, and to continue efforts to increase water use efficiency.

## What Is in My Water?

### **2023 Annual Water Quality Report Now Available**

State and federal law require that we share our water quality data with you every year in a detailed 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.

Our 2023 Consumer Confidence Report is available online at [www.olivenhain.com/ccr](http://www.olivenhain.com/ccr). Please call 760-753-6466 or stop by our offices located at 1966 Olivenhain Road, Encinitas, CA 92024 to obtain a printed copy.





Municipal Water District

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Encinitas, CA 92024  
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[www.olivenhain.com](http://www.olivenhain.com)



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  
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#### 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

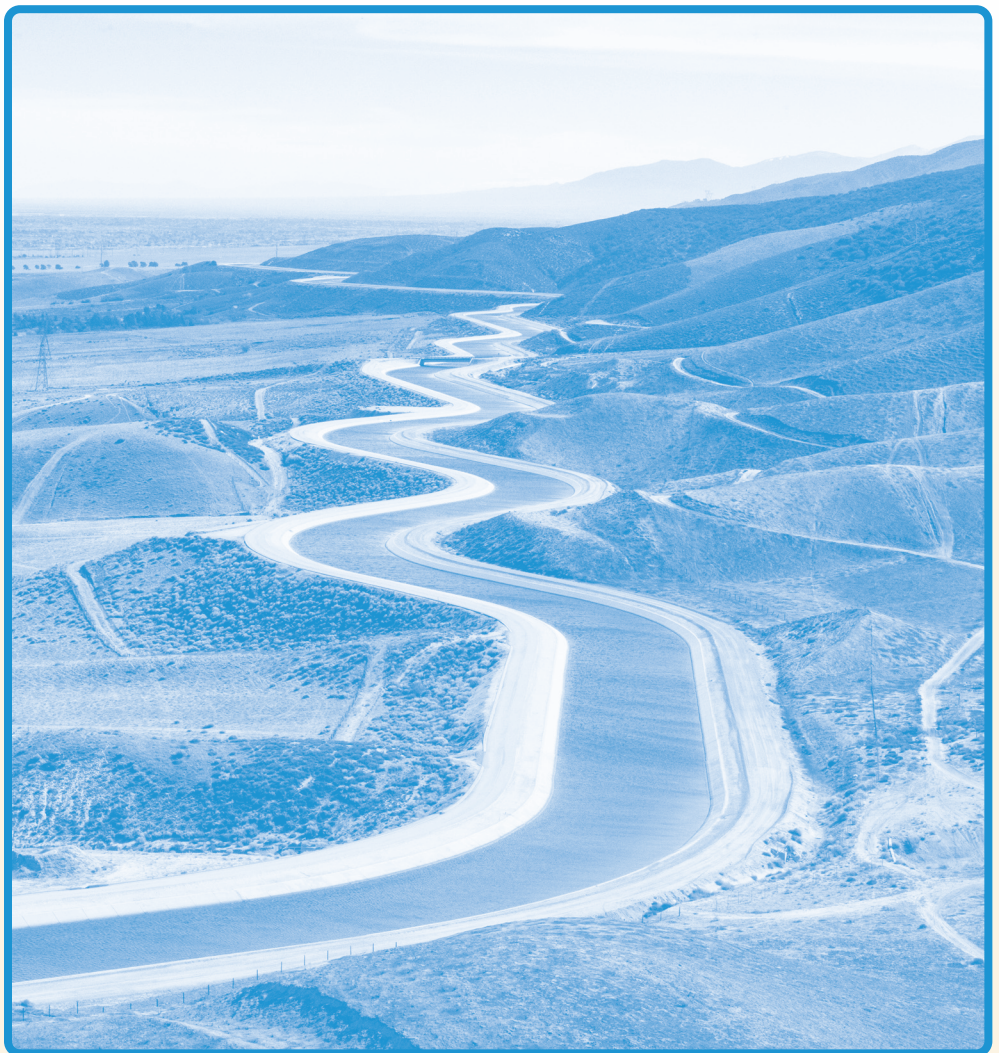
Pursuing alternative and/or renewable  
resources with the most sustainable,  
efficient, and cost-effective approach.

## California: Preparing for Future Wet Years

Statewide drought conditions have eased considerably as a result of an extremely wet winter. It is estimated that the state of California received over 32 trillion gallons of water in just three weeks in December and January thanks to a series of atmospheric rivers.

Increasing the state's ability to capture and store stormwater runoff for use during future dry years remains a key opportunity to adapt to the more frequent and extreme weather patterns that we can expect in the future. Governor Newsom's "California's Water Supply Strategy" highlights the need for funding of 67 specific projects that are expected to increase the state's ability to capture and store excess stormwater by more than 81 billion gallons. One specific proposal is the Delta Conveyance Project.

Most of the precipitation in California falls in the northern half of the state and inland mountains. The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is an estuary between San Francisco and Sacramento that receives about half of all California's stream flows. The Delta Conveyance Project proposes building a tunnel 100 feet below the delta to convey water from the Sacramento River to a nearby reservoir, capturing water for use during future dry years that would have otherwise flowed to the Pacific Ocean. It is estimated that, had the tunnel been in place during the storms between December and January, more than 65 billion gallons of water could have been captured. To learn more about the project, visit <https://water.ca.gov/deltaconveyance>.



*Beginning at the San Joaquin-Sacramento Delta, the California Aqueduct serves 35 million people and 5.7 million acres of farmland as it transports water to Southern California.*



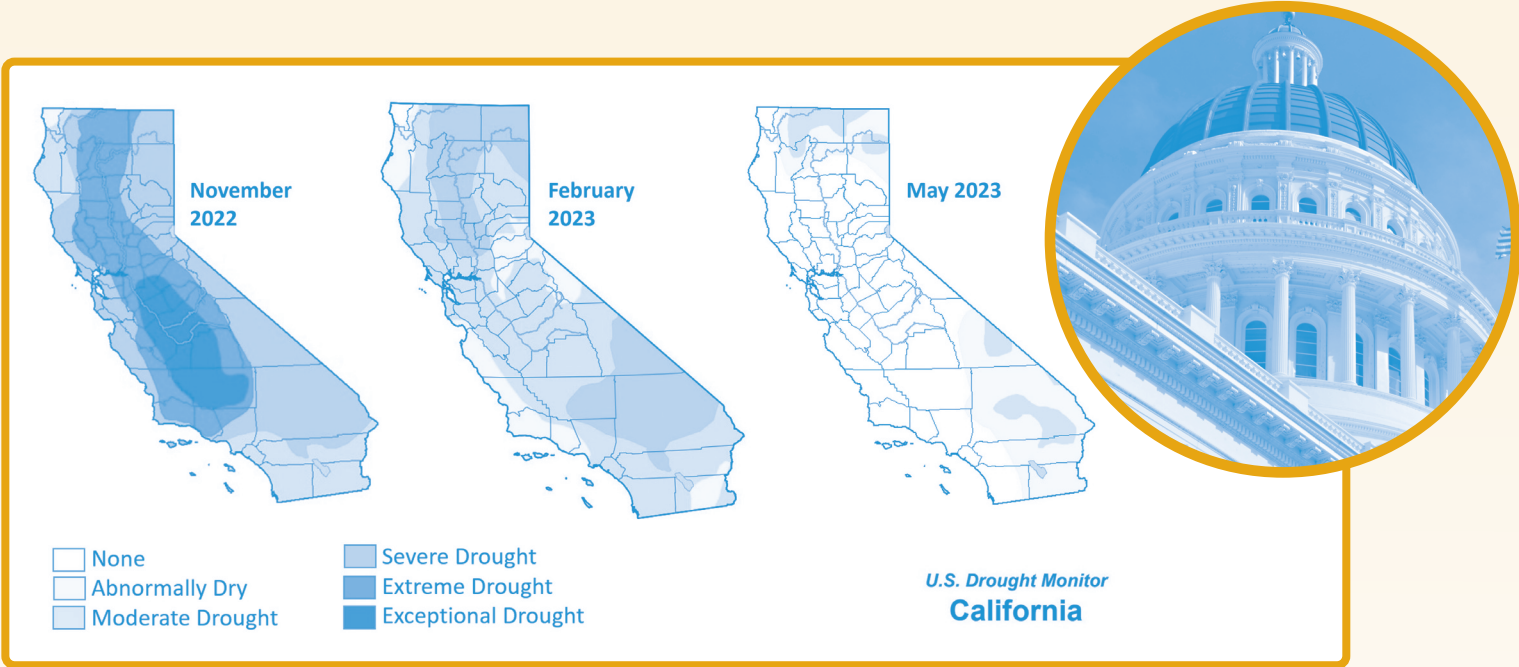


# Governor Newsom Eases Drought Restrictions

Winter rain and snowfall have dramatically changed water supply conditions in many parts of the state. Correspondingly, Governor Newsom has eased some drought emergency provisions, including the call for a voluntary 15 percent water use reduction across the state. Other provisions will remain in place through January 2024 to support communities still facing water supply challenges and to support long-term water resilience. These include the ban on irrigating ornamental grass on commercial properties, which may become permanent in California.

As we head into summer months, when we see the highest water consumption, it is important to keep using water wisely. Visit [www.olivenhain.com/drought](http://www.olivenhain.com/drought) for more information and water-saving tips.

In addition, OMWD customers have access to rebates on water-saving devices to help save water for the future. Visit [www.socialwatersmart.com](http://www.socialwatersmart.com) to view current rebates on rotating sprinkler nozzles, weather-based irrigation controllers, and more.



## Keep Non-Flushable Items Out of the Toilet

When toilets are misused as trashcans, unfortunate consequences can occur, including backups in your plumbing or problems at your local reclamation facility. To prevent these problems from occurring, avoid flushing items such as baby wipes and diapers, rags and towels, cotton swabs, syringes, candy and food wrappers, clothing labels, sponges, toys, plastic items, aquarium gravel, kitty litter, latex gloves, cigarette butts, sanitary napkins, hair, underwear, or “disposable” toilet brushes.

In addition, whatever ends up in your toilet can potentially have an impact on the water environment in your community, so it is critical to keep household waste such as chemicals and pharmaceutical products out of your toilet.



## Fourth-Grade Artists Help Increase Water Awareness

As part of our Water Awareness Month activities in May, OMWD's board recognized on May 17 the top three entries in our 2023 "Love Water, Save Water" fourth-grade poster contest. Nearly 100 fourth graders who live or attend schools in OMWD's service area participated in this year's competition to showcase the value of water as a limited resource.

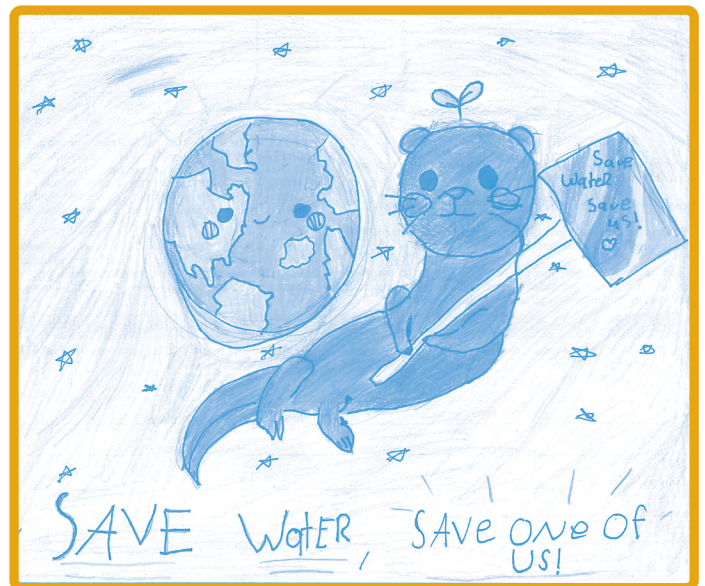


Leo W.

Winning entries were submitted by Lillian Cook from El Camino Creek Elementary School, Leo W. from Olivenhain Pioneer Elementary School, and Talia Elizabeth Abordo from Stone Ranch Elementary School. Lillian's poster depicts her creative interpretation of a sunset on an ocean horizon. Leo's poster featured an ocean wave cresting over planet Earth as it floats on the ocean, and Talia's artwork showcases an otter holding a sign advocating to "Save water, save one of us!" next to a smiling planet Earth. Artwork from the contest will be featured in a 2024 calendar and used in OMWD messaging on the importance of using water wisely.



Lillian Cook



Talia Arbodo