

The

Current

FLOW

News for customers of
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District



Issue #4 - 2013

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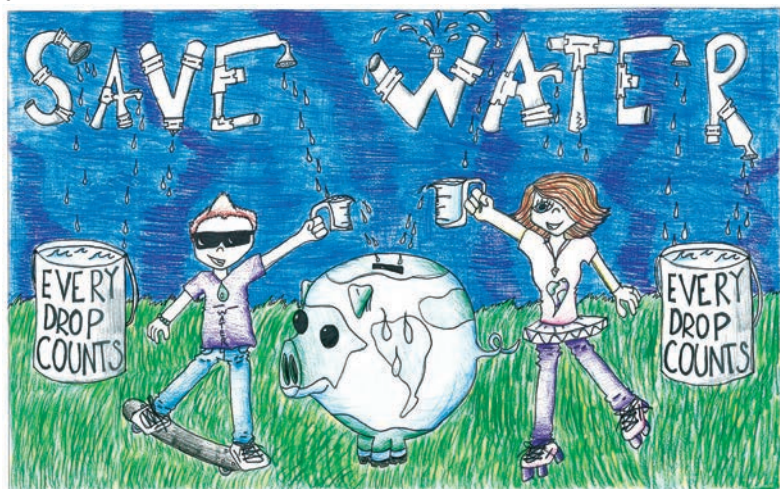
Mandatory Water Conservation Measures

This is the time of year where water use is at its peak. LVMWD customers are reminded to follow conservation regulations already in effect.

- Irrigation is prohibited between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- Irrigation water may not run off your property into streets, gutters or onto adjacent properties.
- Irrigation may not occur during periods of rain or in the 24 hours following rainfall of an inch or more.
- 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.

The District also reminds customers that the following actions apply when a violation is observed: First violation – notification letter; second violation - \$50; third violation - \$100; fourth violation - \$250; fifth violation – District may install a flow restriction device or terminate service.

Do you have a conservation idea or strategy that helps save water? Post it at the LVMWD website so we can share it with others. Use the handy QR code or go to: <http://www.lvmwd.com/for-customers/conservation/how-do-you- conserve-water->



Hunter Peason was a 5th grader at Sumac Elementary in Agoura Hills in 2011 when he created "Save Water", part of the Annual Water Awareness Poster Contest, which says it all.

U.S. EPA Adopts Malibu Creek Regulations

On July 2nd, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency established new water quality standards for Malibu Creek and Malibu Lagoon. Intended to reduce or eliminate the presence of algae in the watershed, the regulations contain stringent requirements for nitrogen and phosphorous. Unfortunately, the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility, operated by the Las Virgenes – Triunfo Joint Powers Authority (JPA), cannot meet these new regulations with the existing wastewater treatment process.

David W. Pedersen, Administering Agent and General Manager for the JPA said, "We are concerned that decades of research show Malibu Creek has very high natural levels of the constituents EPA seeks to control. We are very disappointed to see that sound science is being compromised in a rush to establish regulations not supported by science or the community. I believe the region needs a more collaborative watershed-wide approach that engages the community and, at the same time, achieves tangible results proportional to their costs."

To learn more about Malibu Creek and the watershed, please visit www.LVMWD.com, Your Water, EPA TMDL for Malibu Creek.

Avoid "Statement Shock" from Summer Water Use

Higher water use during the summer months is no surprise, but LVMWD's Customer Service group gets many calls when the summer bills arrive in September and October. The common theme to those calls can be summarized: "There's no way I could have used that much water!"

Most of the increased use is outdoors. Cut back on watering times; if you're watering every day, reduce to every other day. Pool water evaporates more in the summer. Consider a pool cover to reduce evaporation losses when the pool is not in use. For more tips on saving water outdoors, visit LVMWD.com and click on "Conservation". In addition to the tips found on the District's website, be sure to click on the "Save our Water" icon for more water-saving ideas. 💧



Can We Reach You?

Do we have the correct information on file to reach you? Many customers have shifted from having land-line phones to cellular service. To be sure we have up-to-date information, you can:

- Call customer service during business hours at 818-251-2200, or
- Send an e-mail to feedback@lvmwd.com with your name, address, and new telephone contact information.

Using either method, you can also provide your e-mail address as another means to reach you.

LVMWD keeps customer information confidential; it is never sold or distributed to other entities for commercial purposes. 💧



Toilet Rebates are Back!

Save water, Save money with rebates for High Efficiency Toilets.

If you missed the last opportunity to get a water-saving toilet rebate, here's a chance to trim \$50 off the purchase of a new High Efficiency Toilet (HET). The largest amount of water used inside your home--30%--goes toward flushing the toilet.

In just the last few years, technology has greatly improved how toilets work. The new HETs use 20% less water than standard toilets, yet flush the same amount of waste effectively. HETs recommended by SoCal Water\$mart are tested by independent laboratories for exceptional flush performance.

In just one year, you can save over 8,000 gallons of water! That means savings on your water bill over the life of the fixture, meaning it can pay for itself.

Before you buy, visit www.socalwatersmart.com for a list of qualifying models along with rebate program information. 💧



www.socalwatersmart.com

Water System Improvements

Mureau Road Pipeline underway in Calabasas

Following on the heels of last year's project along Agoura and Reyes Adobe Roads in Agoura Hills, workers are now busy installing a new water line along Mureau Road and Las Virgenes Road in Calabasas.

These roadways are busy, so work is scheduled at different times in order to minimize traffic interruptions, but delays should be expected during the project. A schedule of construction times for each project segment can be found at LVMWD.com; click on "Construction" and select "Mureau Road Pipeline Project." In the event Mureau Road is needed because of a freeway emergency, work will be discontinued until the problem is resolved.

If you must pass through the area during construction hours, please drive safely to protect the workers.

LVMWD's multi-year "Backbone Improvement Project" is designed to improve the District's ability to move water where it is needed, in response to changing demands and supply situations. Funding is through LVMWD's capital projects program, using resources already set aside for this purpose. 💧



LVMWD Crews Ready to Respond 24/7



What happens when a car hits a fire hydrant at 2 a.m., or a water line breaks on a Saturday afternoon? LVMWD's repair crews are prepared to respond to water emergencies any time, day or night, because emergencies don't always happen during regular business hours.

Behind the District's headquarters building, the maintenance yard houses vehicles, tools and spare parts that are "ready to roll" on short notice. During non-business hours, pre-designated standby personnel are on-call to respond if an unusual situation arises. Their mission is to address the emergency and restore water service in a quick, efficient and safe manner. ♪

Photo courtesy of The Daily News: LVMWD Field Customer Service staff work together to turn a water valve to the off position after a water main breaks on Canwood Ave in 2007.

NEW BIOSOLIDS DIGESTER UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT RANCHO LAS VIRGENES

Work has commenced on a third biosolids digester located on the grounds above the Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility in Calabasas. The \$6 million project will add needed capacity to the two existing units at the same location, which were built over 20 years ago. Similar to the existing digesters, the new unit will produce methane gas that will be used to generate electricity and the heat needed at the plant. Wastewater treatment, biosolids composting and recycled water distribution are services provided by the Las Virgenes – Triunfo Joint Powers Authority. ♪

A series of project photos can be viewed at www.LVMWD.com/for-customers/construction-projects/biosolids-digester-construction/biosolids-digester-construction.532



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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
5 p.m. on the second and fourth
Tuesday of each month.

Las Virgenes - Triunfo JPA meets first
Monday of the month at 5 p.m.

Check the 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

Free Compost Pickup
Saturdays 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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...

Follow LVMWD on Twitter!



Our "tweets" inform customers of the latest water news or issues in the area and direct you to our website pages with conservation tips, irrigation and landscape how-to directions, and lots more.

Think of us as your resource for all water-related questions.

Also, tweets will be sent out in the event of any water emergencies you may need to be aware of.💧



THE MISSING PIECE

How is the methane gas produced by the digesters at the RLVCF used?

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. **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:

In our region, what percent of the water LVMWD delivers is used outdoors?

Answer:

70%💧

Fragrance in the Garden

Fragrant plants provide a pleasant atmosphere in the garden, and even a bit beyond. Many aromatic options are available. These native selections are just four samples that will flourish with little to moderate irrigation. Visit LVMWD.com for other fragrant species.💧

Calycanthus occidentalis

Spice Bush¹⁸

A deciduous shrub with lush foliage and fragrant 2" reddish brown blossoms in the spring; for sun or partial shade. Moderate water required. 6-12'h x 8-12'w



Yerba Buena²⁷



Satureja douglasii

A low-growing perennial with trailing pattern, round leaves produce a strong mint scent. Prefers moderate water; responds well to pruning for shape control. 4-6"h x 2-3'w

Salvia clevelandii

Cleveland Sage¹¹

A hardy evergreen shrub with lavender to purple blossoms; the entire plant is fragrant. Very drought tolerant and attractive to hummingbirds, bees and butterflies. 3'h x 4'w



Lavender Cotton³⁰



Santolina chamaecyparissus

A tough evergreen shrub noted for eye-catching, aromatic foliage and profuse yellow summer blossoms. Pruning enhances appearance. Little water required. 2'h x 3'w

For more information, go to 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: ¹¹ Charles E. Jones, ¹⁸ George W. Hartwell, ²⁷ Steve Matson, ³⁰ Luigi Rignanese