

OMWD Board to Consider 2026 Revenue Adjustment

At its October 16 meeting, OMWD's Board of Directors will consider a 5.64% revenue adjustment to OMWD's rates and charges for 2026. These increases are primarily due to the 8.3% increase in the wholesale cost of water from San Diego County Water Authority set to begin January 1, 2026.

More information on the proposed changes to OMWD's water rates and charges for 2026 will be available in the September 2025 edition of *Watching Water*.

Join Us at An Open House and Emergency Preparedness Event!

OMWD invites you to an informative open house and emergency preparedness event in collaboration with Encinitas Fire Department, Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District, SDG&E, and other local agencies. The event will take place on September 6, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., at 1966 Olivenhain Road in Encinitas.

This community event will include the opportunity to:

- Attend a free Water Smart and Fire Wise Landscaping workshop from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Presentations will be provided by California Landscape Technologies, Encinitas Fire Department, and Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District. Learn tips on waterwise landscaping, firescaping techniques, and how to safeguard your property against wildfires. Registration is required at www.olivenhain.com/events.
- Discover the specialized vehicles utilized by OMWD and our partners to deliver the services you rely on every day.
- Explore informational booths featuring OMWD departments and free programs, as well as emergency preparedness efforts of fire departments, SDG&E, and water and wastewater utilities. Additionally, local elementary students will showcase their environmentally focused projects.



- Tour OMWD's California-friendly demonstration garden, which includes examples of water-efficient plants and highlights key principles of sustainable landscaping.

- Participate in family-friendly activities, enjoy refreshments, and receive a complimentary emergency preparedness and water-efficiency kit, while supplies last.





Municipal Water District
A Public Agency
1966 Olivenhain Road
Encinitas, CA 92024
760-753-6466
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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 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.

Your Drinking Water: Safe and Reliable 24/7

OMWD buys all of its drinking water supply from the regional wholesaler,
San Diego County Water Authority. Our David C. McCollom Water
Treatment Plant purifies raw water purchased from SDCWA to produce
most of the drinking water OMWD serves. Buying raw water and treating it
ourselves is less expensive than purchasing water treated elsewhere.

Our treatment plant uses
ultrafiltration membrane
technology. Membranes
provide a physical barrier
to viruses, bacteria, organic
pollutants, and other
contaminants by preventing
the passage of solids larger
than the pores in the
membrane. This process
provides the removal of
waterborne health threats with
less chemical usage than other
treatment processes.

OMWD's drinking water meets
or exceeds all health-related
state and federal water quality
standards for drinking water,
all for about a penny per gallon.

**IF THE MEMBRANE PORES
WERE THE SIZE OF A
TENNIS BALL,
THEN**

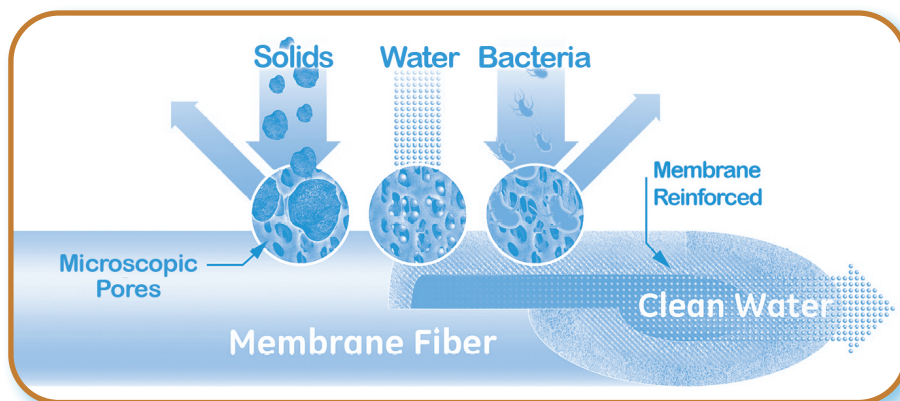


**Organic Pollutants =
A Baseball Bat**



**Viruses =
Semi-truck**

**Bacteria =
An Egyptian Pyramid**



What's Not to Love About E-Bills?

- ✓ **Fast**
- ✓ **Easy**
- ✓ **Convenient**

To avoid late fees and save
time, set up automatic monthly
bill payments using your
checking or savings account, or
your credit card. Direct debit
payments have no convenience
fee, and you can rest easy
knowing your bill is paid on
time.



Newsletters that accompany paper bills are also available online. Enroll by
visiting www.olivenhain.com/ebill.



As Temperatures Rise, So Can Your Water Use

Consider these summer water-saving tips



Up to 70 percent of a home's water usage is for landscape watering. Water bills are often the highest during hot, dry summer months when your yard needs more water to stay healthy. OMWD offers programs to help save water and money.

Free Water Use Evaluation

A landscape and home water use specialist will provide you with a custom list of ways to improve water use efficiency at your home or business. You will also receive an irrigation schedule specifically developed for your landscape. To learn more and to schedule, visit www.olivenhain.com/evaluation.



Water-Efficiency Rebates

A variety of rebates are available on water-saving devices or turf removal to reduce outdoor water use, including:

Weather-based Irrigation Controllers—Replacing a standard clock-based controller with a qualifying weather-based controller can save an average home nearly 7,600 gallons of water annually. Rebates start at \$85.

Rotating Sprinkler Nozzles—Rotating sprinkler nozzles use 20 percent less water than conventional spray heads by applying water more slowly and uniformly. Receive a rebate of \$2 per nozzle (15-nozzle minimum) on select models.

Turf Removal—Rebates start at \$2 per square foot of turf removed and replaced with drought-tolerant landscaping (up to 5,000 sq ft) on pre-approved projects.



Before turf removal



After project

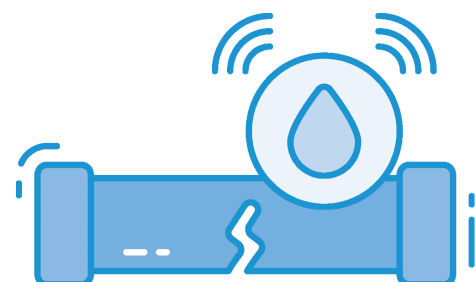
Call 888-376-3314 or visit www.socalwatersmart.com or for more information and to reserve your rebate.

High Bill and Leak Alerts

OMWD gives you easy access to timely information about your water usage and allows you to set high bill and leak alerts. Receive an estimate of your bill at any time during the billing cycle, or get notified if your bill is projected to exceed a specified dollar amount.

Additionally, you can be alerted of potential leaks based on your water usage. Leak alerts can not only save you money, but they can help prevent costly property damage.

Learn more at www.olivenhain.com/mywateruse.



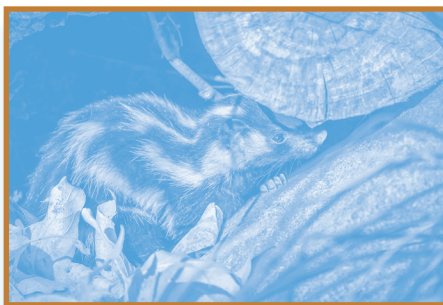
Winning Images of 18th Annual Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve Amateur Photo Contest Now on Display

Hundreds of photographs were submitted among five different categories for this year's amateur photo contest. The winning photographs feature plants, animals, and unique scenery that showcase the 784-acre reserve operated by OMWD.

This year's winners include:



Best in Show – Sienna Schwarz
"Strut Your Duckling Stuff"



Animals – Ronnie Bailey-Steinitz
"Shelter"



Plants – Finn Behle
"Veins"



Youth – Ian Kennedy
"Clover"

Winning photographers received prizes donated by local businesses, such as passes to the San Diego Zoo, EcoVivarium Reptile Sanctuary, and California Wolf Center; a canvas print from PC Photo and Imaging; outdoor equipment from REI; and a cash prize from the Escondido Creek Conservancy.

EFRR visitors can view winning photographs at the Elfin Forest Interpretive Center Honoring Susan J. Varty. Current interpretive center hours of operation are available by calling 760-632-4212 or visiting www.olivenhain.com/efrr.

Encinitas Resident Recognized as OMWD's 2025 WaterSmart Landscape Contest Winner!

Drought-tolerant landscaping helps conserve San Diego's water supply. To promote efficient irrigation and the use of climate-appropriate plants, twelve water agencies throughout the county participated in an annual contest aimed at encouraging landscape transformations that reduce outdoor water use. Each agency selected a winning landscape.

This year, OMWD's winner was Mrs. Ramona Copley, whose landscape design includes a dry creek bed, drip irrigation, and a variety of colorful plants that are drought tolerant. The design requires much less water and maintenance than the originally installed lawn.

Additional photos of Mrs. Copley's winning landscape, as well as winners from throughout the county and a wide range of landscape resources, are available at www.landscapecontest.com.

