



Water Matters



Maryan Gonnerman with new all-electric vehicle.

The mission of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District is to promote or provide for long-term sustainable water supply, and to manage and protect water resources for the benefit of the community and the environment.

Going Green with Electric Cars

When you see one of the Water District's new all-electric cars moving down your street, give the driver a wave! Thanks to a \$20,000 grant from the Monterey Bay Air Resources District, two zero-emission vehicles were purchased and are now driven daily to inspection sites and on other official business.

The grant was funded from the State of California Motor Vehicle Emission Reduction Program and administered locally by the Air Resources District. To qualify for a grant, 75% of the total miles to be driven must be within the boundary of the Air Resources District.

A vehicle charging station was also installed at the Water District office to ensure the electric cars are ready to hit the road at any time. These battery-powered cars replaced two gasoline vehicles that were removed permanently from California roads, to achieve a long-term improvement in local air quality.



Drilling an injection well. Maureen Hamilton, MPWMD Water Resources Engineer (L), and Amber Ritchie with Todd Groundwater (R) oversee construction. Pure Water Monterey water will be injected underground to mix with existing groundwater before it is delivered to Cal-Am customers.

Steady Progress on Pure Water Monterey Project

Construction of the Pure Water Monterey advanced water purification project is progressing steadily, thanks to cooperation among the local entities working to bring the project on-line by 2020.

Project source waters will include stormwater, wastewater and agricultural runoff from the Salinas area that will undergo treatment and advanced purification at Monterey One Water (M1W) facilities. In September, a pipeline was installed under the Salinas River to convey source waters to the M1W treatment facilities in Marina.

Expansion of the M1W Regional Treatment Plant and construction of an Advanced Water Purification Facility (AWPF) are underway. Equipment for the four-stage water purification system should be delivered by the end of the year.

Purified water from the AWPF will be conveyed by pipeline to injection wells in the Seaside area and stored underground, where it will mix with the existing groundwater for several months to a year before it is delivered to California-American Water Company customers. Marina Coast Water District should begin construction on the pipeline by the end of this year. One injection well was recently completed, and two more wells are planned for construction in early 2019.

The project will provide 3,500 acre-feet of drinking water each year that exceeds all water quality safety standards. In addition, irrigation water will be provided to cropland in Castroville and Salinas, and a drought reserve created. Visit www.purewatermonterey.org.



Carmel River Lagoon -- District staff monitor water level and temperature to assess conditions for migrating steelhead fish.



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71% Cut in Laundry Water Use at Asilomar

Asilomar Conference Center has saved 1.8 million gallons of water since May 2016, thanks to a \$20,000 rebate from the Water Management District and California-American Water (Cal-Am) for installation of a laundry water-recycling system.

The recycling process removes lint, organics, detergents, odors, chlorine, and oil from laundry water, and then disinfects it with UV and Ozone. The clean, disinfected and pre-heated water is then delivered to the center's washing machines.

Prior to installation, Asilomar used between 130,000 and 200,000 gallons of water per month on laundry. In the first ten-months of operation, the recycling system reduced laundry water usage by an average of about 71%.

The Water Management District and Cal-Am offer rebates for purchase of water efficient washing machines and other fixtures to help you achieve water savings and reduce your water bill. See <http://www.montereywaterinfo.org/rebates> for a list of rebates.



Irene Acevedo, Asilomar employee, presents freshly laundered towels. Asilomar saved 1.8 million gallons of water with its laundry water recycling system.

Winterize Your Irrigation System Now

Now that cool fall temperatures have enveloped the Monterey Peninsula, this is a good time to winterize your irrigation system. Here are some tips.

- ▶ Replace the batteries on your irrigation controller. After power outages, some controllers reset to factory settings if the batteries aren't fresh - resulting in over-watering and water waste.
- ▶ Advice on programming your irrigation controller and sample irrigation schedules can be found at www.montereywatersavingplants.com/Watering-Guide/Schedules.php.
- ▶ Make sure drippers aren't blocked and are directed to the plants you want watered.
- ▶ Consider shutting down your irrigation system until spring and let the weather do your watering.
- ▶ Install a cistern to collect rainwater from your roof that can irrigate your garden. Rebates are available. See <http://www.montereywaterinfo.org/rebates/your-home/> or contact the Water Management District office at 831-658-5601.



Consider taking advantage of winter rains. Install a cistern that will collect runoff water from your roof. Rebates are available for rainwater catchment systems. Replace the batteries on your irrigation controller to prevent malfunctions after a power outage.

Update on Recent Changes to District Rules

Be aware of some new rules that were recently adopted.

- ▶ Property owners can sub-meter a new auxiliary unit. Certain conditions apply, so contact the Water Management District office.
- ▶ State law and the District require that multi-family residential sites must install low-flow fixtures and irrigation controllers by January 1, 2019. Rebates are available from the Water Management District to partially fund the purchase of new fixtures.
- ▶ Water efficient washing machines must be installed in common laundry rooms. Rebates are available for washers until January 1, 2019. Common interest developments must also comply. For more information call the District at 831-658-5601.



Auxiliary units can be sub-metered as of December 2017. Also, existing multi-family residential sites and common interest developments must retrofit. Rebates are available until January 1, 2019.