



Water Budgets Still In Effect; Conservation Needed

The “water year” runs from July 1 through June 30 each year. LVMWD customers are now in the second year of a “water budget” program that saw overall use that is expected to keep us within or very close to our District’s allocation from the Metropolitan Water District. Those District-wide conservation measures saved significant amounts of water - and money - for LVMWD customers.

Water Budgets Reset

With the start of the new “water year,” customer budgets are reset. The good news is, your account may now “roll over” under-budget billing periods against times where a customer might exceed the budget in another billing period. It’s similar to rolling over “minutes” in a cell phone contract. However, for any periods where the net use exceeds the budgeted amount, penalties will still apply, so it pays to remain at or under your budget during each billing cycle. See your billing statement to remain informed on your bimonthly allocation, which changes throughout the year. ♪

Peak demand season requires prudent water use

LVMWD Mandatory Conservation Measures

Help save water by observing the following:

- Irrigation is prohibited between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- Irrigation may not occur during periods of rain or in the 24 hours following rainfall of an inch or more.
- Irrigation may not run off the property into streets, gutters or onto adjacent properties.
- The washing down of sidewalks, parking areas and driveways is not permitted, unless an approved water broom is used.
- A trigger nozzle is required on hoses used for home car washing.
- Restaurants may only serve water upon request.
- Hotels & motels must give multi-night guests the option to retain towels and linens during their stay.

Violations of the adopted measures will escalate for repeat instances of non-compliance within a 12-month period.

- First Violation – Warning letter
- Second Violation – \$50
- Third violation – \$100
- Fourth violation – \$250
- Fifth violation – Restriction or termination of water service. ♪

Malibu Creek Watershed Stewardship 2010

We may sometimes forget what a special place we live and work in. Located in the Santa Monica Mountains, LVMWD’s service area is filled with natural beauty that includes a wide range of habitats, many of them contained within the Malibu Creek Watershed. By choosing to live here, we collectively enjoy the benefits of being surrounded by an amazing natural landscape, while taking on the responsibilities of ensuring it’s there for future generations.

LVMWD provides water and sanitation services with great care to minimize impacts to this special place. Working with many other watershed entities, significant resources are devoted to maintaining and improving the special

environmental qualities that are highly valued by our customers.

Malibu Creek Watershed Partnership

From monitoring creek water chemistry to participating in multi-agency programs directed at improving conditions in Santa Monica Bay, LVMWD has made a major commitment toward understanding and improving the unique ecosystem central to our service area. Recent projects include participation in the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains Steelhead Technical Advisory Council (TAC) and research in the upper headwaters of the watershed.

(Continued inside)



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Annual Water Awareness Poster Contest Finalists

More than 2500 entries were received from elementary-school students from public and private schools within the LVMWD service area for this year's annual poster contest. Twelve students were recognized as finalists during a special ceremony at LVMWD's May 25 board meeting attended by families, teachers and school administrators.

Honored students include Evelyn Chang, Jenna Forston, Denna Hadipour, Ruby Henrikson, Evan Johnson, Alexandra Lee, Ava Naziri, Bernice Nguyen, Evan

Nicol, Julia Pfau, Lily Polvy, and Danielle Ovadia, the top finalist.

The Ann Dorgelo Water Awareness Trophy was presented to Chaparral Elementary School in Calabasas for the coming year, in recognition of the exceptional work of Danielle.

The student artworks encompassed a wide range of artistic approaches—including watercolors, mixed-media, and crayon creations – all centering on the importance of water in our lives.

LVMWD's annual Water Awareness Poster Contest is part of the May celebration of "Water Awareness Month" and is one of the District's many educational programs designed to instill lifelong water conservation practices in young people. Conservation is very important in this naturally arid region that has no natural local water supply; where 100% of the drinking water for the LVMWD service area must be imported.



(Watershed - continued from front)

[Water recycling](#)

The Tapia Water Reclamation Facility has recently completed a \$10 million project to reduce nitrogen levels in the seasonal effluent discharged to Malibu Creek (November 15 – April 15), bringing it close to drinking water standards. Tapia's tertiary-treated recycled wastewater is subject to California's stringent Title 22 specifications (safe for human contact) and is a beneficial resource for use for irrigation, which also reduces demands for water supplies from northern California.

[Vigilance Around the Clock](#)

LVMWD personnel are on duty 'round the clock to ensure the safe, reliable delivery of water and wastewater treatment services against the challenges of fires, floods, land movement, power outages and accidents. Safeguarding the environment is a key element in their duties.

[Water Conservation Education](#)

LVMWD continues to promote water conservation to customers through written communications, special events promoting water efficient landscapes, classes on irrigation and home landscaping, public facility tours, school programs, and more. Customers also can benefit from at-home water use surveys and rebate programs toward the purchase of water-saving appliances and fixtures.

[Community Compost](#)

While some regions struggle with biosolids disposal issues, LVMWD and Triunfo Sanitation District operate a model facility that produces "Class A" garden compost that's available free to the public each Saturday. Taking responsibility for a local waste product and turning it into a useful resource is yet another way LVMWD supports environmental protection. ♪

Water Bond on November Ballot

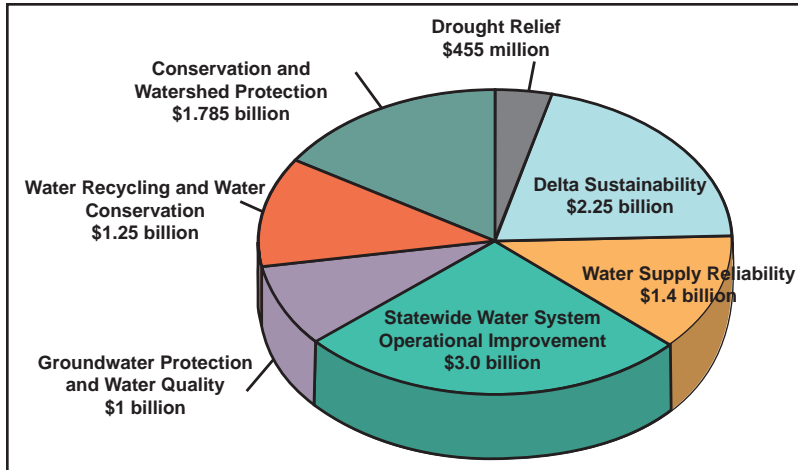
In November, voters will be asked to vote “yes” or “no” on “The Safe Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010,” also known as “The Water Bond.” Rising from the state’s special “water package” of legislation passed late last year with bipartisan support, the Water Bond has been identified as a key element in addressing problems in the critical Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and other state water issues including some here in Southern California.

If passed, the Water Bond would authorize \$11.14 billion for projects as shown in the illustration.

Discussions about the measure include concerns expressed by some about the state taking on additional debt at this time, considering the economy and cutbacks that have been made to state programs.

However, proponents say the bonds would not be issued at one time, but “staged” over a period of years, and repaid with state general fund money that will be available due to the retirement of previously issued bonds.

By itself, the Water Bond does not contain funding for a “through-Delta conveyance” but if adopted, certain projects set the stage for exploring permanent solutions to California’s water challenges with the co-equal goal of environmental protection. ♪



Customer Service

Rate Changes Effective July 1

Based on LVMWD Board actions taken in 2007 and 2009, on July 1 new schedules of water and sewer rates took effect. Sewer rates for single-family dwellings increased to \$108 per two-month billing period, while the schedule of water rates for single family dwellings is now:

Tier 1 (first 16 HCF)	\$1.58 /unit
Tier 2 (next 51 HCF)	\$1.93 /unit
Tier 3 (next 133 HCF)	\$2.77 /unit
Tier 4 (over 200 HCF)	\$4.05 /unit

(1 HCF = 748 gallons)

In addition, there were adjustments to the readiness to serve charge, elevation (pumping) surcharges, multifamily dwellings, commercial irrigation and temporary rates. The complete rates schedule for all customer classes can be found at www.LVMWD.com.

The sewer rate change reflects additional capital construction expenses at the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility for regulatory compliance, energy and chemical costs. Last year, the LVMWD Board chose to forego a scheduled rate increase for sewer service, this year it was not possible to defer the scheduled increase any longer, however it is still well below the previously authorized limit of \$114 and represents an increase of just 10 cents per day.

The change in water rates reflects substantially higher costs from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the District’s sole supplier of potable water, as well as energy, operating and labor expenses. A typical water bill for a single family residence using 70 billing units will increase approximately \$3.00 per month. ♪

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District Board of Directors

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Board meetings are scheduled at 5 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

See web site for meeting and agenda information.

*Customer Service -
818.251.2200*

*After hours emergency -
818.251.2100*

*Rancho Las Virgenes
Composting Facility
Compost Giveaway*

*Hours: Saturdays 8:00 am - 1:00 pm
(except holidays)*

Rebate Information

www.LVMWD.com ~ Conservation

*Potable Water
Recycled Water
Wastewater Treatment
Biosolids Composting*



4232 Las Virgenes Road
Calabasas, CA 91302
www.LVMWD.com

At Your Service...

Water Quality Report Mailed to Customers



The 2009 annual Water Quality Report, a requirement for all water agencies, was mailed to LVMWD customers in late June. The report shows that once again, the quality of drinking water served by LVMWD remains excellent.

If you would like additional copies, please call customer service or review the report at our website www.LVMWD.com.



THE MISSING PIECE

How many gallons does 1 HCF (hundred cubic feet) represent?

Send your response to:

THE MISSING PIECE, LVMWD, 4232 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA 91302, or submit your answer electronically by sending an e-mail to dlow@LVMWD.com with "Missing Piece" in the subject line. Prizes awarded monthly to ten winners randomly selected from the correct responses. Watch for the answer in the next issue of *The Current Flow*.

Previous issue's MISSING PIECE answer:

This winter brought a 'normal' year of precipitation to much of California.

Answer: True

Hanging Baskets

Hanging baskets add a splash of color but they require soil that drains well and some way to retain moisture such as mulch or coir fiber linings. Be sure to monitor the moisture as soils can dry quickly, especially in the heat. The following require normal to low amounts of water and tolerate heat. Trim to maintain shape.

Angelonia angustifolia

Angelonia¹⁰

Looking like a miniature delphinium, pink, purple, white or blue blossoms appear in summer; provides long-lasting cut flowers. 1' h x 1' w



Lantana¹⁰



Lantana hybrid

Popular landscape plant with tiny flowers in clusters year round; needs protection in hard frost zones. Both shrubby and spreading types available. 2-3' h x 6-8' w

Anagallis monelli

Pimpernel¹⁰

A Mediterranean native, this perennial provides intense blue flowers summer through fall. 1' h x 1' w



Rose Moss¹⁰



Portulaca grandiflora

Fleshy stems, low growing, with brilliantly colored blossoms from late spring through fall. 6" h x 1' w

For more information on these waterwise plants, go to the Conservation section of our web site - www.LVMWD.com. To find a local retailer to purchase native plants, go to [BeWaterWise \(http://www.bewaterwise.com/retailers.html\)](http://www.bewaterwise.com/retailers.html).

Photo Credit: ¹⁰ Deborah Low