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# New No-Fee Payment Options Coming Soon

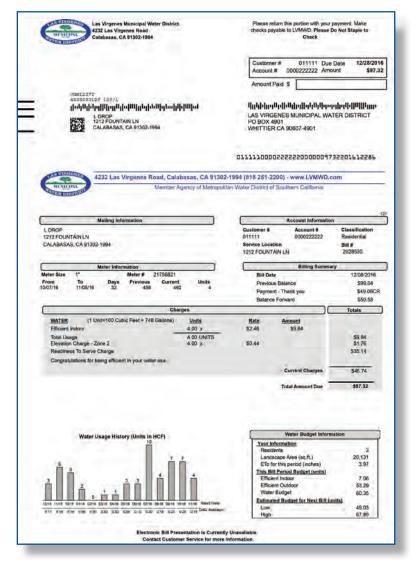
LVMWD's transition to water budgets last year affected the billing system in several areas. E-billing went away for some customers, resulting in a return to paper billing. With programming changes now complete, the District offers expanded options for customers to pay their water bill through LVMWD.com. *In addition, credit card payments will now be accepted online, or at the Customer Service desk, at no additional cost.* 

Customers may also choose to pay bills through bank or credit unions that offer that convenience.

### You Must Re-register

The billing improvements require everyone to re-register (or register for the first time) with a new user name (or log in) and password. The good news is, the same user name and password will now apply to all billing and historical use applications.

For those who choose to pay by mailing a check, future payments must be sent to a new location; customers should not send payments to LVMWD's headquarters office as they have in the past. New payment envelopes will accompany paper bills; the old payment envelopes should be recycled. However, in-person and drop box payments will still be accepted at the District's headquarters.



(Continued inside)

### **Tracking Your Water Use**

In the future, the District's new billing structure will also offer customers access to their online billing history, usage and compare their water use to their neighbors.

Billing statements, both paper and electronic, will also provide customers with information on their consumption in relation to their water budget along with timely information that can help save water and money.

### **Staying Current**

The Current Flow newsletter will continue to be mailed to customers receiving paper bills. E-billing customers can choose to download an electronic version of the newsletter, or you may receive it by e-mail at the LVMWD. com website by signing up under e-Notifications.

As of March 1, 2017, credit card payments may be made at no additional cost.

Water Supply Update

# Winter Season Off to a Good Start

As this edition of *The Current Flow* goes off to press, rain and snow in the northern and southern Sierras are off to a promising start. Critical reservoirs are refilling, but final results of this year's wet season will not be known until April.

### Winter Water Budgets

Plants need very little water at this time of year so you'll notice your water outdoor budget is lower than it is in the spring and summer months. Use this opportunity to save water and save money by irrigating less. And remember, no watering should occur when rain is expected or in the 48 hours following a rain event.



Photo credit: Florence Low / California Department of Water Resources

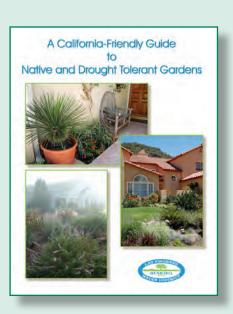
### It's a Great Time to Re-Landscape

If you've been considering a more water-wise landscape, NOW is the time start.

By planting in late winter – early spring, your new water-efficient plants will have time to get established before the heat of summer sets in. Most drought-tolerant plants need water in their early stages to build root systems that draw nutrients and moisture from their surrounding soils. By planting them now, you can also take advantage of any lingering winter rains and help your plants get off to a healthy start.

Wondering what to plant? Download LVMWD's free native plant guide at: www.LVMWD.com/PlantGuide or pick up a free printed copy at our Headquarters office in Calabasas during regular business hours. This colorful catalog has tons of ideas and features plant varieties that will complement your home while saving water – and money.

Best of all, many home improvement centers, nurseries and garden stores are stocking up on "California Friendly" selections. By getting them off to a good start, your new water-wise gardens will make you happy you reduced or eliminated your water-thirsty turf grass areas.



# Thank You

In 2016, LVMWD customers used 19% less water as compared to 2013. Your water-efficiency efforts have helped save water, helped the District comply with California's drought management efforts and saved money by helping LVMWD avoid "peaking" charges that might apply for importing water during the hottest months of the year.



# December 2016 usage was 28.8% less than December 2013

## Need a Speaker?

LVMWD can provide interesting presentations for your service club, HOA, fraternal group or neighborhood association. There's no charge for this service. For details or to make a reservation, call 818-251-2124 during regular business hours or e-mail jreinhardt@LVMWD.com.



School Education

### Bay Laurel Daisy Troop Learns Conservation



Kindergarten and first grade students from Daisy Troop #3606 at Bay Laurel School learned how to save water at home and how to be on the lookout for leaks that waste water. Pictured with LVMWD staffer Jan Dougall, the young ladies were a very attentive audience!

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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 & Drought Hotline - 818.251.2180

Report Water Waste: StopTheWaste@LVMWD.com

Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility
Free Compost & Recycled Water Pickup
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Rebate Information www.LVMWD.com/Rebates

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# At Your Service. . . Bringing you the best!

Water and wastewater workers must keep their state certifications current through continuing education.





# THE MISSING PIECE

Your home's monthly outdoor water budget:

- a. Never changes
- b. Is lower in the summer and higher in the winter
- c. Is lower in the winter and higher in the summer

Send your response to:

THE MISSING PIECE, LVMWD, 4232 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA 91302, or send to LittleDrop@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 Pit(t answer:

If you need to dispose of unused or expired medications, you should flush them down the drain.

**Answer:** False - Take them to the Lost Hills Sheriff Station on Agoura Road or to a retail outlet that accepts them for safe disposal. ▶

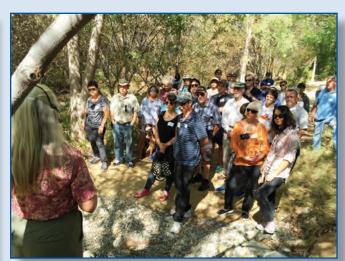
## 2017 Facility Tours - Sign Up Now

You're invited to join one of our 2017 Facility Tours, where you will see how water reaches your home or learn how wastewater is recycled, making it safe to return to the environment.

It's easy to reserve space by registering online at www.LVMWD.com/QuarterlyTours. Guests get a "behind the scenes" bus tour of the water or wastewater infrastructure that serves our communities, a briefing on water issues, and a complimentary light breakfast and lunch is provided. Potable water system tours are scheduled for May 6 and November 18; the wastewater tour is August 5. Each tour is held on a Saturday from 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.



On the Potable water tour, participants listen while Steve Jackson explains about dam safety and Las Virgenes Reservoir.



While on the wastewater / watershed tour, participants learn about creek restoration