

THE CURRENT FLOW

Issue #2 - 2021



NEWS FOR THE VALUED CUSTOMERS OF LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT



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Transformative Innovation: Bringing Water Full Circle

Las Virgenes – Triunfo JPA is the proud recipient of the 2021 WaterReuse Award for Excellence in the category of Transformative Innovation for the Pure Water Demonstration Facility. The JPA was recognized during the virtual 2021 WaterReuse Symposium.

The Pure Water Project is the JPA's most recent development in its long history of ensuring water reliability for the region, while closing the sustainability loop. The demonstration facility, which is housed in the former Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (LVMWD) headquarters building, takes recycled water from Tapia Water Reclamation Facility and treats it to drinking water standards through an advanced treatment process. This facility paves the way for one of the first indirect potable reuse projects using reservoir water augmentation in the region. At full-scale, the Pure Water Project will allow the JPA's members to source up to 15% of their water supply locally.

"We are honored to receive this distinction," said LVMWD General Manager David Pedersen. "The Pure Water Project is the culmination of years of hard work and dedication from our staff, and a testament to our commitment to maximizing reuse and resource recovery in an innovative manner."

The demonstration facility, also boasting a sustainability garden and a massive mural visible through floor-to-ceiling windows, provides the opportunity for staff and operators to get familiar with the treatment technology before the full-scale facility goes online in 2030. Additionally, the facility serves as an immersive education center for the public to learn about the advanced treatment process.

"This project will help ensure the continued success of this region," commented JPA Board Chair Ray Tjulander. "Receiving this recognition from a national organization like WaterReuse is further confirmation that we are on the right track to a sustainable future."

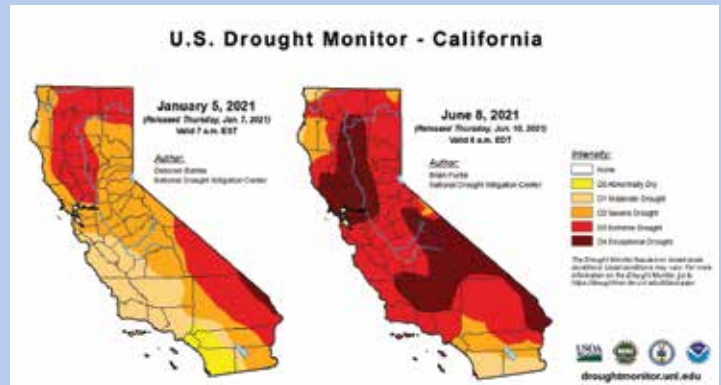
Virtual tours of the Pure Water Demonstration Facility are now being offered and beginning in July the JPA will welcome in-person visitors for the full experience of seeing how the advanced treatment process works. Visit www.ourpureh2o.com for more information.

The 2021 WaterReuse Awards for Excellence recognize individuals, projects, and partnerships that have made significant contributions in advancing water reuse as a key component of water resources management. The Transformative Innovation award recognizes technological advances, research breakthroughs, and innovative practices that advance the adoption, implementation, or public acceptance of recycled water.



Drought Continues Spreading Across California

On June 15, 2021, the Board of the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District activated its Water Shortage Contingency Plan at Stage 1 – Water Shortage Alert. California is officially experiencing the second year of drought conditions. Snowpack in the Sierras and Colorado River Basin are below average and there is reduced water supply and runoff to replenish major reservoirs. Additionally, high temperatures and dry soil conditions have contributed to larger amounts of loss to evaporation and infiltration, which have worsened the drought conditions. Although the District does not expect to experience a water supply shortage in the current year, the District is initiating drought response measures that can be elevated as the conditions evolve. The District developed a Strategic Communications Plan on Drought Messaging that is intended to serve as the basis for assisting, educating and inspiring customers to use water wisely, day in and day out. As part of the Plan, the District will encourage efficient customers that have been staying within their water budgets (49%) to continue using water efficiently and to provide greater focus on assisting and educating the other customers that have not been using water efficiently. The



Drought Map of the western United States. Dark red and maroon indicate extreme and exceptional drought-stricken areas (droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

current percentage of customers that fall within the inefficient and excessive-use category is 27% and 24% respectively when averaged over the course of the past year. The District is looking to lower these percentages through implementation of the Plan. The Strategic Communications Plan can be viewed at: www.LVMWD.com/DroughtResponse



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Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
4232 Las Virgenes Rd.
Calabasas, CA 91302-1994
(818) 251-2200

COMING SOON: Starting July 1, 2021 you will be able to view
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District's Annual Water Quality Report online at:

LVMWD.com/WQR2020

This report contains important information about the source and quality
of your drinking water.

Please call (818) 251-2200 if you would like a paper report delivered to your home.
Customers who previously requested a paper copy will be mailed one automatically.

A partir del primero de Julio de 2021, usted podra ver el informe anual
de la calidad de su agua producida por Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
visitando la pagina de internet: <http://www.LVMWD.com/WQR2020>
Por favor llame al (818) 251-2200 si desea una copia.

Employee Spotlight: Jessica Loza

Many employees of Las Virgenes Municipal Water District are well known in the community. Jessica Loza, who served as a customer service representative for the District prior to her recent promotion to an administrative assistant, is no exception. Jessica spent her first 16 years at LVMWD assisting customers in whatever way she could – whether that be with paying their bill, figuring out their water budget, or learning about saving water at community events.

Jessica, who originally hails from Guadalajara, Jalisco in Mexico, joined LVMWD after leaving her previous job in an orthodontist office. Although she was initially hesitant to accept the offer due to what would be a lengthy commute, she expresses gratitude for eventually agreeing.

"I decided to just go ahead and give it a try because I realized quickly how great of a job it is," said Jessica. "Once I started, and gained a greater understanding of the important work we do here, I also gained a sense of pride and purpose. I really do enjoy helping people, and I do my best to make their day by doing all I can to help them."

Recently, Jessica was promoted to the position of administrative assistant for the Engineering and External Affairs Division, where she will provide administrative support and likely interface with the public even more. When asked what she's looking forward to most in her new role, she says learning more about what we offer to customers and developing new skills.

A mother of two, Jessica enjoys hiking, hanging out with friends, and even spending nights at home. More than anything, she enjoys trying new restaurants, emphatically considering herself a "foodie".

The district is proud to welcome Jessica in her new role, and is looking forward to contributing to her continued professional and personal growth.

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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

Tomorrows Garden, Today - Earth Day 2021

Earth Day 2021, celebrated April 22, couldn't have been more important this year. Whether it's protecting our Great Lakes, our oceans, the air we breathe, the land we live on, the animals and plants that we share the earth with, or the critical rehabilitation that our planet desperately needs this year the impacts of climate change are here – especially in California and we are experiencing it every day.

To help inspire our customers to rise to the challenge presented by increasingly dry years and as part of LVMWD's Year of the Tap campaign we invited sustainable landscape experts Tom Rau and Merihlee Kuhlmann from the Urban Water Group to give provide an in depth discussion of the importance of climate appropriate landscape design featuring the Las Virgenes - Triunfo Joint Powers Authority Sustainability Garden at the Pure Water Demonstration Facility.

The Sustainability Garden Tour was presented as a lunchtime webinar over Zoom to continue to abide by local COVID-19 health and safety restrictions. Rau and Kuhlmann, the

designers of the Sustainability Garden, provided their unique insight to the different climate appropriate planting options customers could use. Examining the different sections of the garden, such as Pollinator Garden, Wildflower installation, Turf-Replacement examples and Succulent Garden participants were able to see specific examples of plants that can be used to at home to reduce outdoor water usage.

Of particular interest to the participants during the live Q&A were the options to replace thirsty turf with climate appropriate groundcover and the techniques used in removing existing turf. Other subjects covered during the event were the need to promote biodiversity in our home landscape to support our regional eco system as well as techniques to create bio swales and rain gardens.



**For information on the Sustainability Garden
ourpureh2o.com/SustainabilityGarden**



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