



**NORTH MARIN
WATER DISTRICT**

THE WATER LINE

NOVATO'S WATER CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER • VOLUME 12 ISSUE 26 FALL 2011

Water Supply Update

The water supplies at Stafford Lake and on the Russian River, which serve NMWD customers, are at good levels going into the winter rainy season. This summer NMWD customers were supplied with potable water from those sources. Stone Tree Golf Course and Fire Station 62 used recycled water for irrigation.

Through the first 3 months of this fiscal year water sales are down when compared to the same period last year, likely due to cool summer temperatures and a slower than normal economy. While this lag was not predicted, revenue projections are still on track and District costs are being closely monitored to stay within budget and no salary increases for District employees have been authorized for this year.

Detail design is on-going for the Aqueduct Energy Efficiency Project, which will upsize the NMWD aqueduct from Petaluma to Novato. This project, triggered by the CalTrans Marin-Sonoma Narrows US101 Highway widening project, will enable NMWD to receive Russian River water without the energy or pumping costs associated with the Kastania Pump Station operation. Additionally, expansion of the NMWD recycled water system is now under construction (see box above).

Expanded Recycled Water is Coming Soon!

NMWD is working with Novato Sanitary District and Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District to expand the use of recycled water in Novato. This fall, winter and spring you will observe recycled water pipeline construction work on local streets (Olive from Atherton to Redwood and on Redwood north of Olive to Wood Hollow) as a part of the Novato North Area Recycled Water Expansion Project. NMWD will be using direction drilling at the Olive Avenue railroad crossing to minimize traffic disruption. Recycled water construction in the Novato South Area (Hamilton) will start in 2012. Streets will be restored according to the City of Novato specifications.

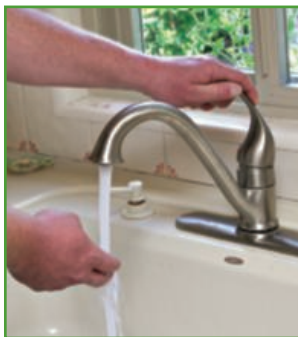
This recycled water expansion project has been designed to provide water for many of the large irrigation users in Novato, and will offset approximately 130 million gallons of potable water use yearly. This project is partially funded by Federal Economic Stimulus Funds and state grants with the remainder funded by new development connection fees. For more information on the Recycled Water Expansion Project, please visit www.nmwd.com, where you can download a Novato Recycled Water Program Summary sheet, Frequently Asked Questions, maps showing planned pipeline routes and a list of properties that are identified to receive recycled water. Construction schedule updates will be available at www.nmwd.com, and also on our Facebook page.

The costs to stretch our existing water supplies coupled with the costs to meet fisheries obligations on the Russian River have required a series of rate increases, the next of which are scheduled for June 1, 2012 and June 1, 2013. Still, the current cost of water service for a typical Novato customer is a good value and falls below the median of 16 comparable urban retail SF Bay Area water agencies (see www.nmwd.com/account.php#NovatoComparison).

Fall is Here!

Shorter days and cooler temperatures are here. Remember to turn off or adjust watering times for your irrigation system. As plants slow their growth with the decreasing daylight, they also slow down their water use. Cut back on watering as needed — sometimes by as much one third to one half.

Water Smart Home Survey for Fall & Winter



This fall and winter NMWD will be focusing on indoor water use, and we have adapted the survey to include commercial and other non-residential customers.

Our friendly, knowledgeable survey technicians can show you how you can easily become more water efficient and save money, and we'll even give you money-saving rebate and incentive information to get you started. You'll also get free low-flow showerheads and aerators as needed to achieve maximum water use efficiency. Now is an important time to make sure you are using water efficiently.

Indoors, we will survey:

- Faucets
- Showerheads
- Toilets
- Dishwashers
- Clothes washers
- Other water-using devices in the home

Call today to schedule your **Free Water Smart Home Survey:** 415-897-4133 ext. 8711



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Water Smart Savings Program

More water saving programs at www.nmwd.com

North Marin Water District wants to help customers use water efficiently. That's why we've put all of our water saving promotions under one umbrella. The *Water Smart Savings Program* encompasses all you need to get started on saving water and saving money. Call (415) 897-4133 ext. 8711 for program details or visit www.nmwd.com.

Cash for Grass



As part of the Water Smart Savings Program, you can get cash back when you remove your regularly mowed and irrigated lawn and re-landscape with District approved low-water use plants or District approved synthetic turf. Pre-inspection and re-landscaping plan approval required. Call for rebate values and complete program participation details or visit www.nmwd.com.

Water Smart Landscape Efficiency Rebate

Water efficient landscapes can be achieved through a number of strategies including efficient irrigation devices and equipment, and soil maintenance.

You may be eligible for rebates (call for rebate amounts and participation details or visit www.nmwd.com) when you install District-qualified water-efficient landscape equipment including:

- Drip irrigation systems
- Weather Based Irrigation Controllers
- Check valves
- Multi-stream rotating sprinkler nozzles (for lawn areas only)
- Rain shut-off devices
- Mulch
- Water pressure-regulating device
- Soil conditioner/amendment



High-Efficiency Toilet Rebate

Don't flush money away. Now you can get a rebate when you replace your non-water-conserving toilets with a High-Efficiency Toilet (HET). HETs use 20% less water than standard ultra-low flush toilets, so not only will you save water, but you'll save money, too. HETs eligible for rebate must be EPA WaterSense approved models. Call for rebate values and participation details or visit www.nmwd.com.



High-Efficiency Clothes Washer Rebate Program

High Efficiency clothes washers can save up to 50% of the water used and 65% of the energy used compared to conventional top-loading clothes washers. NMWD currently offers a rebate to customers when they purchase qualifying high-efficiency clothes washer. Call for rebate value and participation details, or visit www.nmwd.com.



Rainwater Harvesting and Graywater Rebate

With the rainy season here, now is the perfect time to install a rainwater harvesting system, and District rebates may be available. Rainwater harvesting is the collection and storage of rainwater for reuse in landscape irrigation. Systems can range from simple catchment devices, such as rain barrels, to more complex systems, such as cisterns or storage tanks. Rebates are also available for greywater system installations. Pre-inspection and plan approval required. Call for participation details and rebate values.

