

the Source



I N F O R M A T I O N U P D A T E S S U M M E R 2 0 0 1



Two area residents inspect one of the free, ultra low-flush toilets distributed to the public by the WRD as part of a countywide water conservation effort. The District distributed a total of 1,750 free toilets at various locations throughout southern Los Angeles County, including Garfield High School in East Los Angeles (pictured).

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

DISTRICT MAINTAINS WATER ASSESSMENT RATE

The WRD Board of Directors voted to maintain the water replenishment rate charged to groundwater producers for the fiscal year 2001-02.

The rate approved is \$112 per acre-foot, of which \$109 is for water purchase for replenishment and barrier injection. This marks the sixth consecutive year that the WRD has not raised the assessment rate.

The District followed a rigorous process in establishing the assessment rate prior to the adoption of the WRD operating budget, including at least five public hearings.



WRD Implements Desalination Project to Protect Groundwater

We all know that too much salt in our diet is not a good thing. The same applies to salt in our water supply. Too much salt in the water makes it undrinkable and largely unusable for important aspects of our daily lives. Although we currently have an adequate supply of clean drinking water, excess salt in portions of the West Coast Basin limits the water available for full use. That's why the WRD has teamed up with local agencies to implement the multi-phase desalination project currently under construction.

The West Coast Basin

Desalination Project is the first phase of this comprehensive, large-scale program, which is designed to accomplish three primary goals: 1) prevent further migration of seawater into the basin; 2) restore the affected aquifer for use; and 3) prevent deeper intrusion of seawater into the basins. Studies previously conducted by the WRD show that the most effective way to remove salt from the water and restore the aquifer system to use is to install wells to pump out the affected water, and remove the salt using reverse osmosis. This system and its

continued on page 2

WRD
Water Replenishment District
of Southern California
12621 E. 166th Street
Cerritos, CA 90703

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 5195
LONG BEACH, CA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- M. Susan Carrillo, President
- Albert Robles, Vice President
- Willard H. Murray, Jr., Secretary
- Leo J. Vander Lans, Treasurer
- Robert Goldsworthy, Director

In this issue

- 2 New Water Treatment Facility
- 3 District Appoints New General Manager
- 3 Water Conservation Tips

Working to Serve You Better New Water Treatment Facility Opens

The WRD recently completed a \$335,000 wellhead treatment plant that will help ensure clean, safe water to residents in South Gate and Paramount.

The Century Plant – Arsenic/Manganese Treatment Facility in Paramount is one of the first of its kind to be built in the United States. This state-of-the-art treatment plant removes arsenic and manganese from groundwater to produce safe

drinking water. The facility, a joint venture between the WRD and the Southern California Water Company, was officially opened during a June 5 dedication ceremony.

The Century Plant is part of the WRD's Wellhead Treatment Program, which was established in 1991 as part of its Clean Water Program. It was developed to combat the historic improper disposal practices of industrial solvents that allowed volatile organic compounds to seep

into the groundwater basins. The Wellhead Treatment Program enables pumpers to keep affected wells on-line and to bring otherwise non-working wells back into operation.

The WRD has completed construction of six wellhead treatment facilities in cooperation with groundwater producers, and is in the process of constructing six additional treatment facilities throughout southern Los Angeles County (pictured below).

cover story continued

machinery, known collectively as a "desalter," will remove more than 2,000 gallons of salty water from the aquifer every

minute – which translates into more than one billion gallons per year.

The Robert W. Goldsworthy Desalter, the first leg of the project, will be located in the City of Torrance and is slated for completion in August 2001.

The City of Torrance has worked closely with the District on this project, which is an important component of the WRD's overall mission to ensure clean water for residents throughout its service area.

Wellhead facility construction



Bruce Mowry Named New General Manager

Following a six-month nationwide search, the WRD Board of Directors recently appointed Bruce A. Mowry, Ph.D. to the position of general manager. In this position, he will be responsible for implementing the policies of the Board of Directors and managing the District's divisions and programs.

Dr. Mowry's extensive (and impressive) background includes more than 20 years of experience in the water industry and international recognition as an engineering expert. He has spearheaded a number of

important projects in Southern California, including the design and construction management of a water treatment plant in the City of Corona.

Dr. Mowry began his official duties as general manager on June 1, 2001, replacing Brian Brady, who served as the District's interim general manager since June 2000.

In a related action, the Board promoted District Engineer Robb Whitaker to the post of assistant general manager. Whitaker has worked with the WRD since 1991, managing the District's technical staff and overseeing its projects and programs.

DID YOU KNOW?

Thanks to the WRD's continued membership in the American Water Works Association Research Foundation, cities and groundwater producers can obtain free information about the latest discoveries in clean water technology. Access to this information provides benefits to pumpers, which provides benefits to WRD residents — and is just one of the many ways the District continuously works to fulfill its mission of delivering high-quality drinking water to the 43 cities it serves.

Talking the Talk

Water Conservation Tips

Here are a few, easy tips you can use during the hot summer months – and all year – to conserve water, our most precious resource.

- Avoid watering your lawn on windy days.
- Control your sprinklers with a timer. (Remember you may have to reset the timer after a power outage.)

- Try to water your lawn before 6 a.m. or after 8 p.m., not in the middle of the day.
- Install low-flush toilets.
- Operate washing machines and dishwashers only with full loads.
- Do not leave the water running when brushing your teeth or shaving.