



## Wrapping the final stages of a new reservoir

Whether it be food, a gift, or clothing you wear to provide extra insulation, there is no denying that good things come wrapped. The same can be said of Vallecitos Water District's (VWD) new 40-million-gallon Twin Oaks Reservoir No. 2.

Along with digging up and removing 217,000 cubic yards of soil (enough to fill 24,111 dump trucks), reservoir construction has consisted of reinforced concrete installation, internal 40-foot high columns, and a 14-inch thick roof slab. With the enclosed structure in place, it's now time for the completion of another aspect of the construction process - baffling and wrapping.

Baffles are flexible walls specifically placed within the tank that serve the purpose of circulating the water to maintain acceptable water quality. Without baffling, the water would be susceptible to algae growth and other problems due to the tank's enormous size. Wrapping is steel cable under tension that serves as a multi-layered encasing that adds support and reinforces the reservoir's walls.

Wrapping will be the last part of the construction process before entering phase No. 3, burying the tank. The final phase is necessary to keep the water

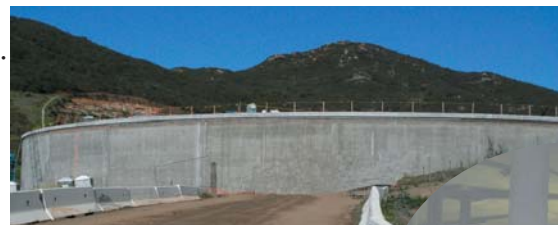
supply protected and allow the tank to blend better with the surrounding environment.

Once wrapped, sealed, and covered, Vallecitos Water District's Twin Oaks Reservoir No. 2 will come on line at the end of the year to be the region's largest pre-stressed concrete tank, offering VWD necessary storage and improved operational efficiency. However, this is only one half of the water-reliability equation that is shaping up in nearby Twin Oaks Valley. The other half will not only benefit VWD customers, but all of San Diego County.

VWD's wholesaler - the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) - is constructing its first-ever water treatment facility just north of Twin Oaks



*Aerial view of Twin Oaks Reservoir No. 2 under construction. Once complete, it will be buried to better blend with the environment.*



*Ground view of the reservoir completely enclosed. The tank will next undergo a "wrapping" procedure. Inset: Columns supporting the tank internally.*

Reservoir  
No. 2.

Learn more



about how SDCWA's 100-million-gallon-per-day water processing plant will help meet increasing water demand and reduce the region's reliance on treated water from outside the county in the next issue of "Splash!"

# Sanitary sewers and storm drains differ

Sanitary sewer systems and storm drain systems both offer a valuable service to the community. But outside of using water to accomplish their tasks, the similarities stop there.



*Sewer and storm drains are two separate systems. Protect the environment by being mindful of what items you release into both.*



Sanitary sewer systems operate separately from storm drains and should be treated as such. How do they differ?

Locally, sewers generally handle waste from various spots indoors while storm drains - as a method of flood control - collect excess rain from storm drain inlets on streets and roadways.

Sewers transport materials by way of 4-inch to 54-inch diameter pipes underground. Storm drains use pipes too, but eventually funnel into channels, creeks, and finally, the ocean.

Of course, the most important difference between the two: flows in the sewer are treated before being released in the ocean; flows from the storm drain are not treated before entering the ocean.

As a result, it is important that we all watch what we release into each system. Doing so will help with maintenance as well as protect the environment.



**OCEAN**

**Be good to the sewer and it will be good to you. Here's how:**

**Never pour cooking grease down sink drains or into toilets.**

**Scrape grease and food scraps into a can or the trash for disposal.**

**Limit the use of garbage disposals in sinks.**

**Use basket strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids and empty them into the trash.**

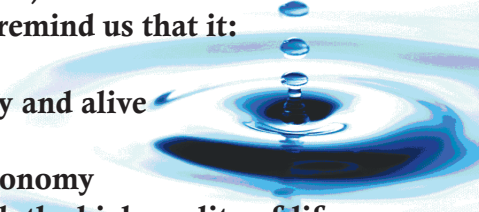
**Inform neighbors of how to keep grease out of sewers.**

**Never pour any illegal substances down your drain or use your toilet as a waste basket.**

## May is Water Awareness Month

If water could talk, what would it tell us? It would probably remind us that it:

keeps us healthy and alive  
fights fires  
supports our economy  
provides us with the high quality of life we enjoy



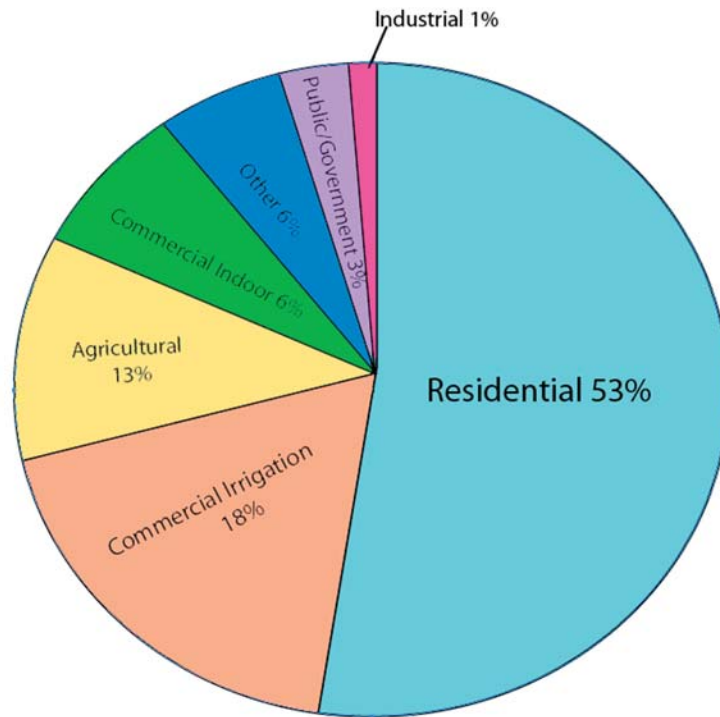
It is up to us to keep it safe and reliable. Throughout May, celebrate Water Awareness Month by considering ways to save this precious natural resource. Visit [www.vwd.org](http://www.vwd.org) for conservation advice.

### Conservation Corner

Where to find California-friendly Plants/Displays:

- VWD Administration, Operations, and Maintenance Facility, 201 Vallecitos de Oro, San Marcos
- Las Palitas Nursery, 8331 Nelson Way, off Old 395, Escondido
- Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon

# Snapshot: VWD 2006 water use and supply



## Go California-friendly this spring

This winter's cold snap left many trees wilted and many plants withered. Some plants will return, but for the ones that don't, this may be the perfect opportunity to try a water-saving, California-friendly landscape. By following a few easy steps, such makeovers will result in improved water efficiency, plant health, and reduced runoff.

### Aerate your soil and lawn

Aeration breaks up the hard surface so the water soaks in and gives your plants more oxygen, limiting the amount of water that runs down the street. For planter beds, use a hand tool to gently turn the surface of soil; for lawns, use a manual coring aerator or rent a machine.

### Mulch your plant beds

Water quickly evaporates from bare soil. Mulch

minimizes water loss, helps control weeds, and returns nutrients to the soil as it decomposes. Purchase mulch based on your preference and soil needs. Spread a two- to three-inch layer in plant beds and around trees. Keep away from plant bases to prevent decay.

### Plant changes

It's time to officially start your new-look California-friendly garden. However, this doesn't always have to be a total makeover. Work by creating small hydrozones, grouping similar plants with similar water needs together. After planting, be sure to mulch again and adjust your sprinkler controller. Remember that most new plants need a little more water until they get established. Once they get growing, turn the water down to only what they need.

For more advice on a "California-friendly" garden conversion, visit [www.bewaterwise.com](http://www.bewaterwise.com).





# Board Highlights/News

## February 2007 Board Meetings

- ▼ Board approved Construction Management Contract Amendment with Kennedy/Jenks Consultants allowing for an increase in scope for additional services to ensure project progress during the Meadowlark Reclamation Facility Expansion.
- ▼ Board approved engineering design services for a new 350-horsepower pump station that would lift approximately 3,000 gallons per minute of potable water from the Mountain Belle Reservoir to the North Twin Oaks Tank No. 2.
- ▼ Board approved a request from the City of San Marcos to complete a Water Assessment and Verification Report in accordance with SB 610 and SB 221 and as determined by Section 10912(a) of the California Water Code.

*All are welcome to attend VWD Board Meetings the first and third Wednesday of each month at 4 p.m. in the District's Administration building - 201 Vallecitos de Oro in San Marcos.*

- ▼ The District will be conducting smoke testing of its sanitary sewer system as a maintenance procedure. The smoke is actually a mist containing atmospheric moisture. At no time should it ever enter your home. A door hanger providing an alert of this testing will be delivered to each property prior to each occurrence. Contact us at (760) 744-0460 if you have any questions.
- ▼ Is outside water use at your property as efficient as it could be? Find out by participating in VWD's free water surveys conducted by a certified landscape irrigation auditor. Call (760) 744-0460, ext. 237, to schedule your appointment today.

**DID YOU KNOW...**

**“In an effort to detect bacteria and other contaminants, your water goes through more than 320,000 analytical tests on more than 50,000 samples a year?”**

**Source: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**

*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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