

RECENT STORMS

PROVIDE MUCH-NEEDED GROUNDWATER REPLENISHMENT



Aerial view of the Rio Hondo Spreading Grounds in Pico Rivera, CA

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Board President,
John D. S. Allen
Division 3

We have been busy at the district developing programs and building systems that ensure the water that comes out of your tap is safe, clean, and reliable.



Boardmember,
Joy Langford
Division 1



Board Treasurer,
Robert Katherman
Division 2



Board Secretary,
Sergio Calderon
Division 4



Board Vice President,
Vera Robles DeWitt
Division 5

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Recent storms have brought much-needed rain to the region. Though our rivers and flood control systems were designed to move water out of the region as fast as possible to avoid flooding our homes, the Water Replenishment District (WRD) worked with our regional partners including the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works to capture as much water as safely possible to replenish our groundwater basins. We'll store that water underground until it's pumped out by users throughout southern Los Angeles County.

We have been busy at the district developing programs and building systems that ensure the water that comes out of your tap is safe, clean, and reliable. We are currently working on a project that will make millions of gallons of slightly salty water currently located underneath the South Bay area available for use. This water was once freshwater mixed with salty ocean water decades ago when levels in the groundwater basin dropped allowing seawater to seep in. It's plentiful and safe to use once we remove the salt.

This year, the district also completed projects to remove contaminants in the Los Angeles Forebay and in Lynwood to clean-up pockets of contaminated water and make sure that it is safe for generations to come. We have worked with our state and federal partners to bring grant dollars to the region to fund these projects and complete them quickly. Most recently, Congresswoman Linda Sánchez secured \$2.5 million dollars for WRD to treat groundwater. You can be assured that all water in the service area meets or exceeds state and federal drinking water guidelines and that WRD is working to safeguard our water resources every single day.

After a brief hiatus, WRD is excited to bring back our Annual Groundwater Festival! This year's event will be held on May 6th at the WRD headquarters in Lakewood. Thanks to our generous sponsors, we'll have tons of fun for the entire family. We hope to see you there!

John D. S. Allen
WRD Board President



Rio Hondo Spreading Grounds

WHO IS WRD?

The Water Replenishment District (WRD) is a groundwater management agency responsible for the groundwater resources in southern Los Angeles County. We are the only agency of our kind in California, and we serve an area covering 43 cities and four million residents. WRD is governed by a five-member elected Board of Directors that is voted in for four-year terms.



Modern groundwater wells are motorized pumps that can access multiple aquifers at once. There are over 300 of these 'production wells' in the WRD service area.



WRD's Hydrogeology team monitors groundwater year-round and publishes an annual report about the health of the basins

WRD monitors the quantity and quality of the Central and West Coast Groundwater Basins through its extensive Regional Groundwater Monitoring Program. Over 300 monitoring wells are sampled throughout the year to ensure high-quality groundwater is available to the region's groundwater pumpers such as municipalities and utilities.

Over the last six decades of service, the WRD board ushered in a sustainable water supply for groundwater replenishment. We now use only stormwater and recycled water to replenish around 72 billion gallons of groundwater each year. This means we no longer rely on imported water from Northern California or the Colorado River and this creates drought-resiliency for the region.

WRD has three water facilities, including two advanced water treatment facilities and one groundwater desalter. These facilities, along with our longstanding partnerships with local water agencies allows us to use a local water supply for groundwater replenishment and secure our water future for generations to come.

THE WRD SERVICE AREA



Albert Robles Center for Water Recycling & Environmental Learning

WRD's Albert Robles Center purifies 14 million gallons of water per day, providing a locally sustainable water supply for groundwater replenishment while bolstering drought-resiliency.



Leo J. Vander Lans Advanced Water Treatment Facility

The Leo J. Vander Lans Facility purifies 8 million gallons of water per day for use in coastal injection wells, preventing seawater intrusion and providing supplemental groundwater replenishment.



Robert W. Goldsworthy Groundwater Desalter

The Goldsworthy Desalter uses reverse osmosis to treat 5 million gallons of brackish (salty) groundwater that is trapped inland due to historical seawater intrusion.

STORMWATER CAPTURE UPDATE: IT'S A GREAT YEAR FOR REPLENISHMENT

After the three driest years on record, the storms of 2023 have brought welcomed moisture to the region's groundwater basins. As always, WRD works hard with our partners to get as much water into the ground as possible. We use stormwater when we can and have recycled water at the ready to meet the rest of our groundwater replenishment needs.



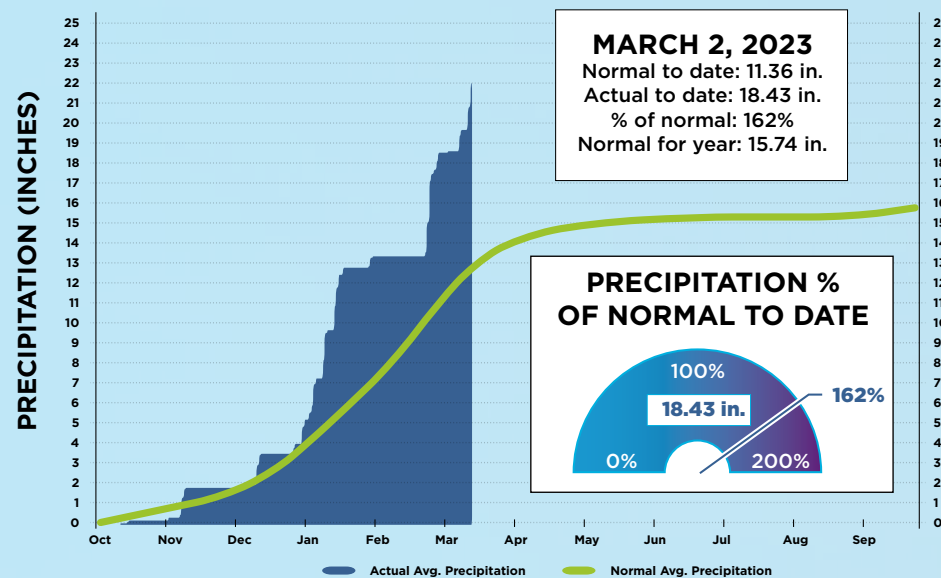
Rain or shine, WRD recycles 14.8 million gallons of water per day at the Albert Robles Center

So far this year, the WRD service area has captured around 24 billion gallons (74,000 acre-feet) of stormwater. That is a year's worth of water for about 150,000 families of four! To do this, water is diverted from the San Gabriel and Rio Hondo Rivers into the Montebello Forebay spreading grounds. The spreading grounds are large ponds that allow water to soak into the ground where it can be stored for future use.

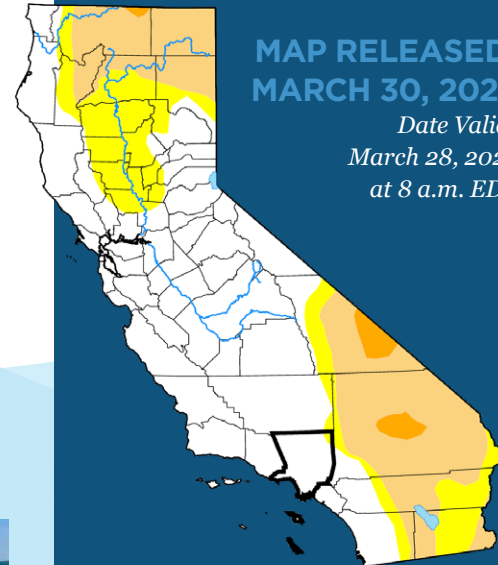


This large amount of capture has resulted in WRD far exceeding its average annual stormwater capture of 18 billion gallons (54,000 acre-feet) per year.

WRD PRECIPITATION INDEX 2022/2023 WATER YEAR



STATE DROUGHT MAP



MAP RELEASED:
MARCH 30, 2023

Date Valid:
March 28, 2023
at 8 a.m. EDT

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)

Even with all this great water news, it's still important for residents to continue saving water where possible. Water conservation is a way of life in California where the cycle of drought is sure to repeat.

For more information on what you can do, visit our Drought Toolkit at www.wrd.org/DroughtToolkit.

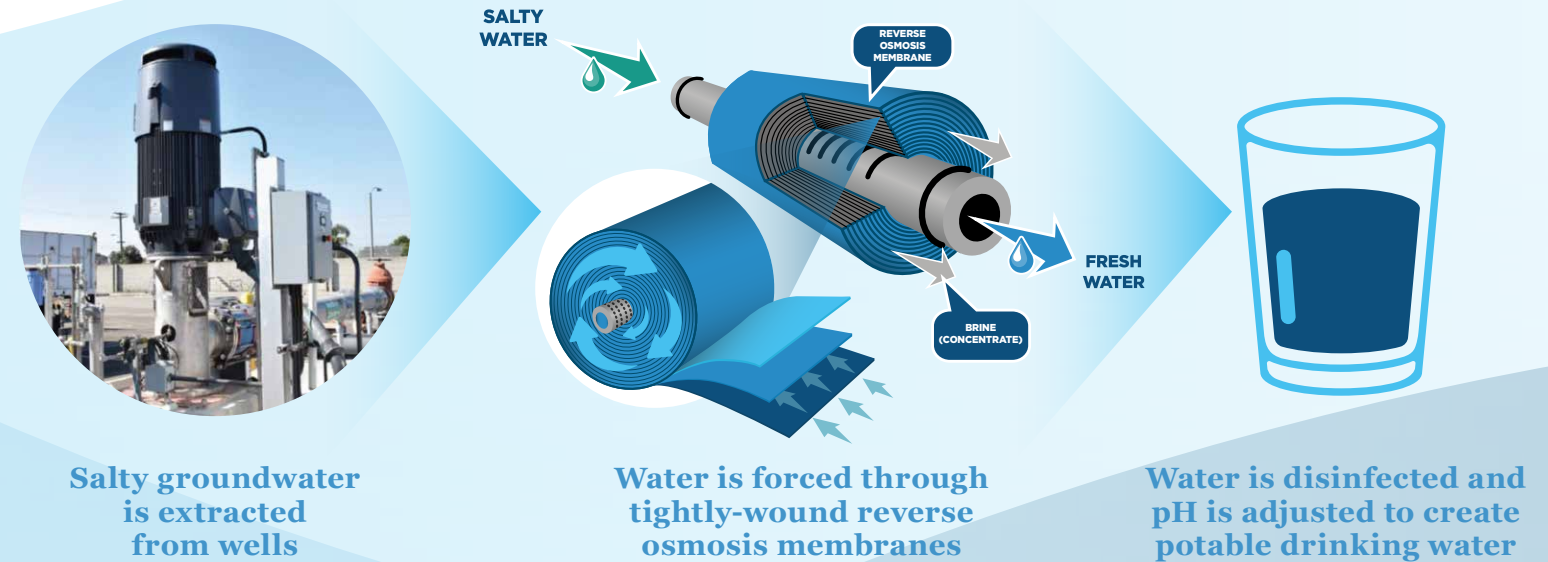


WHAT IS BRACKISH GROUNDWATER?

Brackish groundwater results from seawater mixing with freshwater underground, creating water that is too salty to drink. Brackish groundwater was created in the South Bay many decades ago when water purveyors were pumping out so much groundwater that seawater seeped inland and contaminated groundwater wells.

After WRD's inception, the groundwater levels recovered, and no further contamination occurred. However, a large volume of brackish water is still trapped underground and needs treatment. To do this, WRD operates the Goldsworthy Desalter in the city of Torrance. This facility removes the salt from 5 million gallons of brackish water per day and sends it back into the drinking water system.

HOW IS BRACKISH WATER TREATED?



Groundwater desalination is an environmentally sound approach to drought-resiliency. It takes less resources than ocean desalination because the salt content of brackish water is much less than ocean water. Furthermore, as WRD cleans up the brackish water, more space is created underground for fresh groundwater sources to be stored.

WRD is expanding its groundwater desalination efforts. When complete, WRD's Regional Brackish Water Reclamation Project will provide up to 3.25 billion gallons (10,000 acre-feet) of fresh drinking water per year for residents in the South Bay.

PROJECT UPDATE: GROUNDWATER CLEANUP IN THE LOS ANGELES FOREBAY



Groundwater treatment system to remove perchlorate in the Los Angeles Forebay

As a member of the Los Angeles Forebay Groundwater Task Force, WRD has helped study and clean up groundwater contaminated by perchlorate. Perchlorate levels in the Los Angeles Forebay are among the highest in the state and there is concern it could spread to more areas.

WRD recently completed a groundwater treatment project to remove perchlorate and received a \$15.6 million grant from the State Water Resources Control Board. In fact, grant funds provided 80% of the construction costs.

To help cover future costs, WRD is working with regulatory agencies including the Department of Toxic Substances Control and the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board to identify who is responsible for the contamination. For more details, visit www.wrd.org/groundwater-contamination-prevention-program.

WRD IN THE COMMUNITY



The WRD Water Nerd made an appearance at the TreePeople Youth Summit at the Natural History Museum in Los Angeles, CA



Directors Langford, Allen, and DeWitt advocated for groundwater infrastructure in Washington D.C.



Staff and Director DeWitt at WateReuse Symposium



Director Calderon led a tour of the Albert Robles Center for the Pico Rivera Senior Citizen Center



WRD staff talked to students at Tweedy Elementary School in South Gate during their Career Day event



PepsiCo received an award at the 2023 WateReuse Symposium for their support of WRD's innovative inland injection well project



Congresswoman Linda Sanchez, Director Allen and Stephan Tucker Check Presentation



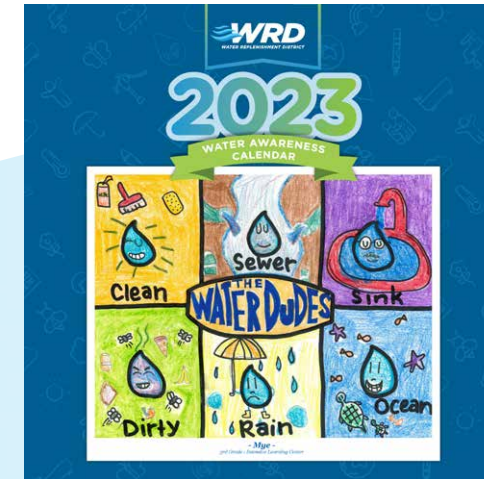
Director Allen, Assemblymember Blanca Pacheco Swearing-In



WRD staff, Compton Councilwoman Lillie Darden, WRD Director Langford, Compton Mayor Emma Sharif

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CALENDAR ART CONTEST WINNERS!

The WRD Water Awareness Calendar educates people about the importance of groundwater and the role they can play in water conservation. Every year we receive hundreds of submissions to our Student Art Contest and pick 23 winners. The winners have their artwork published in the calendar and receive certificates of recognition along with other fun prizes. Each participant who submits a piece of art to the contest also receives a certificate of participation.



Director Rob Katherman presents awards to two calendar contest winners at Montemalaga Elementary School

SIGN UP FOR AN ECO GARDENER CLASS!

WRD offers free sustainable gardening classes both in-person and online. Sign up today to exercise your green thumb and contribute to our urban ecosystem!

RSVP HERE:



WRD.org/
EcoGardener



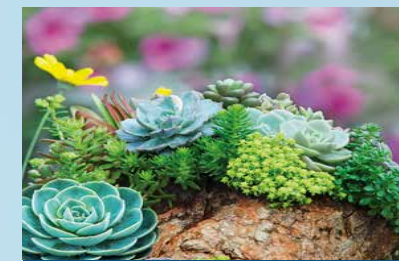
(562) 275-4265



SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE DESIGN



EDIBLE GARDENING



DROUGHT-TOLERANT PLANTS



IRRIGATION BASICS



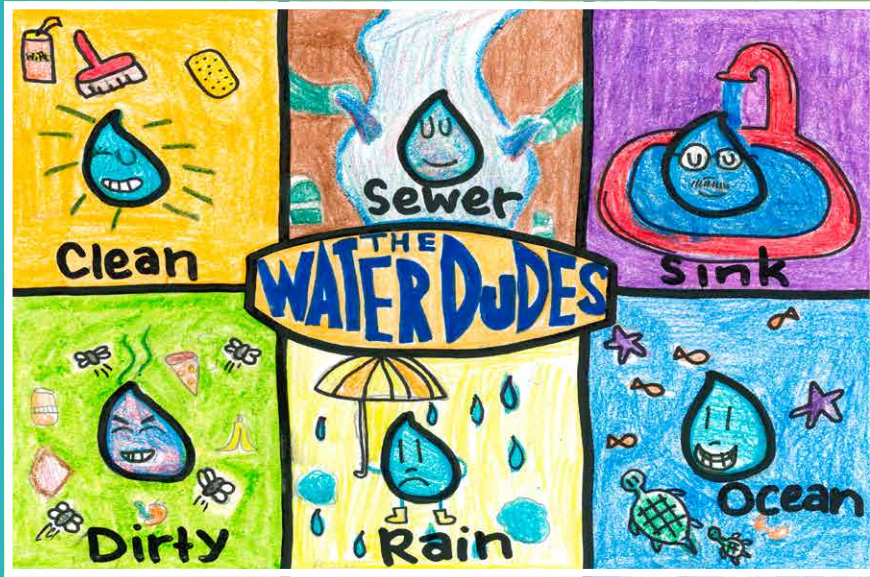
Scan QR Code



13th Annual

GROUNDWATER FESTIVAL

Treasure Beneath Our Feet



- Mye -
3rd Grade - Intensive Learning Center

The Water Replenishment District (WRD) is proud to present the 13th Annual Groundwater Festival on Saturday, May 6, 2023. Please join us for this family friendly event full of activities, educational booths, food, and prizes!

WHERE
WRD
4040 Paramount Blvd.
Lakewood, CA 90712

WHEN
Saturday,
May 6, 2023
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

FOOD, FACE PAINTING, AND MORE!

For more info please contact Shane Hardy at (562) 275-4228 or via email at shardy@wrd.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

-  Joy Langford
Division 1
-  Robert Katherman
Division 2
-  John D. S. Allen
Division 3
-  Sergio Calderon
Division 4
-  Vera Robles DeWitt
Division 5
-  Stephan Tucker
General Manager

