

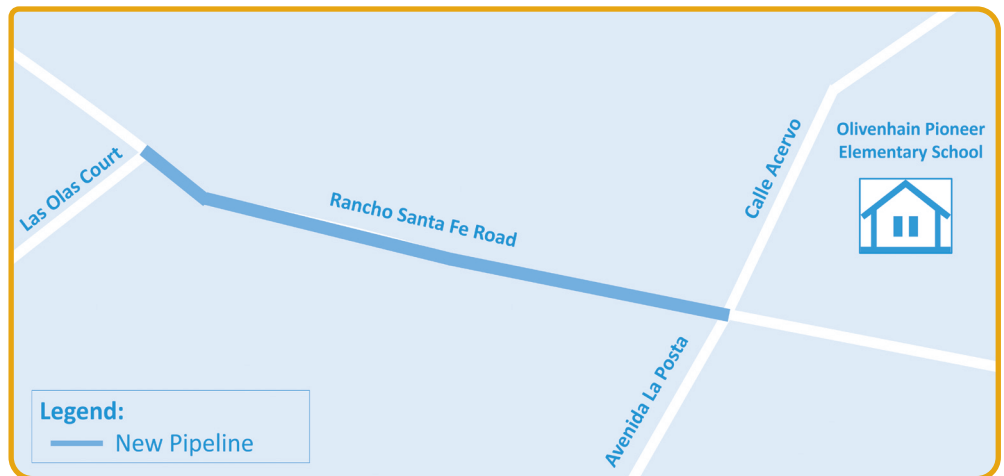
## Pipeline Replacement to Ensure Water Reliability in Carlsbad and Encinitas

Construction will soon begin on 1,500 feet of 12-inch drinking water pipeline on Rancho Santa Fe Road in Carlsbad and Encinitas. An existing pipeline originally installed in 1961 between Las Olas Court and Avenida La Posta is approaching the end of its lifespan and is being replaced before failure.

The City of Encinitas has directed that the majority of work will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The project is expected to be complete in late 2024, and OMWD will work carefully to minimize the duration of any temporary water service interruptions to customers. For questions and comments, please email [projects@olivenhain.com](mailto:projects@olivenhain.com).

Across the country, drinking water is delivered via millions of miles of pipelines. Aging water mains that are not replaced can break unexpectedly. These main breaks can waste millions of gallons of treated water, interrupt water service to homes and businesses, and require costly and disruptive emergency repairs.

OMWD takes a proactive approach to repairing and replacing aging water infrastructure. These proactive measures help prevent disruptive main breaks and ensure the reliability of OMWD services in your community.



## Water Supply Update: Colorado River

The Colorado River sustains nearly 40 million people across two countries and seven states. Its water is transported via the Colorado River Aqueduct to Southern California, serving as one of two vital sources for OMWD customers (the other being the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta). Early last year, the Colorado River system hit record low levels, with Lake Powell and Lake Mead, the main reservoirs for our region, reaching alarming volumes. At the time, Lake Mead was expected to face a major shortage in 2024. What developments have occurred since then, and what lies ahead?

*Continued on page 2*



*Lake Mead remains below half capacity*

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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 Supply Update: Continued from page 1

In May 2023, California, Arizona, and Nevada reached a historic agreement. They agreed to cut their water use by at least 3 million acre-feet through the end of 2026. The partnership will help maintain the river's viability as a water supply. However, even with the rain and snow received this winter, the entire Colorado River reservoir system is only 42 percent full. Both Lake Powell and Lake Mead remain below half capacity as of March 26. Work must continue to address the long-term issues of dry and unpredictable weather. This will ensure we have a sustainable Colorado River for all who rely on it.

## Spring water-saving tips

**EVERY DROP COUNTS!**

As temperatures begin to rise, so does outdoor water use. Every drop saved today can help protect future water supplies. Here are a few tools to help you reduce your usage during the spring and summer.

**1. Schedule a free water use evaluation**—Through this program, a landscape professional 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. There is also an indoor component to determine what steps can be taken to use water efficiently indoors. Visit [www.olivenhain.com/evaluation](http://www.olivenhain.com/evaluation) to learn more and to schedule.

Find and repair leaks

Consider upgrading your irrigation controller

Schedule a free water use evaluation



Use free "My Water Use" dashboard to monitor water usage

Use a moisture probe to see if a plant needs water

**2. Consider an upgrade**—OMWD offers rebates on a variety of water-saving devices, such as irrigation controllers that monitor weather to determine how much water your landscape needs. Visit [www.socalwatersmart.com](http://www.socalwatersmart.com) to view all eligible devices and apply.

**3. Lose the lawn**—If mowing is the only time you spend on your lawn, you might consider replacing it with colorful, drought-tolerant landscaping. Turf rebates start at \$3.00 per square foot removed, until funding is exhausted, and you must be approved for a rebate before you begin your project. Visit [www.socalwatersmart.com](http://www.socalwatersmart.com) to learn more.

**4. Set up your “My Water Use” dashboard**—OMWD offers a digital dashboard to empower customers to save water and money. My Water Use provides access to water meter reads on your property to help you detect abnormal usage, including leaks. My Water Use also allows you to set up email or text alerts to help you avoid surprises on your water bill. Visit [www.olivenhain.com/mywateruse](http://www.olivenhain.com/mywateruse) to set up your account.

## OMWD Celebrates 65 Years of Pure Excellence

### *A brief history...*

In the early 1800s, the area now defined as Olivenhain was in Mexican territory. Through Mexican government land grants, a group of 67 German settlers, 25 families in all, settled on a tract called Rancho Las Encinitas. On that land, the settlers established the farming colony of Olivenhain in 1884. The name “Olivenhain” is of German origin, meaning “olive grove.”

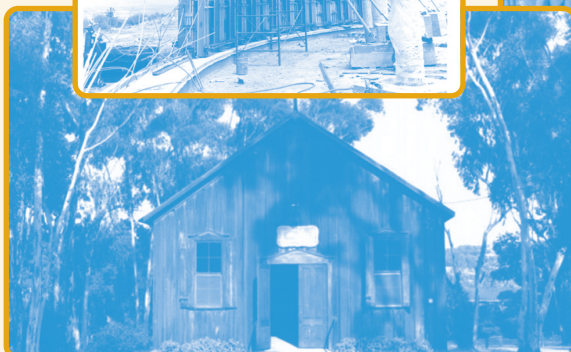
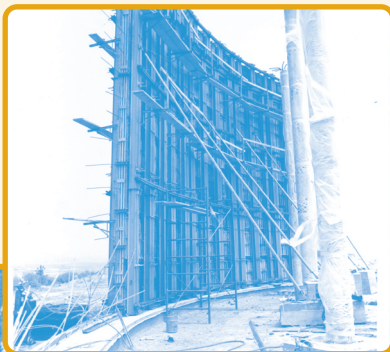
On April 9, 1959, Olivenhain ranchers banded together to create a municipal water district to gain access to water provided by San Diego County Water Authority. On June 14, 1960, residents of OMWD voted to become a member of SDCWA, thus becoming eligible to purchase water transported into San Diego County via the massive aqueducts of SDCWA and its wholesaler, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. During our first year of water deliveries in 1961, we only sold twelve acre-feet of water. In 2023, we sold 17,111 acre-feet.

The gradual decline of farming activity during the 1950s and the importation of water to Southern California slowly transformed the Olivenhain area into a growing residential community. OMWD has expanded to over 48 square miles and serves approximately 87,000 customers.

2024 marks OMWD’s sixty-fifth anniversary. OMWD is proud to continue providing water, wastewater services, recycled water, hydroelectricity, and the operation of Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve in an efficient, sustainable, and cost-effective manner.



*Constructing a 3 million-gallon water reservoir in Encinitas.*



*Before it had offices, OMWD held meetings at Olivenhain Town Hall, which is still in use today.*



*President Wiegand turned on the valve that started the water flowing into newly constructed OMWD pipelines. Board members in 1961 were, left to right, Otto Berk, Howard Golem, Alwin Wiegand, James Wood, and Clarke Thomas.*

## Last Call: Show Off Your WaterSmart Landscape!

Enter the 2024 WaterSmart Landscape Contest for a chance to win recognition and prizes! Highlight your beautiful, water-efficient yard, and inspire others to make water-wise changes at their homes. Visit [www.landscapecontest.com](http://www.landscapecontest.com) for details and to enter. The deadline to enter is May 10.



## Planning a Summer Move?

Summer is a popular time for moving into a new home. In order to close your account, please contact us at least three days before moving out of your property. Call 760-753-6466 or complete an online form at [www.olivenhain.com/stop-service-form](http://www.olivenhain.com/stop-service-form).



## 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](http://www.olivenhain.com/ebill).



- SAFE
- SIMPLE
- SECURE