



## BUILDING RELIABLE SERVICE

SEVERAL DISTRICT PROJECTS UNDERWAY OR NEARING COMPLETION

**M**uch of the infrastructure that provides LVMWD customers with reliable service 24/7 is hidden away from view. Some is underground; other facilities are tucked away on hillsides. All of it is there to provide reliable service to our customers.

This has been a busy year for building and maintaining LVMWD's potable water and wastewater treatment facilities, some of which are more than 50 years old. Chances are, there has been or soon will be, a project near you. This has proven to be a good time to engage in construction and maintenance, as contractors are eager for the work and their project bids have been lower than expected.

### POTABLE WATER

The "Backbone Improvement Program" is underway, with the objective of providing more reliable flows across the District's main east-west transmission lines. Its importance is similar to the spine in the human body. The first major phase included the placement of new pipe along Reyes Adobe and Agoura Roads in the City of Agoura Hills. Additional elements will include a new pipeline along Mureau Road in Calabasas in 2013 and a new water tank at Las Virgenes Reservoir in Westlake Village. When complete, the backbone projects will provide more reliable service through out the District during emergencies and when the water supply from the Metropolitan Water District is unavailable due to maintenance or an unplanned service interruption.

*(continued inside)*



Pipeline installation along Reyes Adobe and Agoura Roads is now complete.



### Trimming Your Water Bill

## It's Summer – But Don't Overwater!

The summer months are typically the time when LVMWD sees the peak demand for water. To avoid the "sticker shock" of a high water bill later this year, take some simple steps toward more efficient outdoor water use.

- Water lawns and gardens every other day, or only as needed.
- Reduce the amount of watering time. Your plants will "tell" you if they need more.
- Water in the evening or in the early morning hours. That lets water "soak in" and helps avoid losing water to evaporation.
- Set your mower a bit higher. Those longer blades of grass provide shade to the soil.
- Inspect your irrigation system weekly for missing, clogged or misaligned sprinklers.
- Consider a pool cover to reduce evaporation losses.

You can request a free outdoor water use survey by calling Customer Service at 818.251.2200 during business hours. ♡

### In This Issue

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- ✓ Website Update
- ✓ Seaside Plants

## BUILDING RELIABLE SERVICE

*(continued from front)*

In the City of Hidden Hills along Long Valley Road, a very old potable water service line that predated the District's founding had experienced multiple leaks and was replaced. New fire hydrants that conform to District standards were installed.



*Long Valley Road Project*

## COMPOST

The ceiling repair work at the Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility is complete; "Community Compost" will again be available in time for autumn plantings and soil replenishment. An announcement will be made when compost is again available for pickup.

These construction and maintenance projects are being done on a "pay as you go" basis with funds from District retained earnings set aside for this purpose. This practice saves customers money by avoiding costly borrowing.💧

## SANITATION

Some of the pipelines and valves that convey incoming wastewater into the primary tanks, the first step of treatment at the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility, were installed in the 70s. Time has come to replace them before costly failures, in terms of repairs and regulatory compliance, occur.

Another project includes maintenance on the sewer line bridges that span Las Virgenes Creek in Calabasas. It is important to inspect, paint and perform maintenance on the supports for these exposed lines that convey wastewater to the Tapia facility.

## RANCHO LAS VIRGENES COMPOSTING FACILITY

*The composting process at the Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility was shut down temporarily to allow repairs to the steel framing that supports the roof. Some steel members were replaced and then the entire ceiling was painted. Other processes in the plant continued during the repairs.*



## TAPIA WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY

*A contractor replaced 40-year-old valves and gates for the influent piping. Half of the influent channel was isolated at a time to allow workers to enter the space and perform the work.*

## Free Speaker's Bureau

Need a speaker for your service club, HOA or PFA?

LVMWD has a panel of experts on a variety of topics, from water supply and policy through conservation, recycling, water-wise gardening and more.

So whether it's a breakfast meeting, an evening gathering or anything in between, call 818.251.2124 for information or to book a speaker.💧



# A New Look & More Information



The LVMWD website is sporting a fresh new look and an updated array of menu choices designed to guide you to the information you want easier. From simple billing questions through complex engineering reports, the LVMWD website is designed to be a resource for users of all ages. You'll find timely information on topics such

as construction projects, rebates, District activities such as tours and gardening classes, reference materials on rates, board meetings and more. Take a few minutes to explore the website, check it frequently, and sign up for e-Notification. There's new information posted almost every business day.

## Update Your Contact Info

Many LVMWD customers have dropped land-line telephone service in favor of wireless or changed e-mail addresses. Please be sure we have up-to-date contact information in case we need to reach you on a service-related issue. We do not release or sell your information to outside entities. To be sure we have current contact information you may:

- call Customer Service at 818.251.2200 during business hours **or**
- fill out this coupon and send it along with your payment **or**
- register for online services at [www.LVMWD.com](http://www.LVMWD.com) and click on "My Account".

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Account #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Best phone number to reach you (include area code): \_\_\_\_\_

Las Virgenes  
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Board of Directors

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You may direct communications to LVMWD Board members by sending e-mail to: [board@lvmwd.com](mailto:board@lvmwd.com)

Board meetings are scheduled at 5 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. See website for meeting and agenda information.

Customer Service -  
818.251.2200

After hours emergency -  
818.251.2100

Construction Hotline -  
818.251.2180

Rancho Las Virgenes  
Composting Facility  
**RLV Community Compost  
available this fall.**

Rebate Information  
[www.LVMWD.com](http://www.LVMWD.com) ~ Conservation

Potable Water  
Recycled Water  
Wastewater Treatment  
Biosolids Composting



4232 Las Virgenes Road  
Calabasas, CA 91302  
[www.LVMWD.com](http://www.LVMWD.com)

# At Your Service...

## Energy and Water Facts



It takes energy to provide water. Follow these tips for water conservation, save on water and energy costs, and help reduce greenhouse gases.

- Avoid high water and energy use during peak demand hours (noon – 6 p.m.).
- Run pool motors during off-peak hours and use a pool cover to reduce evaporation.
- Run the dish and clothes washers with full loads only.
- Fill a pitcher with tap water and refrigerate for a cool drink later.
- Irrigate during the cooler times of the day (morning or evening) and when the air is calm.
- Use a broom to sweep clean driveways, patios, and sidewalks.💧



## THE MISSING PIECE

### Why is LVMWD's current potable water construction project called "The Backbone Improvement Program"?

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](mailto:dlow@LVMWD.com) with "**Missing Piece**" in the subject line. **Please include your mailing address in case you are a winner!** 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:

**Approximately how many gallons of wastewater are treated at the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility each day?**

**Answer:**

**Some 9 million gallons of wastewater each day.💧**

## Seaside Plants at Home

Create a seaside look in your garden with these hardy and water efficient coastal species. These are suitable for containers or a designated area - just add shells, rocks and sand for the complete beach effect.💧

*Erigeron glaucus*

Perennial native along the California and Oregon coastline; lavender/pink blossoms most of the year; some summer water helps; requires good drainage. 1'h x 3'w



Seaside Daisy<sup>32</sup>

Sea Pink<sup>15</sup>



*Armeria maritime californica*

Native to coastal zones in U.S.; year-round small pink pompoms blossoms stand above mounded foliage; good drainage is needed. 6-10"h x 1'w

*Eriogonum crocatum*

Perennial native to southern California; silver gray foliage offsets the yellow flowers in late spring that change to rust color; needs good drainage. 12-18"h x 12-18"w



Conejo Buckwheat<sup>47</sup>

Sand Strawberry<sup>1</sup>



*Fragaria chiloensis*

A perennial native to the Pacific Coast; small white flowers become edible fruit that attracts birds; spreads by runners to create groundcover; does well in containers. 4-6' h x 6-10' w

For more information, go to [www.LVMWD.com/Conservation/Native Plant Guide](http://www.LVMWD.com/Conservation/Native Plant Guide) or check out the Garden and Landscape Classes. 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:** <sup>1</sup> Br. Alfred Brousseau, Saint Mary's College; <sup>15</sup> Sherry Ballard, California Academy of Sciences; <sup>32</sup> Lynn Watson; <sup>47</sup> Noah Elhardt