



Water Views

February 2013

"A District of Distinction"
Serving the Public - Respecting the Environment

RECYCLED WATER EXPANSION PROJECT

Project Update

The District continues to make progress on the comprehensive, multi-phase Recycled Water Expansion Project that will increase the amount of recycled water produced for local irrigation. By producing more recycled water, the District will save precious imported drinking water (potable) for household consumption and sanitary uses.



ETWD hosted an Open House in late November and one of the most popular questions was whether the additional recycled water produced by this project would be used for drinking water. The answer is NO!

All the water produced by this expansion project will be used exclusively for landscape irrigation.

The Recycled Water Expansion Project includes two components. The District will expand its existing Water Recycling Plant to increase the treatment and delivery of recycled water for irrigation - approximately 1,400 acre feet per year. That's the equivalent of covering the entire footprint of Laguna Woods Village with five inches of water or filling Angel Stadium nineteen and a half times.

The District will also build a new recycled water distribution system for irrigation. This new distribution system will be completely separate from the drinking water distribution system and used for irrigation only.

Approximately 100,000 feet or 19 miles of recycled water pipeline will be constructed beneath the roadways in portions of Laguna Woods and the northwest portion of Laguna Hills.

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ETWD is eager to continue to share project information with the community. If you would like a District staff member to provide a project overview at your next community group meeting, please let us know. To schedule a presentation, please contact Sherri Seitz at (949) 837-7050, ext 239 or sseitz@etwd.com.

Safety of Recycled Water

All recycled water produced by ETWD for irrigation meets, or exceeds, the stringent water quality requirements for California as established by the Regional Water Quality Control Board and California Department of Public Health. ETWD will be conducting extensive monitoring to ensure the reliability of the disinfection and tertiary treatment processes. This highly treated recycled water is virtually free from all pathogens, including viruses. Several long-term microbiological studies involving thousands of samples have confirmed that pathogens are reduced to non-detectable or insignificant levels in tertiary- treated water.

Questions on the project?

Visit the website or call the new project helpline

The quickest way to find project information about construction schedules for individual neighborhoods will be to visit the District's website – www.etwd.com and to [click on the Recycled Water Expansion Project logo](#). The most recent information and an interactive map will be available. The map will allow residents to enter their address and bring up the project area. As specific construction schedules become available, streets will be color-coded to indicate the anticipated dates of construction. New project updates will be posted weekly.



If you don't have Internet access, ETWD has set up a **dedicated project helpline (949) 837-0880** to answer questions. The helpline will be answered by a project specialist from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The project specialist will have detailed information about construction schedules, possible street detours and traffic delays.

During the weekend or after hours, callers may leave a message on the helpline and a project specialist will return the call on the next business day. In the event of a water or sewer emergency, please do not call the dedicated project helpline, but call customer service at (949) 837-0660.

Construction on the current Recycled Water Plant and the pipeline system will begin in February/March 2013 and continue through the end of 2014. ETWD is dedicated to keeping the community informed regarding construction schedules and other project details.

Water Use Efficiency Rebates

ETWD is committed to helping all of our customers use water efficiently. Residential homeowners and commercial business owners can reduce their water consumption and save money by installing qualifying water efficient products. The rebate program is effective through June 30, 2013. **We encourage you to apply, as funding is limited.**

Residential Rebates

\$185 High efficiency clothes washer

\$75 High efficiency toilet

\$5 Rotating sprinkler nozzles

For residential rebate information, please visit www.socalwatersmart.com or call (888) 376-3314.

Commercial Rebates

\$125 High efficiency flushometer toilet

\$250 Zero and ultra-low water urinals

\$5 Rotating sprinkler nozzles

For these and additional commercial rebates, please visit www.socalwatersmart.com or call (888) 376-3314.



Turf Removal Rebates

Residential and small commercial customers of El Toro Water District are eligible to receive an incentive of \$1.50 per square foot of turf removed for qualifying projects. For more information, please visit www.mwdoc.com/services/turf-removal.

California-Friendly Plant of the Month

Arctostaphylos 'Pacific Mist'
Pacific Mist Manzanita

Evergreen

The 'Pacific Mist' Manzanita is a widely used, mounding groundcover that can reach 2 feet tall and 5 -6 feet wide. It is known for its rapid growth and narrow blue-grey leaves.

The branches of this manzanita are red in color and contrast well against the blue grey foliage. In the spring, it blooms small white flowers. 'Pacific Mist' manzanita adapts well to both coastal and inland regions and can take sun and part shade. It can be used as groundcover on slopes as well as in planters.

Source: Tree of Life Nursery



Arctostaphylos 'Pacific Mist' **Pacific Mist Manzanita**

Season:	Spring
Size:	2 ft. high, 5-6 ft. wide
Color:	blue grey foliage
Water:	Summer 1 - 2x month
Sun:	Full sun or partial shade

Water Education Contests

ETWD, Municipal Water District of Orange County and the family of Orange County water agencies are excited to present the 2013 Water Awareness Poster and Slogan Contest and the Photography and Digital Arts Contest!

2013 Poster and Slogan Contest

Orange County students in grades K - 5 are invited to submit original posters and slogans that promote the wise use of water. The 2013 contest theme is: "The Value of Water."



One grand prize winner in grades K-2 will receive a Nintendo DS, and one grand prize winner in grades 3-5 will receive an iPad Mini! Every teacher whose student submits a poster or slogan will be entered into a drawing to win a \$100 gift card for teaching supplies!

2013 Photography and Digital Arts Contest

Through this Contest, Orange County students in grades 6 - 12 are invited to submit original digital photos and digital artwork pieces that promote the wise use of water. The 2013 contest theme is: "The Value of Water."



One grand prize winner in grades 6 - 8 and one grand prize winner in grades 9-12 will receive an iPad Mini! Every teacher whose student submits a digital photo or digital artwork piece will be entered into a drawing to win a \$100 gift card for teaching supplies!

For more information on these contests, please visit <http://www.mwdoc.com/services/poster-slogan>.

The deadline to submit your entry is March 29, 2013.

The El Toro Water District is a California Water District governed by an elected Board of Directors.



EL TORO WATER DISTRICT

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The mission of the El Toro Water District is to plan and invest appropriately to provide its customers a safe, adequate and reliable supply of water, wastewater and recycled water services in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

Water Views is published quarterly to keep water users in the El Toro Water District informed about water and wastewater related issues and events and is prepared by District staff.

Your comments and suggestions are welcome.

Please call Customer Service at (949) 837-0660 or visit our website at www.etwd.com.

Printed on recycled paper.