

SECURING OUR WATER FUTURE TODAY

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Soon, the 4 million residents we serve will have a completely locally sustainable groundwater supply...

Board President,
John D. S. Allen
Division 3



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Willard H. Murray, Jr.
Division 1



Board Treasurer,
Robert Katherman
Division 2



Board Vice President,
Sergio Calderon
Division 4



Board Secretary,
Vera Robles DeWitt
Division 5



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friend,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to extend our sincere wish for a very Happy New Year to you and your family! As you may know, the Federal Government recently released the National Climate Assessment prepared by 13 Federal Agencies. This report predicts persistent drought and a vulnerable water supply for much of the nation if we do nothing to combat the effects of climate change. These conditions are nothing new for California as we have been experiencing them for decades.

In response to our recent past, Californians have made great strides to conserve water and water agencies have responded in ways that reduce greenhouse gas emissions that result from importing water from Northern California and the Colorado River. Greenhouse gas emissions are responsible for a significant part of our climate change problem and we must continue to find ways to reduce or eliminate them.

Fortunately, the WRD Board of Directors began working on solutions to these problems more than a decade ago. 11% of California's population resides in WRD's service area. Soon, the 4 million residents we serve will have a completely locally sustainable groundwater supply thus reducing some greenhouse gas emissions caused by importing water.

This year, WRD will begin operating our second advanced water treatment facility, the Albert Robles Center for Water Recycling and Environmental Learning. You may be interested to know that it takes significantly more energy to import water than it does to produce advanced treated recycled water locally.

With the completion of WRD's Robles Center, we will no longer need to import water from Northern California and the Colorado River for groundwater replenishment. This project will produce 3.3 billion gallons of high quality water each year to recharge our basins.

While the future holds many challenges toward meeting water demands, rest assured that WRD's Board of Directors and staff are working on solutions that secure our water and environment for today and the future.

ALBERT ROBLES CENTER (ARC) CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

ALBERT
ROBLES
CENTER

WATER RECYCLING &
ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING



The Albert Robles Center is in the final stages of construction! Once complete, the Water Replenishment District will have fulfilled its mission to make the region completely independent from imported water for groundwater replenishment.



This aerial shot was taken in November and shows current construction progress at the Albert Robles Center project site. Key project features are now very easy to distinguish. The majority of work remaining is installing building windows, completing exterior finishes, and installing the beautiful demonstration gardens.

Construction continues on the Administration and Learning Center:

The learning center will feature water themed educational exhibits and public meeting spaces.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

ARC UPDATE ON OUTREACH



Community Update Meetings

WRD hosted its last two community update meetings during the fall to keep the public informed about the Albert Robles Center's progress and its final stages.



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION CHECK PRESENTATION



In August, Congresswomen Linda Sánchez and Nanette Diaz Barragán visited the Albert Robles Center (formerly GRIP) to present us with a grant from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) for our project. We are fortunate to have great partners in Congress and the USBR that realize the regional significance of this project.



WRD EDUCATES

Water Resources Tour with High School Students



Local high school students from the Southeast Youth Workforce Development and Civic Engagement Program participated in a multi-stop water resources tour with Central Basin and ended the trip at WRD's Albert Robles Center construction site.

Pacific Institute Tour



International groundwater enthusiasts traveling with the Pacific Institute tour the site of the future Albert Robles Center.

CalRMA Presentation

WRD staff present on WRD's groundwater management and local sustainability efforts to the California Resource Management Association.



DWR Education Committee



WRD was delighted to host the Department of Water Resources' Water Education Committee this December. We had a great line up of presenters that made their trip a fun yet informative one. The group discussed and shared their outreach efforts to educate and inform the community on the importance of water conservation.

Liberty Elementary School Presentation



Future water scientists at Liberty Elementary School learned ways to conserve water inside and outside their homes and WRD Staff had a great time talking about the importance of groundwater to very curious Kindergarteners.



WRD IN THE COMMUNITY

Coastal Cleanup Day 2018: A Dose of Vitamin Sea



On September 15th, hundreds of cleanup volunteers pitched in to prevent over 530 pounds of trash from entering the ocean at Dockweiler State Beach. WRD made sure that all of the hard-working cleanup volunteers stayed hydrated by supplying water stations and providing eco-friendly reusable water bottles. By partnering with Heal the Bay, WRD was also part of a larger effort that saw 13,464 volunteers pick up 29.8 tons of trash in LA County. Great work LA!

Getting Your Garden Groove On!



Participants at the Bellflower Eco Gardener class learned the difference between California Native Plants and Drought-Tolerant Plants during October's workshop hosted in partnership with Liberty Utilities. Unlike drought-tolerant plants, CA Natives need little to no watering during the long, dry California summers! #NowYouKnow



At the Lennox Senior Center class, in partnership with the South Bay Cities Council of Governments, WRD's Edible Gardening Class taught Spanish-Speaking Seniors how to get started on their own gardens at home.

Cerritos Taste of the Region: No Water, No Foodies



It was the first on-camera interview for the WRD Water Nerd at the Cerritos Regional Chamber of Commerce Taste of the Region event! The Water Nerd was a little shy, but understands that all great ingredients include water in one way or another. Conserving water every day helps to ensure many great meals for years to come!

West Basin Water Harvest Festival 2018



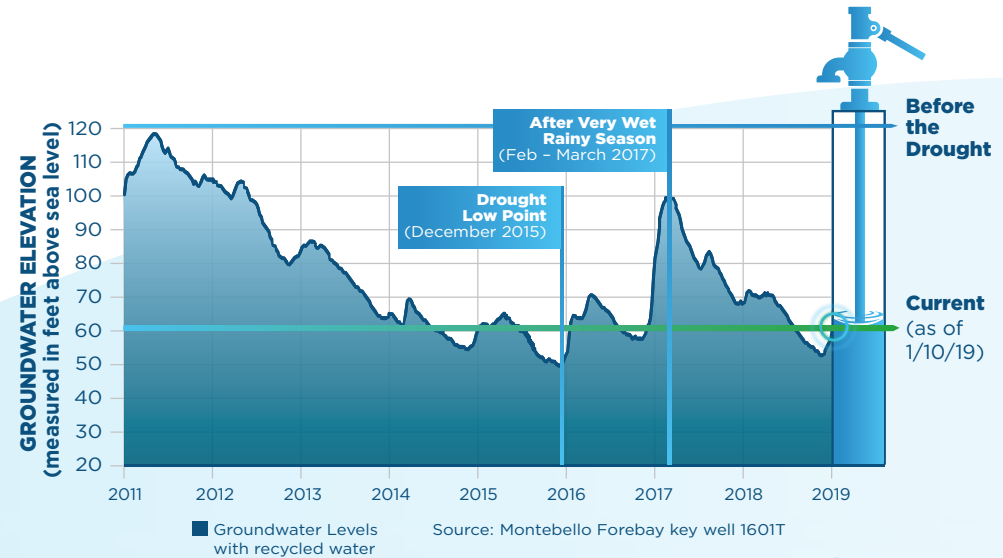
Beautiful costumes were on full display at this year's festival! Over 1,500 participants had a chance to connect with WRD and take selfies with the #WaterNerd frame while learning about groundwater, recycled water, and water sustainability.

WRD at Congresswoman Sanchez's Senior Fair



WRD Staff was proud to attend Congresswoman Linda Sánchez's Senior Fair and share tips on water conservation with the over 1,000 senior citizens in attendance.

UPDATE ON THE BASINS



WHY IS THE GROUNDWATER LEVEL SO LOW?

Last Water Year we received only 29% of the normal amount of rain!

(The 2017-2018 Water Year started on October 1st, 2017 and ended on September 30th, 2018)



4TH ANNUAL ART CONTEST WINNERS

The 4th Annual Calendar Art Contest brought in just over 1,200 entries. The entries ranged from kindergarten to the 6th grade. We received so many great entries that it was very difficult to narrow down the winners to only twenty-four. All participants will receive a WRD Certificate of Participation with a 5-minute shower timer. The 24 winners will have their art featured in our 2019 Calendar, and winners will have their art displayed at our Annual Groundwater Festival on May 4, 2019.



Cover/January winner: Fernando-3rd Grade, Miles Avenue Elementary

NEW DIVISION 5 DIRECTOR

Meet WRD's New Division 5 Director



VERA ROBLES DEWITT

Appointed to the Water Replenishment District Board of Directors in August of 2018, Vera Robles DeWitt currently serves on the Groundwater Quality Committee, External Affairs and Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Committees.

Director DeWitt previously served for 10 years as a Mayor and Councilmember for the City of Carson. For years she has been involved in civic programs as the founding president of the Boys and Girls Club of Carson, Board Member of Dominguez Family Shelter and on the Board of South County Labor, AFL-CIO as well as a member of Kiwanis International.

As a small business owner for over 45 years she brings to the WRD Board of Directors years of experience in budgets and fiscal matters.

Director DeWitt proudly represents Division 5 which includes the following cities:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Bellflower | Paramount |
| Carson | Pico Rivera |
| Compton | Santa Fe Springs |
| Downey | Whittier |
| La Habra Heights | Norwalk |

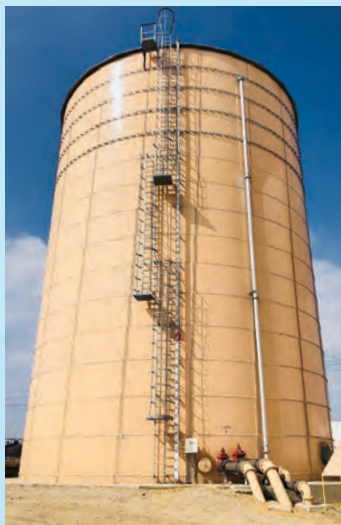


Save the Date!

12th Annual

GROUNDWATER FESTIVAL

Treasure Beneath Our Feet



IMPROVEMENTS TO MAYWOOD AVENUE WELLHEAD TREATMENT SYSTEM!

Maywood Mutual Company No. 2, in partnership with the Water Replenishment District of Southern California, is pleased to announce that construction has begun for the Maywood Avenue wellhead treatment system. The project is made possible by funding from Proposition 1 and Proposition 84.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Willard H. Murray, Jr.
Division 1



Robert Katherman
Division 2



John D. S. Allen
Division 3



Sergio Calderon
Division 4



Vera Robles DeWitt
Division 5

Robb Whitaker
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