



**WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**WINTER
NEWSLETTER**

January 2018

ON TRACK

TO DELIVER **WATER INDEPENDENCE** IN 2018



WRD's Groundwater Reliability Improvement Project Goes Vertical – Set For Completion In September 2018

IN THIS ISSUE:

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE | GRIP PROGRESS
WRD HONORED | WRD IN THE COMMUNITY**

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



WATER 101 WORKSHOP



WRD once again hosted its annual Water 101 Workshop for staff members from our federal, state, and county legislative offices. WRD provides these workshops to give legislative staff members valuable information and updates on water issues that affect their respective districts to empower them to more effectively advocate for their constituents.

Legislative staff attendees learned details about WRD's role in providing groundwater replenishment to the more than 4 million residents in Southern Los Angeles County and the emerging opportunities to make our region resilient and drought-proof through groundwater storage projects.

CALIFORNIA CONTRACT CITIES ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING



WRD is a proud Associate Member of the California Contract Cities Association, an advocacy organization made up of 75 cities from our region and represented by city officials who work collectively with our local legislators to ensure that California policy and legislation is regionally beneficial to residents.

WRD was honored to host the Board of Directors Meeting on November 15. At the business meeting, WRD General Manager, Robb Whitaker took the opportunity to update members on WRD's efforts to expand our local water supplies to provide for clean, safe, and locally sourced water to replenish our groundwater basins.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the entire staff at WRD, I would like to wish you a very Happy New Year.



*Board President,
John D. S. Allen
Division 3*

At this time last year, we were in the middle of recovering from a 5-year epic drought in the State of California. Groundwater levels had fallen to near-historic lows. The primary reason our groundwater basins maintained safe levels was due to WRD's ability to replenish the basins with locally developed supplies of water, specifically recycled water.

The rains helped our basins recover, but not completely. Estimates suggested we would still need another two years of heavy rains to recover fully. However, we are currently well behind our normal level of rainfall to date. While we hope that nature brings more rain our way in the coming months, we cannot and should not count on her cooperation.

The rains helped our basins recover, but not completely.

Scientists around the globe agree that the dramatic flux in weather patterns are symptoms of global warming. Water experts agree that, at least for Southern California, lower annual precipitation is the new normal, indicating that we must prepare for less cumulative rainfall from year to year.

This means that conservation is still needed to ensure that groundwater availability will be a reliable water source for the future. Equally important is the fact that we must begin to invest in programs which will provide our region resilience against drought and diminished annual water supplies. For this reason WRD has been working to develop local projects that will ensure a sustainable and resilient groundwater future without the need to import water from the Bay Delta or Colorado River.

In early February, the District will reopen the expanded Goldsworthy Groundwater Desalter Facility in the City of Torrance that will double the desalination treatment of a brackish (salty) plume of groundwater to produce 5 million gallons of fresh drinking water per day (or 15.3 acre feet of water, enough water for 30 families for an entire year). The Groundwater Reliability Improvement Project (GRIP) in the City of Pico Rivera will open in the Fall 2018, completely eliminating the need to use imported water for groundwater replenishment.

With our eyes set on the future, WRD is moving forward with plans to expand to a regional brackish water reclamation program in the West Coast Basin, that will develop new wells and desalter treatment plants to provide a significant new potable water supply and it will also create groundwater storage capacity for future storage of excess local and recycled water.

Be assured that WRD Board of Directors will continue its mission in 2018 to implement innovative and fiscally responsible solutions to protect and expand our groundwater resources for future generations.



GROUNDWATER RELIABILITY
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

GROUNDWATER RELIABILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (GRIP) - CLOSER THAN EVER

The Water Replenishment District of Southern California is counting down the days to fulfilling the region's independence from imported water historically needed to refill our groundwater basins. By Fall 2018, GRIP will be producing a new source of purified recycled water for groundwater recharge. On October 26, 2017, WRD celebrated GRIP's one year countdown to water independence.



WRD also held three community events last year to keep the public informed about GRIP's progress. Excitement escalated as vertical construction of the Process Building got underway last November. Final plans for roadway improvements are ready to begin in the coming weeks. Meanwhile, WRD staff is also working on the final educational exhibits for the Operations and Learning Center building, the portion that will be open to the public for water education tours.



GRIP UPDATE



WHAT'S HAPPENING

SENIOR FAIRS

*Congresswoman
Linda Sánchez*



WRD supported Congresswoman Linda Sánchez' Annual Senior Fair where staff talked water conservation and the role of groundwater with over 1,000 senior citizens from throughout our service area.

*Congresswoman
Nannette Diaz Barragán*



WRD had a great time at Congresswoman Nannette Diaz Barragán's Senior Fair sharing water conservation tips and other important information with attendees.

WRD IN THE COMMUNITY

International Coastal Cleanup Day 2017

On September 16th, 2017, about 1,000 cleanup volunteers picked up nearly 300 pounds of trash at Dockweiler State Beach. Partnering with Heal The Bay, WRD made sure that all of the hard working cleanup volunteers stayed hydrated by supplying 3 water stations using 125-gallon WaterMonster tanks and providing eco-friendly reusable water bottles with which to fill up.



WRD staff attended the event and staffed an exhibit booth where cleanup participants learned about the connection between stormwater, groundwater, and the oceans, while receiving water awareness promotional items such as shower timers and doggy bags.



By joining this day, WRD was also part of a larger effort that saw 9,600 volunteers come out and pick up 23,000 pounds of trash along the LA County coastline. Coastal Cleanup Day is part of an international effort to improve coastlines throughout the world.



Lakewood Tree Lighting Event

WRD celebrated the start of the holiday season at Lakewood's tree lighting event on November 30, 2017 at the Civic Center Plaza. Every year, thousands of residents attend to enjoy a celebration of the season with friends and family and WRD took the opportunity to share important information about the importance of our local water resources.



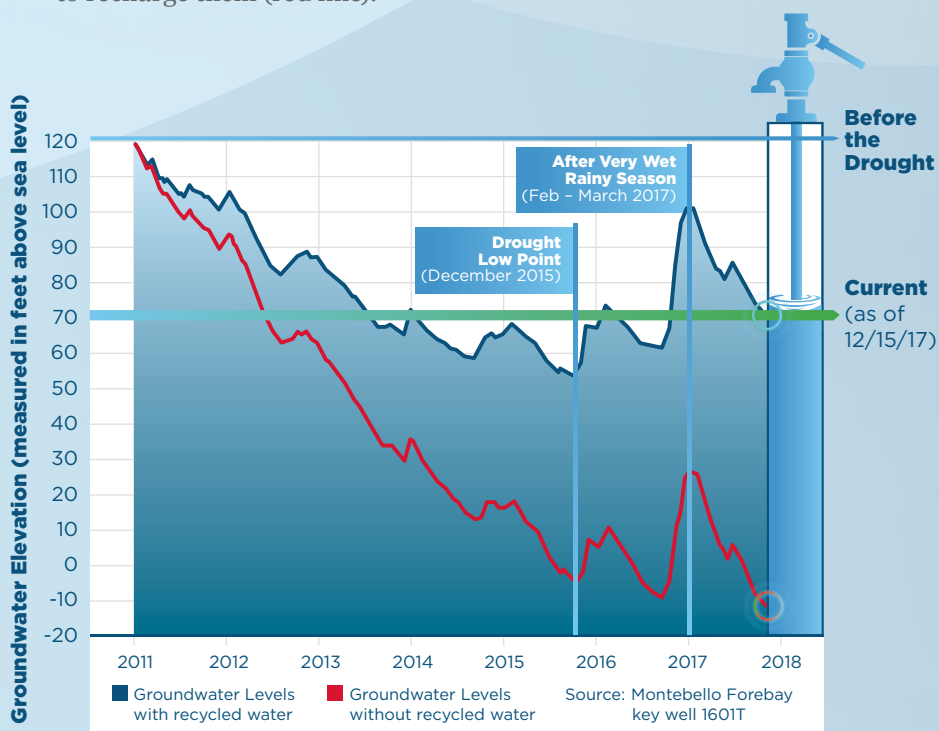
Long Beach Historical Society Cemetery Tour



WRD joined the Long Beach Historical Society for their annual Cemetery Tour. Did you know that one of our aquifers is named Sunnyside, just like the Sunnyside Cemetery in Long Beach?

UPDATE ON OUR BASINS

Summer 2017 was hot and dry! Water levels in our local groundwater basins have lowered because of ongoing groundwater pumping and the lack of rain during the dry season. This graph shows the change in water level elevation in a key monitoring well in our basin (blue line). The graph also shows how much lower groundwater levels would be if WRD was not using recycled water to recharge them (red line).



**DON'T STOP
CONSERVING WATER**

**FREE ECO GARDENER
CLASSES!**



HOMEOWNER SERIES

Join us for our next class:

*Edible Gardening
at Norwalk
Library*



For More Information Please Contact:

Monica Sijder at
msijder@wrdd.org or call
(562) 275-4234

Eco Gardener Classes:
Sustainable Landscape Design
Sprinkler & Drip System Basics
Edible Gardening
Drought-Tolerant Plants
Water Efficient Gardening

WRD RECOGNIZED

GROUNDWATER QUALITY WORKSHOP



The Water Replenishment District hosted its 12th Annual Groundwater Quality Workshop on August 9, 2017. The free workshop welcomed approximately 100 local water professionals from cities, water companies, and utilities from or near the District Service Area. Thank you to all attendees and to WorleyParsons, our workshop lunch sponsor! Topics included the latest updates on:

- Drinking water regulations
- Principles of efficient water well design
- Designing and implementing a multi-facility supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system
- Implementation strategies for the environmental protection agency's monitoring rules
- Treatment options for perchlorates
- An overview of the various programs offered by WRD, including the recently released groundwater basins master plan, which can be found on our website at: <http://www.wrd.org/content/groundwater-basins-master-plan>

SAFE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM WORKSHOP



On November 7, 2017, WRD's Engineers hosted its Safe Drinking Water Program (SDWP) Workshop titled "Better Water, Better Wells." Through the SDWP, any groundwater producer within WRD's service area, may seek assistance to develop a treatment solution for a well affected by contamination. This program also includes the Disadvantage Communities (DAC) Outreach Assistance Pilot Program to assist water systems with applying for State Funding to address the issues related to their drinking water wells.

WRD IS HONORED FOR COMMUNICATION EXCELLENCE



WRD
Public
Communication
and Outreach
Program

Award

2017

WRD received the Water Environment Federation's Public Communication and Outreach Program Award for the Groundwater Reliability Improvement Project Outreach Program.



WRD
Best in Blue
Award for
Communications
Excellence

Award

2017

WRD was also selected as a finalist for the Association of California Water Agencies' Huell Howser Best in Blue Award for Communications Excellence for the Groundwater Reliability Improvement Project Outreach Program.

HOSTED CRISTINA GARCIA'S FELLOWS IN GOVERNMENT



WRD hosted Assemblywoman Garcia's Fellows in Government for a workshop on Water Policy in California. About three dozen students from throughout her district participate in the program that teaches youth the importance of being civically engaged.

USGS CITIZEN SCIENCE WATER SAMPLING WITH POLA HIGH SCHOOL AND HYDRO TEAM

Water Guardians with Port of LA High School, USGS & USC Sea Grant

In partnership with USGS and USC Sea Grant, WRD Hydrogeologists provided students from Port of Los Angeles High School with a field lesson on groundwater monitoring in the Wilmington area. Students took samples, data, and their experiences back to their classroom, to inform their classmates about groundwater, seawater intrusion, and water quality testing.



MASTERMINDS AT WRD



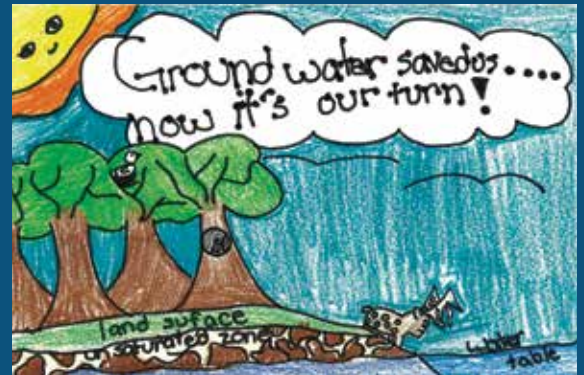
Masterminds Win at First Lego League Challenge

WRD was delighted to assist the Masterminds Team in their pursuit of the FIRST Lego League Championship. The team conferred with WRD staff while researching their idea for a new water supply. They went on to win the Qualifying Tournament and placed well in the Regional Tournament. Congrats Masterminds!



2017 STUDENT ART POSTER CONTEST WINNER

The 3rd Annual WRD Calendar Art Contest brought in just a little over 700 entries this year. 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-five. All participants will receive a WRD backpack with a 5-minute shower timer and a Certificate of Participation. The 25 selected winners will have their art displayed in our 2018 Calendar, and the calendar cover winner will have their art be the center of our Annual Groundwater Festival event. Winners include the following:



Cover/January Winner:

Camila - 5th Grade, St. Helen Elementary School

February:

Linda - 4th Grade, Wirtz Elementary School

Eriel - 2nd Grade, St. Philomena School

March:

Matthew - 2nd Grade, St. Philomena Catholic School

Adijared - 6th Grade, Jaime Escalante Elementary School

April:

Angel - 6th Grade, Jaime Escalante Elementary School

Citlali - 4th Grade, Miles Avenue Elementary School

May:

Angel - 3rd Grade, Jaime Escalante Elementary School

Dayleen - 5th Grade, Jaime Escalante Elementary School

June:

Ronald - 4th Grade, Abbott Elementary School

Yaicelly - 5th Grade, Lugo Elementary School

July:

Maya - 1st Grade, Willow Elementary School

Brianna - 3rd Grade, Gaines Elementary School

August:

Maya - 5th Grade, Frank C. Leal Elementary School

Kevin - 1st Grade, Walnut Elementary School

September:

Miguel - 5th Grade, Hope Street Elementary School

Brianna - 2nd Grade, Wittman Elementary School

October:

Mia - 1st Grade, Maywood Elementary School

Santiago - 4th Grade, St. Helen Catholic School

November:

Janessa - 6th Grade, St. Philomena Catholic School

Alexia - 3rd Grade, Miles Avenue Elementary School

December:

Samantha - 3rd Grade, Miles Avenue Elementary School

Tatiana - 4th Grade, St. Helen Catholic School

January 2019:

Ashley - 5th Grade, 232nd Place Elementary School

Gizelle - 4th Grade, Miles Avenue Elementary School

SAVE THE DATE

February 6, 2018

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY FOR

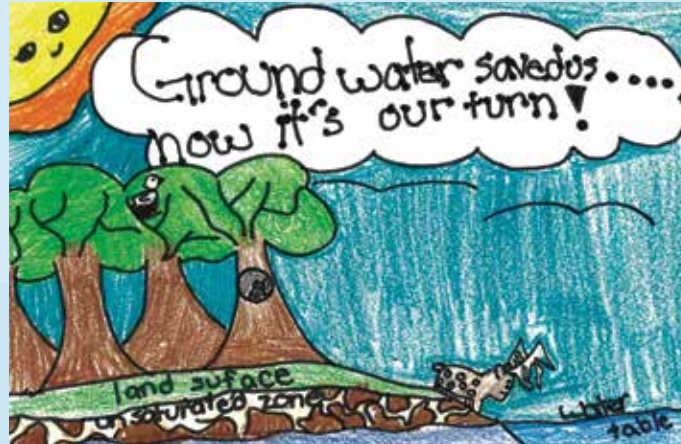
Robert W. Goldsworthy

GROUNDWATER DESALTER EXPANSION

11th Annual

GROUNDWATER FESTIVAL

Treasure Beneath Our Feet



Camila, St. Helen | Elementary School, 5th Grade

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Willard H. Murray, Jr.
Division 1



Robert Katherman
Division 2



John D. S. Allen
Division 3



Sergio Calderon
Division 4



Albert Robles
Division 5

Robb Whitaker
General Manager



@WRDsocal



4040 Paramount Blvd.
Lakewood, CA 90712



www.WRD.org