



El Toro Water District

WaterViews

El Toro Water District Marks 45th Anniversary

State, regional and local updates presented by key water leaders

In recognition of 45 years of service, the El Toro Water District held a water issues briefing event that featured statewide, regional and local updates. With over 100 elected and public officials and business and community leaders in attendance, speakers shared some of their recollections of the District and thoughts about its future goals.



From Left, ETWD Director of Operations and Engineering Dennis Cafferty, MWD's Chairman Wes Bannister, ACWA's Executive Director Steve Hall, City of Laguna Woods Mayor Bob Bouer, ETWD General Manager Bob Hill, and ETWD Assistant General Manager Mike Grandy

In 1959 a group of local landowners came together to discuss their concerns about water supply in the community of El Toro (now Lake Forest). With a population of only 125 and an expanded agricultural area, they wanted to find a more reliable and predictable source of water. As a result, in September 1960 they formed the El Toro Water District (ETWD) with a charge to develop and implement policies that would meet the short and long range economic, water resource and environmental goals not only of its customers but of Orange County.

Supervisor Tom Wilson was on hand to inform the guests that ETWD and its south County neighbors rely almost 100% on imported water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) to meet their potable waters demands. He added that ETWD charted its course for the well-anticipated growth of south Orange County by exercising tremendous foresight and good planning for the future of El Toro and all of south Orange County. ETWD authorized a bond that included a 233-million gallon reservoir (known as R-6), which is the largest covered drinking water reservoir in

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Orange County, benefiting south Orange County not only today but well into the future.

Supervisor Wilson added that ETWD continues to be at the policy table to pursue options to diversify the water supply and regional conveyance of water for the future in order to meet its commitment to its 51,000 customers. ETWD will also continue to



Supervisor Tom Wilson, 5th District Orange County Board of Supervisors

provide not only ongoing education and outreach to its customers, but will continue to ensure that its emergency preparedness plan will always be highly maintained in order to protect public health, the environment and the quality and security of its water and sewers.

MWD's Chairman, Wes Bannister



ACWA's Executive Director Steve Hall

Steve Hall, Executive Director of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), provided a statewide perspective highlighting the results of a two-year effort by a statewide task force: *No Time to Waste: A Blueprint for California Water*. The Blueprint intends to frame the water supply issues, ignite discussion and lead to action. To conclude the program, Wes Bannister, Chairman of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) provided a regional perspective with regards to what MWD has been doing and continues to do to ensure water supply reliability for southern California.

El Toro Water District is proud to serve you. We will continue to exercise wise foresight to plan and invest appropriately to provide not only our customers but south Orange County with a safe, adequate and reliable supply of water, wastewater and recycled water service in a most environmentally and economically responsible way. The District looks forward to serving you for another 45 years! ♦

EMPLOYEE RETIRES AFTER 26 1/2 YEARS

On behalf of the ETWD Board of Directors, the District's General Manager, Bob Hill, and staff, we acknowledge Carol Adams for her dedication to the District and the customers that we serve. We wish her well in her retirement.

Carol started with the District 26 ½ years ago on December 16, 1979. Carol has proudly and with great professionalism and diplomacy served the District as the Recording Secretary and Executive Assistant to the Board of Directors and the General Manager. Carol played a critical role in maintaining an interface with our customers, neighboring water agencies, professional associations and the municipalities within our service area. The District's Board President fondly and respectfully refers to Carol as "the engine that keeps the administrative functions of the board running smoothly".

The success of the District over the last 45 years can be attributed to the hard work and commitment of our employees. According to Bob Hill, "Carol is a perfect example of that type of employee". While no easy task to fill the shoes that Carol is leaving behind, her replacement, Polly Welsch, is working closely with Carol to absorb the knowledge that she has accumulated over the last 26 ½ years.

Carol and her husband will enjoy retirement with their children, 5 grandchildren and hopefully a lot of free time to travel. Congratulations Carol on your retirement. Thank you for all your hard work. We will all miss you. ♦



WATER CONSERVATION CORNER

Suggested Weekly Watering Schedule

Weekly Watering Schedule for Spray Head Irrigation Systems

	Turf Grass	Trees, shrubs groundcover
July	4 days 3 cycles of 3 minutes	2 days 3 cycles of 4 minutes
August	4 days 3 cycles of 3 minutes	2 days 3 cycles of 4 minutes
September	3 days 2 cycles of 3 minutes	2 day 2 cycles of 4 minutes

Outdoor Conservation Tips

- Consider native and drought-tolerant plants and grasses when making landscape choices and adjust your watering to take advantage of the less-thirsty plants.
- Check your irrigation system for efficiency. Check for broken sprinkler heads and coordinate irrigation timers with the water schedule above.
- Prevent runoff by adjusting your sprinkler heads to water your lawn and garden. Runoff carries fertilizers into the storm drain and pollute our waterways.
- Water your lawn during the cool times of the day and preferably on less windy days. Early morning is better than dusk. Less water means less prolific growth, therefore less mowing and fertilizer is needed.
- Consider reusing some household water to irrigate your landscaping by using a bucket.
- Set lawn mower blades one notch higher. Longer grass means less evaporation.
- If you have a pool or spa, use an insulated cover to cut down on evaporation. It also will keep your pool or spa cleaner and reduce the need to add chemicals.
- If you have an evaporative air conditioner, direct the water drain line to a flowerbed, tree base or lawn.
- Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants. Chunks of bark, peat moss or gravel slow evaporation. ♠



LIMITED TIME OFFER

Homeowners that upgrade their outdoor sprinkler system with a “smart” controller can receive up to a **\$500** rebate.

Reduce outdoor water use up to 25%, increase the health and appearance of your landscape, and reduce runoff.

For complete details, please call **1-866-846-3725** or visit www.mwdoc.com/Smartimer/.

2006 Water Quality Report

Since 1991, California water utilities have been providing an annual Water Quality Report to their customers. This year's report covers the calendar year 2005 water quality testing.

The ETWD vigilantly safeguards its water supply and, as in years past, the water delivered to your home meets the standards required by the state and federal regulatory agencies. The report talks about where your water comes from, what it contains and how it



compares to state and federal water quality standards. To ensure your tap water is safe and of the highest quality, our operators collect and analyze approximately 6,200 water samples throughout the water distribution system each year. This year's report is being distributed by mail during the month of June. Please take a few minutes to review the contents of the report and if you need more information about the report or your water quality in general, please contact, Mike King, Water Services Manager, at (949) 837-7050, ext. 203 or our Customer Service office. ♠

Water Education Corner

NO DRUGS DOWN THE DRAIN

Unused prescription and over the-counter medications that are put in drains or flushed down the toilet pollute the environment, so please take as prescribed and dispose of unused portions properly.

UNUSED MEDICATIONS SHOULD BE:

1. Taken to a household hazardous waste collection center or event (no controlled substances allowed)

Orange County Integrated Waste Management Department has 4 centers that can assist with discarding medication; hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. located at:

6411 Oak Canyon, Irvine
32250 La Pata Ave., San Juan Capistrano
1071 N. Blue Gum St., Anaheim
17121 Nichols St., Huntington Beach

-or-

2. Put in a sturdy, securely sealed container, then in a trash can where children and animals can't reach them.

For more information, please visit www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org ♦



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 service 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. It is prepared by District staff. [Your comments and suggestions are welcomed.](#) Please call Customer Service at (949) 837-0660 or visit our website at www.etwd.com. The El Toro Water District is a California Water District governed by an elected Board of Directors.

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