

Science Teacher Marcia Matz (left) and her students recently toured the Robert W. Goldsworthy Desalter in Torrance. The desalination facility removes salt from groundwater. The students are from Madrona Middle School in Torrance. The school is involved in an educational partnership program with the WRD.

MISSION

"To provide a sufficient supply of high quality groundwater in the Central and West Coast Basins through progressive, cost effective and environmentally sensitive basin management."

- Artesia • Bell • Bell Gardens • Bellflower • Carson
- Cerritos • Commerce • Compton • Cudahy
- Downey • El Segundo • Gardena • Hawaiian Gardens
- Hawthorne • Hermosa Beach • Huntington Park
- Inglewood • La Habra Heights • La Mirada
- Lakewood • Lawndale • Lomita • Long Beach
- Los Angeles • Lynwood • Manhattan Beach
- Maywood • Montebello • Monterey Park
- Norwalk • Palos Verdes Estates • Paramount
- Pico Rivera • Rancho Palos Verdes • Redondo Beach
- Rolling Hills • Rolling Hills Estates • Santa Fe Springs
- Signal Hill • South Gate • Torrance • Vernon • Whittier



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GENERAL MANAGER MOWRY'S MESSAGE

Recently, I had the opportunity to testify before the Assembly Select Committee on Groundwater Quality. It was a great pleasure because it gave me a chance to inform key lawmakers about one of the WRD's most successful programs.

The Regional Groundwater Monitoring Program, recognized as one of the state's most comprehensive programs on groundwater quality and supply, consists of more than 200 monitoring wells in 45 locations throughout the District's 420-square mile service area. The WRD works in partnership with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to drill these highly specialized wells in southern Los Angeles County.

Our team of top-flight hydrogeologists takes water samples from the wells on a regular basis. Groundwater quality and quantity information collected under this program is analyzed and used to conduct trend analysis, computer modeling, water quality investigations, as well as to help the District better manage and optimize the Central and West Coast Groundwater Basins. The information collected is then compiled into two reports, the *Regional Groundwater Monitoring Report* and the *Engineering Survey and Report*. Both books can be downloaded from the WRD's website at www.wrd.org.

My presentation to Committee members also included information on two other programs the WRD has in place to address water quality issues. The Safe Drinking Water Program is a loan and grants program that provides water companies and agencies with funding to construct facilities to treat water and ensure that the drinking water you receive is safe and meets all state and federal drinking water standards. The WRD's West Coast Basin Desalination Program treats a saline plume that has infiltrated the South Bay area through seawater intrusion. The Torrance-based Robert W. Goldsworthy Desalter removes salt from the brackish groundwater to provide the city of Torrance with a source of clean and safe water.

Lawmakers were impressed with our program. In fact, Assembly Select Committee Chair Carol Liu requested that the WRD provide the presentation to a groundwater monitoring advisory panel in Sacramento. The WRD is pleased to have been able to contribute to this critical issue.



Crews work on a series of monitoring wells throughout the Central and West Coast Basins.

Monitoring Well Program is a Joint Effort Between WRD, USGS

Keeping a watchful eye on the quality and quantity of groundwater in the Central and West Coast Basins is a top priority for the Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD). Gathering information on the groundwater is accomplished by constructing monitoring wells throughout the basins and regularly sampling the wells to determine the groundwater quality.

Recently, in conjunction with the United States Geological Survey (USGS), the WRD has completed construction on a series of wells. During the past six months, wells have been built in the cities of Gardena and Compton. Another well in Norwalk is scheduled to be completed in late December, and a well in Long Beach is expected to be constructed next year.

"These wells are our eyes into the groundwater basins," said Ted Johnson, WRD senior hydrogeologist. "This is how we see what's going on underground to effectively manage the valuable water resources."

The projects in Gardena and Compton are two of 33 locations that have been targeted by the WRD and the USGS. This cooperative study involving the two agencies began in 1995 and has produced 170 new wells located in communities throughout southern Los Angeles County. Each location has between four to six wells that range in depth from 100 feet to 1,500 feet.

The data collected is critical to the WRD, which is responsible for managing two of the most utilized groundwater basins in Southern California. The data is analyzed and the information is used by the WRD to improve management of the basins. Besides measuring the

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Public Invited to Craft a Slogan for WRD Contest



Have some fun and have a drink on us! The WRD is encouraging members of the public to craft a slogan that could be placed on a label of bottled groundwater. The winner receives a case of water--and the opportunity to show everyone just how clever they are. The slogan has to fit on a label of an eight-ounce bottle, so keep

it to only a few words. And it must include the word "groundwater." The water will be purchased from the Long Beach Water Department and be distributed at WRD events.

Deadline to submit the slogans is April 15, 2003. All entries should be mailed to Albert Frias, WRD, 12621 E. 166th Street, Cerritos, CA 90703. Any and all

materials, ideas, slogans, or other expressions submitted to the WRD in connection with this contest shall become the sole and exclusive possession and legal right of WRD for all purposes.

Construction workers complete another well located in Gardena.



cover story continued

water quality and water levels, the water district will obtain information on the depths and thickness of the drinking water aquifers.

Initially, USGS officials will take water samples from the wells and forward the results to the WRD. After that, the WRD will collect water quality samples twice annually and measure water levels at least four times daily with automatic data loggers. This information along with other water quality data is compiled by the WRD and published in an annual report. The publication, *Regional Groundwater Monitoring Report*, can be downloaded at the district's web site at www.wrd.org. A copy of the publication can also be obtained by calling (562) 921-5521.

Treatment Facility Will Help Ensure Clean, Safe Water

The WRD has completed construction on another wellhead water treatment facility that will provide clean, safe groundwater to residents. The project in Signal Hill is the 10th water treatment facility built by the WRD in conjunction with groundwater producers.

"This new facility will benefit the community by improving drinking water quality and increasing water supplies," said Charlene King, a WRD assistant engineer who supervised the project. "It will also remove contaminants from the groundwater basin and prevent the spread of contaminants to other groundwater wells."

The City of Signal Hill approached the WRD about constructing a treatment



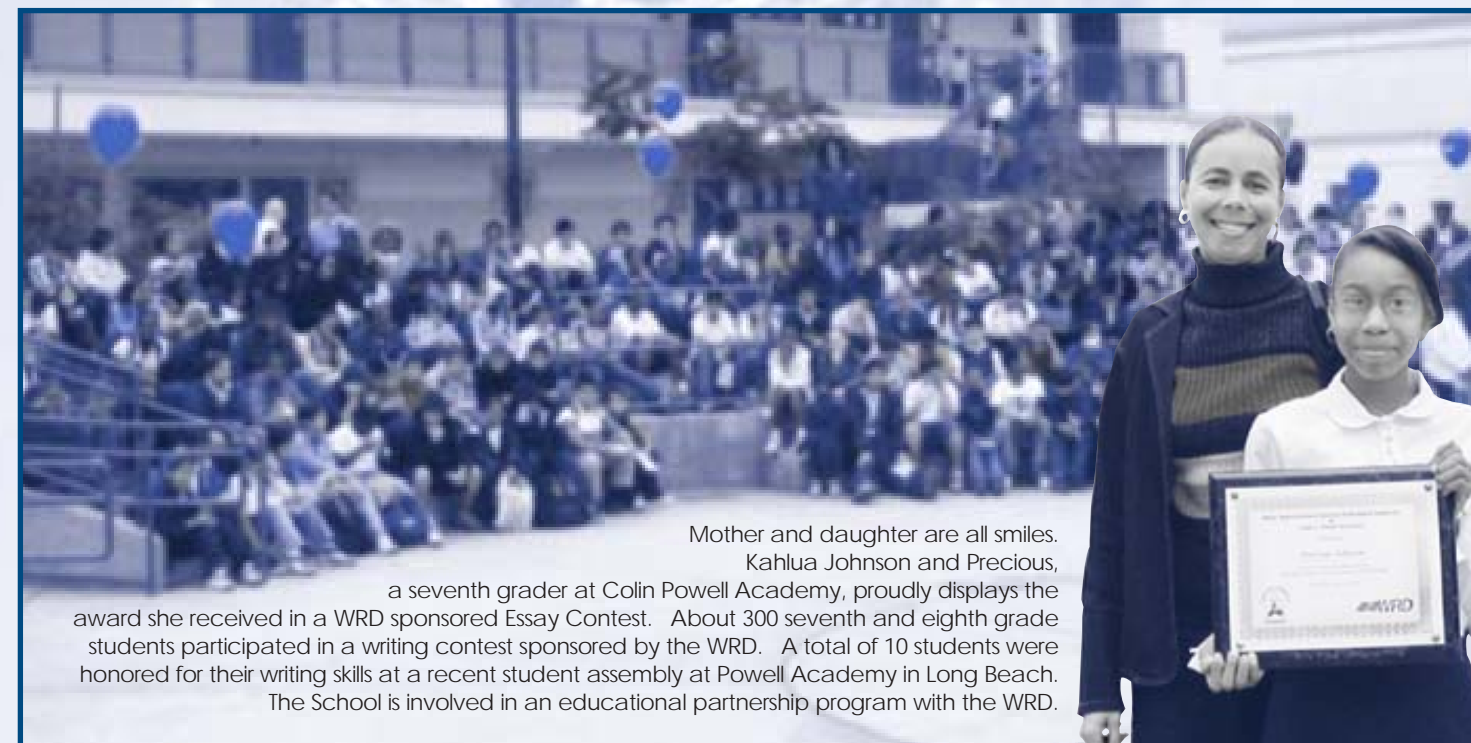
The Signal Hill water treatment facility will help ensure clean, safe drinking water for residents.

facility to remove iron and manganese in two wells. The WRD provided Signal Hill with a 10-year, no interest loan to build the project near Reservoir Park on Gundry Avenue. Construction on the

facility, which consists of a filtration system with two pressure vessels, piping, valves and meters, began last April and was recently completed.

The Signal Hill facility is part of the WRD's Safe Drinking Water Program, which was established in 1991. It enables groundwater pumpers to keep affected wells operating and to bring otherwise non-working wells back into operation. Other treatment facilities have been built in Bell, Bell Gardens, Huntington Park, Paramount,

South Gate, Pico Rivera and Norwalk. The WRD is currently working on four additional facilities.



Mother and daughter are all smiles. Kahlua Johnson and Precious, a seventh grader at Colin Powell Academy, proudly displays the award she received in a WRD sponsored Essay Contest. About 300 seventh and eighth grade students participated in a writing contest sponsored by the WRD. A total of 10 students were honored for their writing skills at a recent student assembly at Powell Academy in Long Beach. The School is involved in an educational partnership program with the WRD.

The WRD Board of Directors and Staff wish you a Happy Holiday Season and a Prosperous New Year!