



201 Vallecitos de Oro
 San Marcos, CA 92069
 (760) 744-0460
 www.vwd.org

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Splash! is a publication of information and interest to Vallecitos water and sewer customers. If you receive water or sewer services from another district, please disregard any information that does not apply to you.

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All are welcome to attend the Vallecitos Board Meetings the first and third Wednesday of each month at 4:00 pm in the Administration building—
 201 Vallecitos de Oro in San Marcos.

Prevent leaks

Leaks any size can waste a substantial amount of water per day.

devices in the residence. If the dial on the meter is still spinning, it is likely you have a leak.

For assistance in reading your meter, contact the District's Conservation Office at (760) 744-0460.





Our ordinance requires they be fixed within 72 hours of notification by the District.

Your meter is a valuable tool for the detection process.

Meters are usually located in the parking strip or in the sidewalk at the front or side of the house. After locating your meter:

Turn off all plumbing

A continuous leak from a hole the smallest of sizes would waste water in the amounts shown below:

Leak Diameter at 60 PSI			Daily Average Wasted	Gallons Wasted - 3 months
1/4"		6.5mm	13,122 gallons	1,181,000 gallons
3/16"		4.8mm	7,244 gallons	652,000 gallons
1/8"		3.2mm	3,388 gallons	296,000 gallons
1/16"		1.6mm	822 gallons	74,000 gallons



*****DROUGHT UPDATE*****

Winter rain doesn't spell drought relief

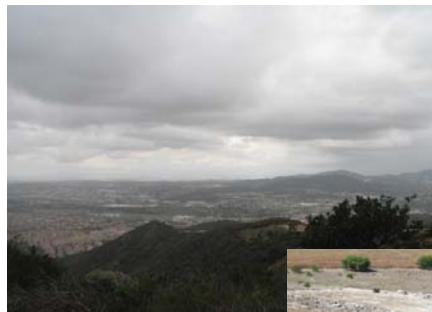
Some of this winter's rain has been quite impressive, with some systems at times dropping up to 4 to 8 inches of rain. However, when numbers are totaled, the final amount of water supplied wasn't really enough to make a dent in our drought, but rather, a minor scratch.

Unfortunately, a quick fix is not anticipated. It's been projected that the sources Vallecitos imports water from would need excessive rain and snow for five winters straight to see relief from the drought and related mandatory conservation measures.

Therefore, with warmer, drier days of spring upon us, all customers are reminded that we are still under mandatory water-use restrictions associated with Level 2 of the VWD Drought Ordinance.

Conserve 10 percent outdoors by following these actions:

- Limit residential and commercial landscape irrigation to no more than three unassigned days per week. This excludes commercial growers and nurseries



Although the rains this season made an impact, reservoir levels still remain low. VWD Drought Ordinance and related mandatory conservation measures are still in effect.



- Limit irrigation using sprinklers to no more than 10 minutes per watering station per day.
- Do not wash down hard pavements.
- Prevent water waste associated with malfunctioning sprinklers or overflows onto non-targeted areas, properties, hard scapes and roadways.
- Irrigate only before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m.
- Use a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shut-off nozzle or bucket to irrigate landscapes not connected to an automatic system.
- Wash vehicles using a bucket and hand-held hose and shutoff nozzle.
- Repair water leaks within 72 hours of notification by Vallecitos Water District.

To learn more about mandatory conservation actions, please visit our site at www.vwd.org or call our Conservation Office at (760) 744-0460.

State's proposed \$11.14 billion water bond receives Vallecitos wholesaler endorsement

The water bond is designed to address:



Water Supply Reliability



Environmental Protection



Seawater Desalination



Bay-Delta Sustainability

For years, California lawmakers have grappled with various initiatives to address the state's water crisis. The most recent one - The Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010 - just recently was endorsed by the Board of Directors for the San Diego County Water Authority – wholesaler for the Vallecitos Water District.

The bond, which voters will have the opportunity to vote for this November, addresses water supply reliability, Delta sustainability, water recycling, conservation, surface and groundwater storage, groundwater cleanup and drought relief.

Roughly \$400 million of the state's proposed \$11.14 billion package will go towards drought relief – specifically the financing of statewide solutions.

This includes projects such as desalination, water recycling, groundwater cleanup, and increasing groundwater and surface water storage that offers alternatives during periods of constrained water supply.

Locally, the bond is projected to provide \$87 million for regional and local water reliability projects and \$40 million for conservation and environmental protection programs.

It also raises \$2.25 billion in funding to improve the sustainability of one major drinking water source for our region – the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. This will be executed through the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan to achieve ecosystem restoration and water supply reliability to the Delta. A broader part of the plan includes building new transportation routes around or through the Delta to restore water deliveries to Southern California that have been cut by regulatory restrictions to protect threatened fish species.

For more information on the Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010, visit www.bewaterwise.com.



Ruptured sprinkler line leads to water-efficient landscape transformation

When Vallecitos Water District customers Richard and Yaz Manley's sprinkler broke at their White Sands Drive residence in San Marcos, they didn't simply call somebody to repair the line. Instead, they came up with a water-efficient way to repair the yard.

Capitalizing on the low water use, the Manleys set out to design something entirely different.

"We wanted a colorful yard with lots of areas of interest but very little hands-on time. We also wanted to have mostly plants that could exist with little or no irrigation once established."



Richard and Yaz Manley

The end result was a total landscape makeover and a substantial water use decrease from 24 units (1 unit = 748 gallons) to 13 units per month.

After completing a plan, which they considered the only difficult part of the entire transformation process, they went to work placing plants in groupings and making their residence's entrance look attractive without grass.

"We couldn't be happier with the outcome. Curious neighbors and people passing by have been observing all along the way and wondering what we had in mind when they first noticed we let the grass die completely," she said.

Gone was the yard that featured turf with dead patches, thirsty tropical plants with little seasonal color, and demanded extended care. Now in its place is a water-efficient one of vibrant Mediterranean/California native plants, controlled drip irrigation and little maintenance.



Before

"We had a sprinkler line break somewhere that went undetected," said the 10-year San Marcos resident of what initially prompted the change.

"It wasn't going to be a cheap fix. While we debated what course of action we wanted to take, we noticed a substantial reduction in our water usage."



After

Now the Manley's, thanks to all the

positive feedback, are certain they did the right thing in fixing the yard as opposed to the sprinkler.

Have you recently made changes at your home or business that have resulted in significant water savings? You may be featured in an upcoming issue of "Splash!" Contact us at (760) 744-0460, ext. 238.