

# Drought Drop-by

October 9, 2021

COVID safe procedures in place

From 8am Until Noon



## Drop-by for your FREE Drought Tool Kit

Free aerator, dye tab, shower head, bucket, nozzle and more!

October 9, 2021  
From 8am until Noon

North Marin Water District  
999 Rush Creek Place  
Novato, CA 94945

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
UNICORN GROUP  
ECRWSS

POSTAL CUSTOMER

## Access your water use

A WaterSmart Portal was developed as a part of the new AMI (Advanced Metering Information) system, and we encourage you to sign up and log in on the portal to learn more about your water use. The portal gives customers access to hourly water use data and the ability to set up alerts for high use and leak events.

Please visit the District's new website at [nmwd.com](http://nmwd.com) to learn more about accessing the WaterSmart Portal (and online bill pay). If you experience any issues registering or logging in to the WaterSmart Portal, please call 415-897-4133, and a staff member can guide you through the process.



## Drought is here. Save Water.



NORTH MARIN  
WATER DISTRICT

For more info visit [nmwd.com/drought](http://nmwd.com/drought)

# The Waterline

Novato Service Area Newsletter | Issue 47



## We are developing new water supplies

Drew McIntyre, General Manager

Since 2018, our top strategic goal is to increase water supply reliability. In 2018, the District's Strategic Plan was updated, and Goal No. 1 was to increase long-term water supply reliability. We have been working to increase the water supply since then.

- In 2019, the District jointly funded a regional project identifying ways to ensure long-term water reliability throughout the region.
- In Winter 2021, anticipating water needs during this severe drought, we imported water during winter to refill Lake Stafford to over one-half capacity by the end of April for use this summer. This is equal to about 14% of our yearly water supply.
- In October 2021, the District will begin evaluating potential new local water sources via a Local Water Supply Enhancement Study. Everything is on the table, from increased water recycling to desalination.

We will keep the public informed as we learn more from these projects to identify water supply opportunities and invite customer questions and input.

While we develop new water supplies, we encourage our customers to continue to track and conserve water. I am pleased to report that our customers are on track to achieving the required 20% cutback in water use compared to the same period in 2020.



Please visit our website at [nmwd.com](http://nmwd.com) and take advantage of our water conservation programs and rebates, WaterSmart portal, Drought Guide, and more.

Learn how the expanded recycled water system helps make our water supply more drought resistant (see page 2).

## Fall is here: Time to turn off your irrigation systems

Shorter days and cooler temperatures are here. Remember to turn off or turn down your irrigation system as soon as possible. As plants slow their growth with decreasing sunlight, they need much less water. This effort will help achieve our community water use reduction goals into the winter.

## The Water Smart Savings Program can help you save water

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. Rebate levels were recently increased in most programs in response to the current drought. Call 415-761-8944 for program details or visit [nmwd.com](http://nmwd.com).

### Water smart home survey

This free service includes thorough indoor and outdoor water efficiency checks. Virtual surveys or phone guidance offered at this time.

### Water smart landscape rebate

Rebates available for water efficient landscape equipment, such as a new drip irrigation system replacing a spray system or a rain shut off device.

### Pool cover rebate

Rebates are available for replacement pool covers.

### Cash for grass rebate

Get cash for removing irrigated and maintained lawn and replacing it with low water use plants. Pre-qualification is required.

### High efficiency clothes washer rebate

NMWD offers a rebate to customers when they purchase a qualifying high efficiency clothes washer.

### Rainwater catchment/greywater rebates

Rebate for rainwater catchment and greywater system installation.

### High efficiency toilet rebate

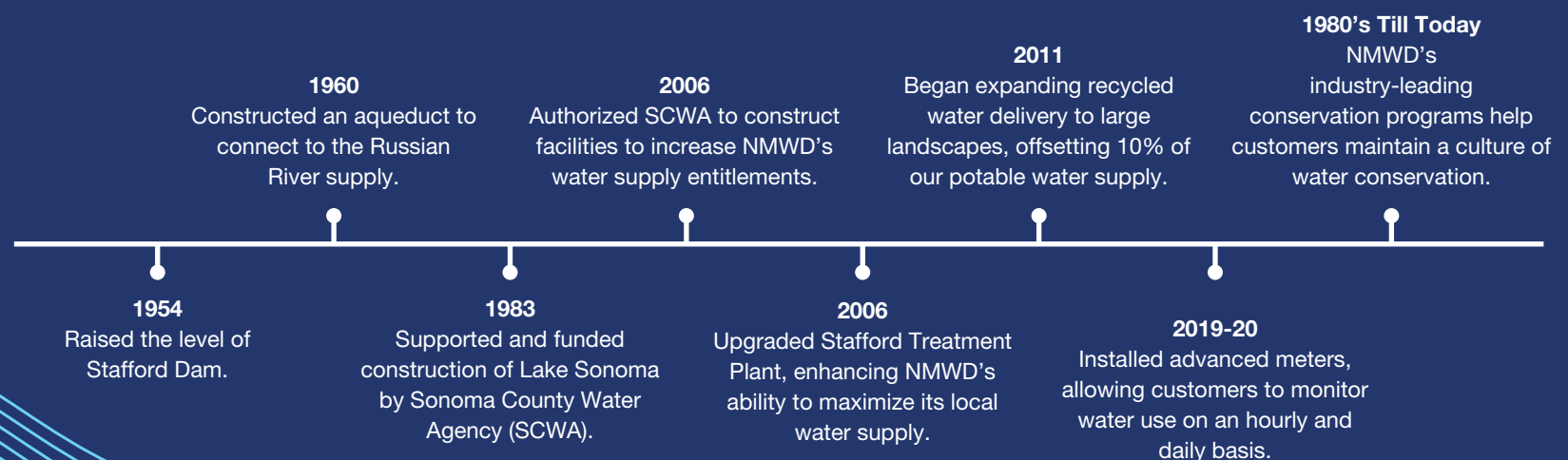
Customers who replace an old water-guzzling toilet with a high efficiency toilet may be eligible for a rebate.

### Weather-based irrigation controller Rebate

Rebate for weather-based irrigation controllers that use weather data and site information such as plant type and sprinkler system output to automatically adjust watering times and frequency.

## North Marin Water District has been working for decades to ensure a sustainable water supply for Novato

Since the 1950s, the District has taken a proactive approach to water management. Here are some highlights:



## Expanded water recycling system makes the water supply more drought resistant

Over the past 14 years, the District has built and repeatedly expanded the recycled water system to increase the sustainable water supply, keep our community green, and make it more drought resistant.

- The first recycled water customer was StoneTree golf course in 2007.
- Starting in 2011, NMWD designed and constructed over 17 miles of new recycled water pipelines to deliver recycled water to the maximum number of large users possible.
- From 2012 to 2016 the expansion projects were completed. The new recycled water system currently has 92 connections, including three car washes, and provides about 10 percent of Novato's water supply. Every gallon of recycled water used saves a gallon of water for use by potable water customers.

\$10 million of the \$30 million total cost of the recycled water system expansion came from grant funding. The grants were obtained through a collaborative project spanning three counties called North Bay Water Reuse Authority. The recycled water is provided by our partners, Novato Sanitary District and Las Gallinas Sanitation District.

The District's Local Water Supply Enhancement Study will evaluate further expanding the recycled water system to provide additional drought resilience. (See page 1)

For more information on the recycled water, visit: [nmwd.com/your-water/recycled-water](http://nmwd.com/your-water/recycled-water)