

# **CUSTOMERS FOLLOW WATER'S JOURNEY** ON TOWD FACILITIES TOUR

Trabuco Canyon Water District customers followed water's journey through TCWD's system from source to tap to recycled on a tour of the District's facilities on Saturday, Oct. 14. Participants experienced water management in action and saw their rates at work on the immersive infrastructure tour led by TCWD Directors and staff. TCWD offered the tour as part of the District's ongoing community outreach efforts to share information about our local water supply and TCWD's investments to secure a local, reliable and sustainable water supply now for our customers. Stay tuned for information about future tours.



Trabuco Canyon Water District has earned the highest recognition in government accounting and financial reporting for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to TCWD for the report on the fiscal year 2022.

"This award recognizes the District's meticulous financial reporting standards and our Board of Directors' role as a vigilant steward of public funds, ensuring that every dollar is used wisely to benefit our customers and our community," said TCWD General Manager Fernando Paludi.

Visit www.tcwd.ca.gov/transparency/finance to read the report.

#### **ANSWERS TO COMMON RATE QUESTIONS**

Like many neighboring water and wastewater agencies in Orange County and throughout California, TCWD implemented a rate increase this year to meet the rising costs that we face to operate, maintain and replace the facilities and pipelines necessary to provide water, sewer and recycled water services to our customers. Most of TCWD's infrastructure has been in continuous operation for at least 30 years and in some cases 60 years or more.

We understand that increasing rates is unpleasant, but it is necessary to ensure that the District can continue to provide safe and reliable essential services to the community and remain financially stable now and into the future. One question that is frequently asked about TCWD's rates is:

#### Why might my bill look different than my neighbor served by a different water district?

Many of TCWD's neighboring agencies collect a significant portion of their revenue from sources other than the monthly bill - whether it's from improvement district property assessments, the collection of fixed charges on the tax bill, or a larger share of the 1% basic tax levy. TCWD's Board of Directors recently voted down a proposal to shift the collection of sewer fixed charges onto a customer's property tax bill. The result is that TCWD's monthly bills more closely reflect the full cost of providing water and sewer services.

For answers to additional frequently asked rate questions, visit www.tcwd.ca.gov/FAQ.



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND GENERAL MANAGER**

Stephen Dopudja, President Edward Mandich, Vice President Glenn Acosta, Director Don Chadd, Director Michael Safranski, Director Fernando Paludi, General Manager

#### PROTECT YOUR PIPES THIS **HOLIDAY SEASON**

Fats, oils and grease (FOG) from holiday cooking can clog your pipes and cause messy sewer backups that can damage your home and pollute our environment.

Keep FOG out of the drain. Dispose of these materials and similar items in your green waste container or trash, depending on the item:



**Food scraps** 



Gravy



**Meat drippings** 



Cooking oil



Mayonnaise



**Dairy products** 



**Bacon** grease



Salad dressing



Butter, margarine, shortening and lard

#### STAY IN TOUCH



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tcwd.ca.gov

## SIGN UP FOR **EMERGENCY ALERTS**

In the event of a large-scale emergency, alerts are sent to the community through an area-wide notification system called AlertOC. TCWD is part of the AlertOC system. You can receive AlertOC emergency notifications via email, text and phone calls. Register to receive these critical updates at www.alertoc.org.

Get notified by phone, text, email or TTD/TTY Register multiple locations to receive notifications.



Stay One Step Ahead of Emergencies With



Register Today at www.AlertOC.org

