

THE CURRENT FLOW

Issue #3 - 2021



NEWS FOR THE VALUED CUSTOMERS OF LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT



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Pure Water Project Continues to Collect Accolades

The JPA is the proud recipient of the 2021 CASA Award of Excellence in the category of Innovation and Resiliency for the Pure Water Project. The JPA was recognized during the CASA Conference in San Diego in August.

This award is the second the JPA has received for its most recent efforts to ensure long-term water reliability for the region and move closer to closing the sustainability loop by minimizing by-products of treatment processes. The JPA also received the 2021 WateRe-use Award for Excellence in March for the Pure Water Project.

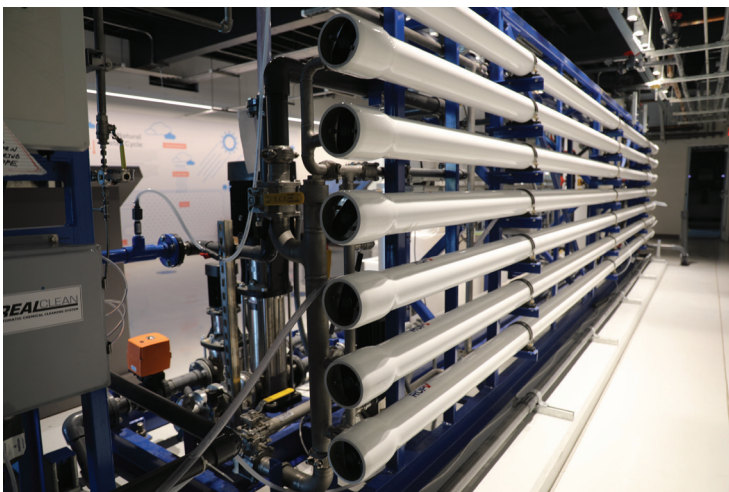
The demonstration facility, which is housed in the former Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (LVMWD) headquarters building, takes recycled water from the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility and purifies it beyond drinking water standards through advanced purification processes including microfiltration, reverse osmosis, and ultra-violet light & advanced oxidation.



This facility paves the way for one of the first indirect potable reuse projects using reservoir water augmentation in the state. At full-scale, the Pure Water Project will allow the JPA's members to source up to 15% of their water supply locally, rather than relying exclusively on imported water from the State Water Project.

"We are excited about the continued recognition of this initiative," said LVMWD General Manager and Administering Agent for the JPA David Pedersen. "The Pure Water Project is the key to ensuring resiliency and long-term sustainability for our region, and this recognition helps garner public buy-in and support for our efforts."

The facility serves as an immersive education center for the public to learn about the advanced purification process, while boasting a sustainability garden and a massive mural visible through floor-to-ceiling windows.



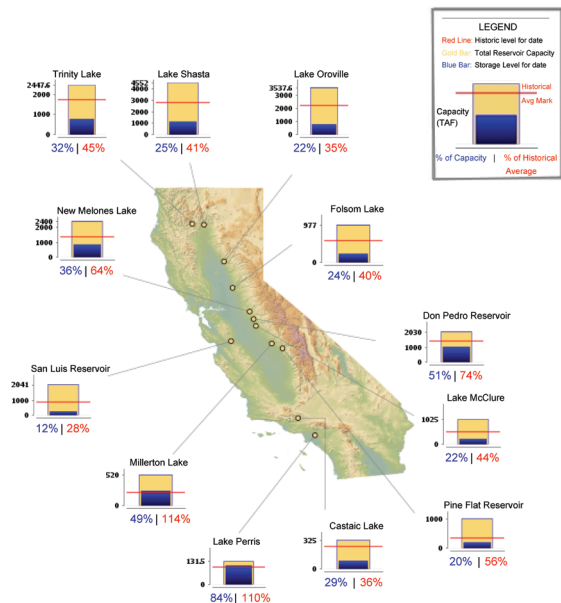
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Historically Low Reservoir Levels Plague State Water Project



SELECTED WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS

Midnight: September 15, 2021



Updated 09/16/2021 01:18 PM

Though nestled in the natural beauty of the Santa Monica Mountains, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District has no suitable local source of potable water and relies entirely on imported water to meet the needs of our customers. This water is purchased from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) who conveys it through the California State Water Project, made up of the California Aqueduct and a series of Northern California reservoirs that are filled seasonally through runoff from snowpack in the Northern Sierras. As we enter into the fall season, the reservoirs that supply the water MWD imports to us are at historically low levels. The primary reservoir in this system, Lake Oroville, has fallen to 22 percent capacity, so low that it can no longer generate electricity through its hydroelectric power plant for the first time in history.

These historically low reservoir levels threaten LVMWD's future water supplies and our long-term water reliability. On July 20, 2021, LVMWD Board of Directors voted unanimously to move into Stage 2 of the District's Water Shortage Contingency Plan. This escalation reflects the worsening drought conditions through the summer, as well as Governor Newsom's call for voluntary water use reductions of 15 percent compared to usage from 2020. Unfortunately, both statewide and locally, these goals have not been met.

In order to help our customers meet these water conservation goals, LVMWD is offering a number of different programs for our customers:

Water Efficiency Alerts – In September, LVMWD mailed Water Efficiency Alerts to inform customers of their water usage over the last 6 months of 2021. These alerts serve to make customers aware of how their usage compares to their unique water budgets and of District resources to help use water more efficiently.

Discounted Weather Based Irrigation Controllers (WBIC) – LVMWD customers are currently eligible to receive a Rachio WBIC with professional installation for a discounted price of \$99.00. These controllers take the guess work out of scheduling your irrigation system and take into account real time weather data and forecasts, as well as the types of plants being irrigated.

Stop the Waste – Many times customers are not aware that they may have an issue with their irrigation. LVMWD encourages customers who notice wasteful overspray, excessive runoff, or irrigation running between 10 am and 5 pm during the peak heat of the day, to report these issues to us by sending an email to stopthewaste@lvmwd.com. Trained LVMWD staff will then make contact and work with residents to make them aware of, and correct, issues they may be having with their irrigation systems.

Rebates – Through our partnership with MWD, customers are eligible to take advantage of rebates offered at socialwatersmart.com. Rebates are currently available to help increase water efficiency outdoors such as turf replacement, high efficiency sprinkler heads, and rain barrels and cisterns to capture water for later use. Rebates are also available for high-efficiency toilets and clothes washers.

In addition to these programs, LVMWD Board of Directors directed staff to increase enforcement of penalties related to habitual and flagrant wasteful water use as codified in LVMWD Code, and the 2018 "Conservation as a California Way of Life" legislation that prohibits wasteful water use. This enforcement – as laid out in section 4.4.203 of LVMWD Code – will include written notifications and warnings, monetary penalties and the possible installation of a flow

restrictor or disconnection of service.



Forecasts for a dry winter and La Niña conditions mean current water shortages may extend well into 2022 with the possibility of mandatory water use reductions from the state

coming sooner rather than later. Embracing “Conservation as a California Way of Life” now is critical to make sure we have the water we need tomorrow.

Employee Spotlight: Juan Martinez

Many people are unaware of the breadth of positions available in the water industry. For Juan Martinez, facilities inspector at LVMWD, previous work experience in construction was well-suited for his transition into water.

Before joining the District in 2007, Juan spent 12 years working in construction as a general contractor. Seeking a more secure career with better benefits, he began taking water classes at Ventura College before making the transition. In addition to better security, Juan knew he would be able to apply his previous construction expertise in the water sector.

“Construction and water really go hand-in-hand for my specific position,” remarked Juan. “As facilities inspector, my job is to visit all of the sites where we have contractors working on capital improvement projects, and make sure they do everything right.”

Before his current position, Juan worked in the District’s construction and maintenance departments. One of his favorite aspects of his current position is that he works all over the place. He enjoys being fluid and being able to move around throughout the District’s service area. When asked about the most challenging aspect of his job, Juan mentioned keeping up with rapid changes in the construction industry, such as changes in materials.

Born in León, Guanajuato, Mexico, Juan now resides in Santa Paula. Prior to the pandemic, he enjoyed Crossfit; but these days, he’s focusing on building his own home gym in his garage and trying out different local breweries.



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You may direct communications to LVMWD Board members by sending an e-mail to: board@LVMWD.com

Board meetings are scheduled at 9 a.m.
on the first and third
Tuesday of each month

Board Meetings are now live-streamed on the District’s
website at LVMWD.com/LiveStream

Las Virgenes - Triunfo JPA
meets the first Monday of the month at 5 p.m.

Check LVMWD.com/Board-Meetings for
Board meeting and agenda information

Customer Service -
(818) 251-2200

After Hours Emergency -
(818) 251-2100

Construction & Drought Hotline -
(818) 251-2180

Report Water Waste -
StopTheWaste@LVMWD.com.

Rebate Information
LVMWD.com/Rebates

Potable Water
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4232 Las Virgenes Road
Calabasas, CA 91302
LVMWD.com



Additionally, the Pure Water Project provides the opportunity for staff and operators to become better familiar with the treatment technology before the full-scale facility goes online in 2030.

“It’s gratifying to see that all the hard work of the JPA is being recognized,” says Raymond Tjulander, Triunfo Water & Sanitation District Board Chair and Chair of the JPA. “When the full-scale facility goes online, the impact to the long-term water needs of our customers will be significant, especially as water resources continue to be unpredictable.”

In-person tours of the Pure Water Demonstration Facility are now being offered. Visit www.ourpureh2o.com for more information and to reserve a spot.

The 2021 CASA Award of Excellence recognizes achievements in the clean water community that advance the utilization of renewable resources and promote efforts to achieve environmental sustainability and the protection of public health.

For information on the Demonstration Facility
ourpureh2o.com/DemoFacility



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