

## OMWD Maintains AAA Bond Rating For 10th Consecutive Year

Recently, Fitch Ratings reviewed OMWD's financial position and determined that OMWD will maintain a bond rating of AAA. The AAA rating is the highest grade awarded by Fitch Ratings, a global rating agency that provides independent credit opinions. Our revenue bonds have held a AAA rating since 2016.

Like a person's credit score, a bond rating is an evaluation of an institution's credit and financial strength. Maintaining a AAA rating demonstrates that OMWD continues to provide a high level of service while remaining in good financial shape.

The AAA rating enables OMWD to continue funding projects at the lowest possible interest rates. Lower interest rates will result in savings for our ratepayers, helping to keep OMWD water rates in the lower half among San Diego County water agencies.



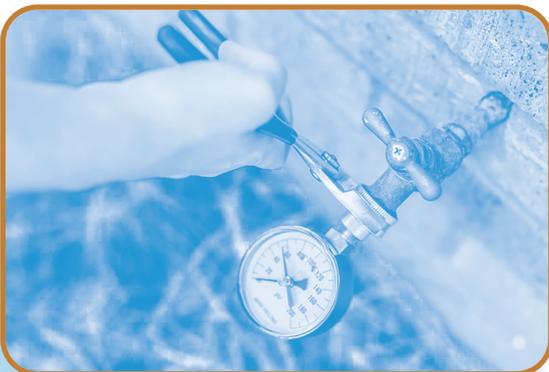
## Is it Time to Check Your Pressure Regulator?

Most customers in OMWD's service area have installed a pressure regulator on their plumbing system. It is the property owner's responsibility to maintain their pressure regulator. OMWD recommends that customers regularly maintain and replace pressure regulators to ensure ideal water pressure. Consider setting up an annual reminder to check that your regulator is working properly.

High water pressure at homes or businesses can damage appliances, irrigation systems, and plumbing fixtures. High pressure can also cause faucets to leak and toilets to run constantly. Residential properties should maintain household water pressure between 40-80 psi.



*Pressure Regulator*



*Gauge on Hose Bib*

Customers can check the pressure coming into their home or business. The most accurate method is to buy a pressure gauge from a local hardware store and hook it up to a hose bib. Check the pressure when all water-using fixtures and appliances are turned off.

Pressure-regulating devices are also available for irrigation systems, and can improve water use efficiency by reducing misting.

Learn more at [www.olivenhain.com/meter](http://www.olivenhain.com/meter).



Published by Olivenhain Municipal Water District in the interest of an informed public.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Alfred Smith, Esq.

## 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 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 Water by Upgrading to Water-Efficient Devices

Water-efficient devices can save water and money on your monthly water bill. The rebates below are available to our residential and commercial customers. A full listing of all rebates is available at [www.socalwatersmart.com](http://www.socalwatersmart.com).

### Indoor Upgrades

- High-efficiency clothes washers use up to 55 percent less water and 25 percent less energy than conventional clothes washers. Rebates start at \$85.



- High-efficiency toilets use less water than outdated models, yet they flush the same amount of waste. Toilets can use up to 30 percent of a home's indoor water use. Receive a rebate of up to \$40 on qualifying 1.1-gallon-per-flush or less models.

### Sprinkler System Upgrades

- "Smart" or weather-based irrigation controllers allow for more accurate, customized irrigation. They automatically adjust the irrigation schedule and the amount of water used in response to changes in the weather. Rebates start at \$85 for properties under one acre, or \$35 per station for properties over one acre, on select models.



- Rotating sprinkler nozzles use 20 percent less water than conventional spray heads. They apply water more slowly and uniformly. Receive a \$4 rebate per nozzle (30-nozzle minimum) on select models.

### Rain Barrel Benefits

Collecting rainwater for future use not only conserves water but also reduces the amount of water that runs off properties and enters storm drains. This runoff can carry pollutants into local waterways and beaches.

Rebates for rain barrels and rain cisterns vary by size. For example, a rebate of up to \$35 is available for a 50-gallon rain barrel (two-barrel maximum).



**FINAL CALL**

## 2026 WaterSmart Landscape Contest

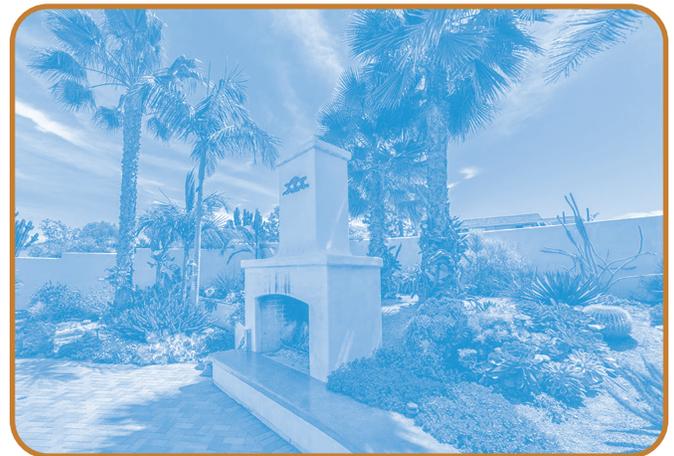
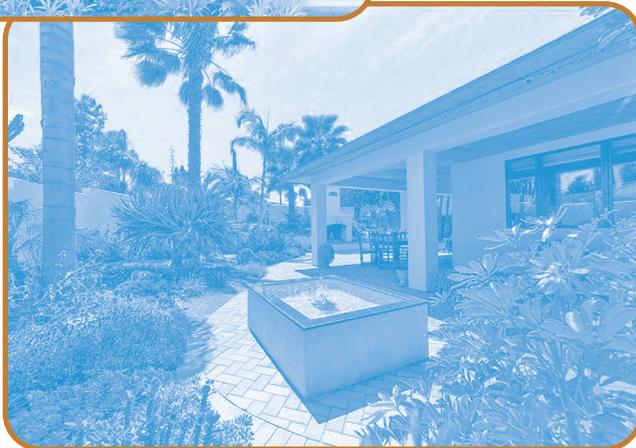
Does your beautiful yard use less water than traditional lawns? Share the story about your California-friendly yard transformation. You could win a cash prize!

The annual contest showcases attractive, climate-appropriate landscapes. It aims to inspire San Diegans to transition to water-efficient yards. Traditional lawns need a lot of water to remain healthy. Drought-tolerant landscapes can save you water and money on your monthly water bill. They need less maintenance than lawns.

They also support wildlife, including pollinators like bees and butterflies.

Applying is easy! Upload photos of your landscape and tell us a bit about how you made your garden WaterSmart.

Visit [www.landscapecontest.com](http://www.landscapecontest.com) for judging criteria, insider tips, and images of past winning landscapes. The deadline to enter is May 8.



### Have You Set Up a “Leak Alert?”

OMWD offers a free online tool that provides timely information on your water use. It allows you to monitor your water usage before you receive your water bill. It also allows you to set alerts to detect unexpected spikes in your water use that would increase your bill if left to run.

You can choose to receive an alert by phone, text, or email.

View [www.olivenhain.com/mywateruse](http://www.olivenhain.com/mywateruse) to learn more and set alerts.



## Earth Day is April 22: Consider Going Green by Switching to Electronic Bills

Signing up for electronic bills helps the environment by reducing paper use and waste. We thank the over 15,000 customers who have enrolled. They are preventing approximately 108,000 pounds of the greenhouse gas CO2 from entering our environment each year.

eBills also offer superior convenience. Our free online billing and payment system is always just a click away! Customers can view their account balance, access billing statements, view water usage, make payments, and more.

Customers who receive paperless bills save printing and postage costs that help to keep our water rates at about a penny a gallon.



## Attention High School Students Seeking Scholarships!

**Earn up to \$1,500 in annual video contest**

Special districts provide vital services such as water, fire protection, wastewater treatment, and more. For over 100 years, they have kept water flowing and provided a variety of services that benefit our neighborhoods. The San Diego Chapter of California Special Districts Association holds its annual "Districts

Make the Difference" video contest to increase awareness of the importance of special districts. Enjoy learning about special districts, and creating a video for a chance to win up to \$1,500!

**VIDEO**  
contest  
win Scholarship!!!

1ST PLACE-\$1,500 SCHOLARSHIP  
2ND PLACE-\$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP  
3RD PLACE-\$500 SCHOLARSHIP

DEADLINE  
June 30

Visit [sandiegocsda.specialdistrict.org/video-contest](http://sandiegocsda.specialdistrict.org/video-contest) for contest rules, judging criteria, and the easy steps to enter the contest. Deadline to enter is June 30.