

THE CURRENT FLOW



NEWS FOR THE VALUED CUSTOMERS OF LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT



What's Inside

- ✓ Fall Projects
- ✓ Meter Upgrades
- ✓ Employee Spotlight
- ✓ Increasing Resiliency

Stay current on water issues, tours and conservation. Follow us on:



Capital Improvement Projects Highlight Fall for LVMWD

As an essential service provider, our top priority here at LVMWD is ensuring the delivery of safe, high quality water to our customers, rain or shine. The District's current slate of capital improvement projects serves as a testament to this commitment, providing upgrades to existing infrastructure that improve our ability to fulfill our commitment to District customers.

This commitment is evident with the upcoming Mulholland Highway Bridge at Triunfo Creek Water Main Replacement Project. Damaged in the November 2018 Woolsey Fire, LVMWD staff has continued working hard to repair damage done to the water main attached to the Mulholland Highway Bridge.

Back in April 2019, the District acted fast to install a "high-line" across the temporary bridge that was placed on Mulholland Highway near Troutdale Drive and Waring Drive. The original Mulholland Highway Bridge catastrophically failed as its metal support structure collapsed due to the intense heat of the fire. As a result of this failure, LVMWD's 12-inch steel water main that was attached to the bridge was also damaged.

Fast-forward to 2020, the District is partnering with the County of Los Angeles for the design and construction of the new, permanent Triunfo Creek Bridge and adjoining 14-inch water main. LVMWD sought to increase the size of the water main as a result of bottlenecks that occurred with the 12-inch pipe. The new 14-inch main will match the existing pipeline on either side of the bridge, providing increased capacity to the area, particularly under fire flow conditions.

District customers can rest assured knowing there will not be a significant nuisance coming from this project. Our contractors will minimize impact by staging all equipment and materials on state park property, and the flow of traffic will continue across the temporary bridge. Additionally, installation of the water main will take place during the construction of the new bridge, so as to not extend the length of time the area is under construction.



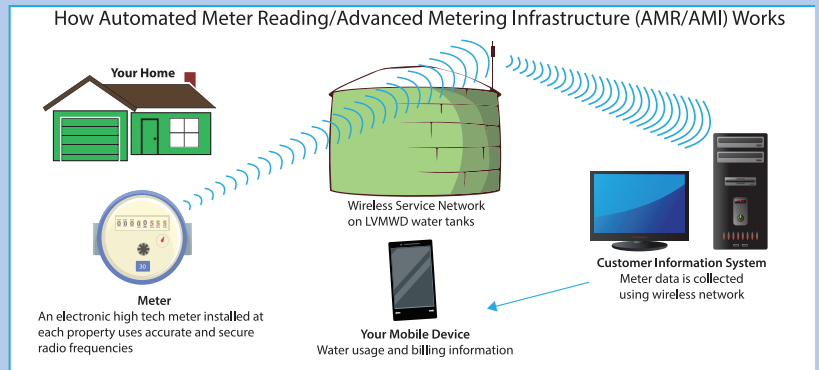
LVMWD Staff performing emergency repairs during the 2018 Woolsey Fire.

LV Tap Advanced Meter Enhancement Program

In the fall of 2020, LVMWD will begin upgrading our customers' current water meters with modern "smart" meters. Nearly 75% of current meters have reached the end of their 15 year lifespan and need to be upgraded to provide our customers with continued reliable service.

The new Neptune smart meters:

- Meet rigorous health, safety and security standards.
- Use proven technology with tens of millions installed throughout the US and also used by numerous agencies in our region.
- Give our customers 24/7 convenience to be better informed of their water usage, billing, detection water leaks, and receive alerts by email, text and phone.



PROJECT FAST FACTS:

Customer Privacy and Security

Your usage data is highly encrypted and transmitted to LVMWD through a secure wireless network. Customer information stays with us and is never given to third parties. We only use the collected data for billing purposes only.

Health and Safety

Your health and safety is our top priority, and our new smart meters meet rigorous state and federal standards. These meters use lower levels of radio frequencies than common household devices such as laptops, cell phones or microwaves and are located near the street in front of your home. Additionally, the new meters do not interfere with medical equipment.

24/7 Access to Your Water Information

The LV Tap Customer Connect portal will provide easy and quick access to your usage information allowing you to check your water usage in near real-time to help detect leaks, which can save money and prevent costly repairs and damage when undetected. You can also register to receive alerts for leaks or high water use through email or text message.

Quick and Easy Meter Installation

Installation of the new meters is fast with only a short 15-30 minute interruption to your water service. LVMWD will notify you before, during and after the new meter installation; our meter installers will arrive in an LVMWD-marked

vehicle and will never ask to come into your home.

Cost

There are no additional fees for the meter installation and you will only see a small increase of approximately \$0.33 to your monthly water bill to cover the cost of the new meters and technology.

Antennas

The majority of antennas are only 7 to 11 feet tall and will be installed at LVMWD facilities, such as our water tanks, as to not deter from the views of our customers. No antennas will be placed at your home, only on District property.

Sustainability

The new meters detect leaks faster, which saves water and reduces our dependence on imported water from the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Additionally, fewer LVMWD fleet vehicles will be needed on the road for in-person meter reading, minimizing carbon and greenhouse gas emissions.

LVMWD Jobs

We value our highly skilled and certified team members. Current meter reading staff will not lose their jobs; instead, they will take on new roles and opportunities at LVMWD.

PROJECT TIMELINE:

Fall 2020 - Phase One: Installation of up 100 meters in select communities

Early 2021 - Phase Two: Installation of 2,000 meters throughout LVMWD service area

Mid-2021 to Mid-2022 - Phase Three: Full installation throughout LVMWD service area

Employee Spotlight: Veronica Hurtado

Just keep swimming...

As a young child growing up in El Monte, CA, LVMWD Assistant Engineer Veronica Hurtado had a passion for sea creatures and the ocean. Her dream was to be a marine biologist when she grew up. Upon finishing high school, she moved to Santa Barbara to attend UCSB and study Aquatic Biology.

Veronica was always very hard working and goal oriented and she worked all through college. During her senior year she worked three jobs; as an educator/ tour guide for the on-campus Research Experience and Education Facility, a tour guide at the Ty Warner Sea Center located on the Santa Barbara pier, and at Big Five Sporting Goods. Her

dedication paid off, and upon graduation, Veronica was offered several positions in her field of study.

At that same time, she was alerted to an opportunity to work for the L.A. Sanitation District as a Laboratory Technician in their Bio Assay Laboratory. This was a temporary position but the pay was decent and she was planning to get married and move to Ventura. She kept her eyes open for more permanent opportunities. This decision was pivotal as it changed her career path. Soon after, in 2007, there was an opening at LVMWD in the laboratory at the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility, and Veronica was offered the position.

She moved swiftly up the ladder, from Lab Assistant to Lab Technician 1 then Lab Technician 2, in only four years.

Never the type to remain complacent, Veronica went back to school to pursue her Master's Degree in Environmental Engineering along with further certifications as a Grade 3 Lab Analyst. Meanwhile, she and her husband became parents to a baby boy.



Veronica loves deep sea fishing and is a member of the Gold Coast Lady Anglers.

A few years after receiving her Master's, Veronica applied for and received a promotion at Tapia as a Management Analyst. At this point, she really thought she had arrived at her destination and life was good. She wasn't sure she wanted to pursue engineering, though she had the education. When a position opened up for Assistant Engineer at LVMWD headquarters, Veronica took a leap

of faith and applied. She got the job and has been in that position for almost one year.

When asked what her favorite part about working for the District is, Veronica says she enjoys the fact that LVMWD handles several aspects of water treatment, such as potable water, wastewater and continues the process to composting. She enjoyed her work in the lab taking the various wastewater, creek, effluent and ground water samples. She likes knowing how our Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility operates and how they take the sludge and make finished, safe compost.

When she is not working diligently on her multiple projects at the District, Veronica enjoys quality time with her husband and young son. They are a

continued on p.4

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Board of Directors

Division 1
Charles Caspary, Secretary

Division 2
Lynda Lo-Hill, Treasurer

Division 3
Lee Renger, Director

Division 4
Leonard E. Polan, Vice President

Division 5
Jay Lewitt, President

MWD Representative
Glen Peterson

General Manager
David W. Pedersen, P. E.

District Counsel
Olivarez Madrugá Lemieux O'Neill, LLP

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
Recycled Water
Wastewater Treatment
Biosolids Composting



4232 Las Virgenes Road
Calabasas, CA 91302
LVMWD.com

Another Step Toward Resiliency: Las Virgenes - Calleguas Interconnection Project

For more info:
LVMWD.com/InterconnectionProject

The Las Virgenes – Calleguas Interconnection Project is a joint effort with Calleguas Municipal Water District (CMWD) which will see a new pipeline and pump / pressure reducing station constructed that interconnects our two drinking water systems. LVMWD will undertake construction of the southern pipeline segment later this year, with CMWD to follow with construction of the pump / pressure reducing station and the northern pipeline segment.

This mutually beneficial project improves the reliability and flexibility of our drinking water supply, as well as reinforces our ability to deliver water during droughts, natural disasters, and required system maintenance.

In the event that we experience a supply outage, or are otherwise cut off from our normal water source, this interconnection will allow us to receive water from CMWD, and vice versa. Additionally, the project includes expansions of LVMWD's recycled water service through the construction of new pipeline and service connections.

We know what you're thinking – How will this affect me? LVMWD is taking the following steps when constructing the southern pipeline to keep the impact to a minimum:

- **Specified work hours and truck route restrictions.** Traffic control measures will be removed at the end of each work day as to not impact Lindero Canyon Road outside of construction hours.

- **Traffic and noise minimization.** Construction of the LVMWD pipeline will take place prior to construction of the pump station/pressure reducing station, minimizing the impact of construction traffic and noise to residents.
- **Pedestrian and Bike Travel.** LVMWD intends to maintain pedestrian and bike travel along Lindero Canyon Road during construction activities.
- **On-site construction manager.** LVMWD will ensure that a construction manager will remain on-site to direct all activities to ensure compliance and high-quality job performance.
- **Cultural resources training.** Training will be provided to anyone involved in ground disturbing activities in order to preserve any resources that may be encountered during construction.
- **Coordination with local permitting agencies.** LVMWD is working closely with the cities of Westlake Village & Thousand Oaks to coordinate and minimize further impacts on residents.

Continued maintenance and system upgrades are an integral part of what we do at LVMWD. This interconnection project is just one of many initiatives the District is conducting in order to guarantee a reliable water supply, build strong relationships with our neighbors, and ensure a sustainable future for our customers.

Hurtado *(continued from Page 3)*

self-professed “video-gaming family” and enjoy many games together including Mario and Legend of Zelda. She also enjoys deep sea fishing and is a member of the Gold Coast Lady Anglers and organizes monthly fishing trips for the group. Her favorite fish to catch? The rare (and delicious) Halibut. She enjoys catching game fish such as Yellow Tail and White Sea Bass, when in season. However, most commonly she catches Rock Cod.

When asked if she has a mantra or a favorite quote, she didn't skip a beat: “Just keep swimming” (from Finding Nemo). Veronica is a great example of the quality of employees here at LVMWD. Her work ethic, dedication, and readiness for opportunities that may reveal themselves along the way if you “just keep swimming,” is an inspiration and we are so fortunate to have her on board.



Affordable - Convenient - Sustainable

ourLVtap.com

printed on recycled paper~8/2020 23Msb