



ON TAP

Newsletter | December 2021
www.tcwd.ca.gov

STATEWIDE DROUGHT CONDITION



Impacts of the Drought on the Colorado River

On October 20, 2021, Governor Newsom issued an expanded Proclamation of a State of Emergency related to severe drought conditions in eight additional counties, including Orange County, throughout the State, and has asked all residents to voluntarily reduce their water use by 15 percent from their 2020 levels by implementing commonsense measures identified in Executive Order N-10-21. While TCWD does not have a water shortage and is well positioned at this time with sufficient water supplies to meet customer demand, we are encouraging our customers to help meet the call for voluntary reductions and forestall the need for mandatory restrictions should the drought persist through 2022 and beyond. Some of the ways that you can help use water efficiently include:

- Adjust sprinkler watering times to run before 9 a.m. or after 5 p.m.
- Turn off your irrigation system when it rains & for 48 hours afterwards
- Find & fix leaks within 48 hours
- Replace older sprinklers and irrigation timers.

Please visit our website at www.tcwd.ca.gov to take advantage of water use efficiency rebates on irrigation smart timers, sprinklers, & more.

Happy Holidays!

MESSAGE TO OUR CUSTOMERS

As we look to 2022, TCWD's Board of Directors and staff wish our customers, friends, and their families a very happy holiday season and a safe and wonderful new year.

HOW YOUR WATER IS DELIVERED

Under normal operating conditions, the District takes Colorado River water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MET) via Lake Mathews near Riverside by way of the Santiago Lateral Pipeline and the Baker Pipeline. The District then filters and treats this raw water at its own water treatment plant in Lake Forest and delivers it to our customers through a complex system of pumps and pipelines that navigate the challenging terrain of Trabuco Canyon to homes in the unincorporated Canyon, and portions of the Cities of Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, & Rancho Santa Margarita.

The energy costs associated with pumping water throughout the high elevations of the District's service area represent a significant amount of the potable water rates. It is through the purchase of untreated water and treating through our own facility that we control overall costs and pass a savings on to our customers.

During periods of extended facility maintenance or emergencies, the District has the ability to purchase treated water from neighboring agencies through system interconnections to meet water demands. This additional system reliability allows the District to ensure that your basic needs are met during periods of uncertainty.



Board of Directors

- Don Chadd, President
- Stephen Dopudja, Vice President
- Glenn Acosta, Director
- Ed Mandich, Director
- Mike Safranski, Director
- Fernando Paludi, General Manager

The Board of Directors Regular Meeting is scheduled for the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Administrative Facility located at 32003 Dove Canyon Drive, Trabuco Canyon. The public are welcome to attend or participate virtually via teleconference.

Board Meeting Highlights

September 2021

- Approval of Contract with Ferguson Waterworks for AMR/AMI Project
- Approval of Contract for Electrical Improvements at El Toro Sewer Lift Station
- Approval of TESCO Controls EMASS Program

October 2021

- Approval of Agreement with County of Orange for 800 MHz System
- Approval of Contract with Hazen Sawyer for 2021 Master Plan & Condition Assessment

November 2021

- Approval of MOU with County of Orange - AlertOC
- Approval of FYE 2022 CIP Budget Reallocations
- Approval of Contract with SS Mechanical for El Toro Sewer Lift Station Surge Tank Rehabilitation Project

HOLIDAY MEAL IMPACTS TO OUR SYSTEM

During the holidays, many of us plan to cook special meals to share with our families. Unfortunately, these meal preparations present a potential hidden danger to the sanitary sewer infrastructure which include both residential sewer pipes and TCWD’s sanitary sewer mains. This hidden danger is grease.

Grease needs to be handled carefully all year round, but especially this time of year. It is important to know that larger quantities of grease created by cooking a turkey, ham, or roast can result in problems within your home’s sewer pipes, as well as within your neighborhood, if not disposed of properly.

Never pour grease down your sink drain, toilet, or garbage disposal unit. Instead, pour the grease waste into a can (like an empty soup can) and refrigerate or freeze until solid, and then, dispose of it on trash day. Grease poured down kitchen sinks and other drains can be a great contributor to odors, residential sewage blockages, as well as larger sewage spills all of which increase maintenance costs. These few simple steps can make a difference in helping TCWD protect its system and prevent sewer spills.



Operations staff cleaning the District’s sewer system

2021 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Please be advised that the District’s Administrative Facility will be closed on the following days for the upcoming holidays:

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| Christmas Holiday | December 24th & 27th |
| New Year’s Day | January 3, 2022 |

In the event you would like to make a payment on a District-observed holiday, please use TCWD’s online bill pay method at www.tcwd.ca.gov or leave a payment in the one of our payment drop boxes. If you have a water or wastewater-related emergency, please call (949) 858-0277 and we would be happy to assist you.