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Rainbow Water Hires New Chief Financial Officer

Rainbow Water is pleased to welcome a new Chief Financial Officer, Rick Aragon. Aragon joined the team at the end of January and has worked seamlessly with staff to manage financial planning and customer service.

Aragon joins Rainbow Water with nearly two decades of expertise in accounting, finance, grants, and contracts, and 10 years of experience as a Chief Financial Officer for a variety of different size water districts in Southern California. He most recently led the finance team at Coachella Valley Water District as the Director of Finance, where he had responsibility over annual budgets and investments of \$500-600 million. He was previously Senior Advisor on economic, legislative, and advanced rate making issues to the Regulatory Commission of Alaska, who oversees all Alaska's utilities and common carrier oil and natural gas pipelines.

He served seven years as the Assistant General Manager and Chief Financial Officer for Rancho Water in Temecula, and worked as the Director of Finance and Acting Water Resources Manager at the Central Basin Municipal Water District in Commerce, a member agency of the Metropolitan Water District.

As Rainbow Water's Chief Financial Officer, Aragon will be responsible for the fiscal year operating and capital improvement budget, financial reporting and accounting, investment management, debt management, detachment transition, financial reserves, grants administration, and supervise the finance, purchasing and customer service teams.

He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from California Baptist University, Riverside, and is a Certified Public Finance Officer from the Government Finance Officers Association. Aragon also serves on the Board of Directors for the Water Education Foundation.

Aragon fills a position left vacant in December with the departure of former Finance Manager, Tracy Largent. Largent successfully led the finance team for five years and departed to serve as the Chief Financial Officer for Port of San Diego.



Time to Check for Leaks

The winter months are the best time to check your home for water leaks because households consume less water during the months of January through February. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, the average U.S. household can account for close to 10,000 gallons of water wasted per year. A small leak in a residence can waste up to 90 gallons or more per day, but these are often easy to fix to avoid water loss and save 10 percent on water bills.

DIY Leak Checklist

- ➔ Inspect water faucet gaskets, shower heads and pipes under sinks to identify surface leaks, drips, or water leaking around pipes.
- ➔ Check the washing machine for water leaking from pipe connections.
- ➔ Go outside and check for broken sprinklers, water nozzles working correctly, and tight connection of water hose.
- ➔ Review usage by checking the water meter before and after a two hour window when there is no water in use. Check if the meter has changed, if it has this may indicate there is a water leak.

DIY Leak Checklist - continued on page 2

All About Flume Water Monitoring System

Rainbow Water has partnered with Flume to provide customers with an intelligent water monitoring device and app to provide homeowners with detailed, real-time insights into water usage.



Installation of the device is a simple do-it-yourself process with no plumber or special tools required. After successful connection of the bridge device to your water meter and home WiFi, Flume users have access to their water usage down to the minute. Flume gives homeowners all the tools to understand, manage, and monitor water, including budgets and usage alerts to instantly notify of excess water use.

Flume Frequently Asked Questions

How does Flume work? Water flows through the water meter, and a magnetic disc spins inside of the meter. The rate at which this disc spins correlates directly to a water flow rate.

- The Flume water sensor attaches onto your existing meter and measures the magnetic field to a tested accuracy of 99.9%.
- The Flume bridge plugs into a power outlet and connects to your WiFi network. It receives the signal from the Flume Home Water Sensor and sends this data securely into the cloud.
- The Flume app runs on an iOS or Android smartphone to access real-time water usage data from the cloud. It shows usage down to the minute, notifies you of existing leaks, and sends you alerts when abnormal usage is detected.

How do I install Flume? Step-by-step video tutorials are available on the Rainbow Water website. (link in blue box below)

What if I need help? Flume has a tech support team that can assist with questions or problems. To chat with the support team click the chat icon within the Flume app or email Flume to schedule a call: support@flumewater.com



How do I purchase Flume? The Flume device is available for Rainbow Water ratepayers at an reduced rate of \$49.99 per household with no monthly monitoring fee. The Flume Smart Water System includes a Flume water sensor, bridge, and app. Flume is exclusively available for purchase online at: flumewater.com/rainbow

Will Flume work if my meter is not close to my home? Flume has the ability to extend up to 1,000 feet away from the home using a 915 MHz RF signal to send data from the water sensor to the bridge. For questions about compatibility with your home, please email the Flume support team: support@flumewater.com



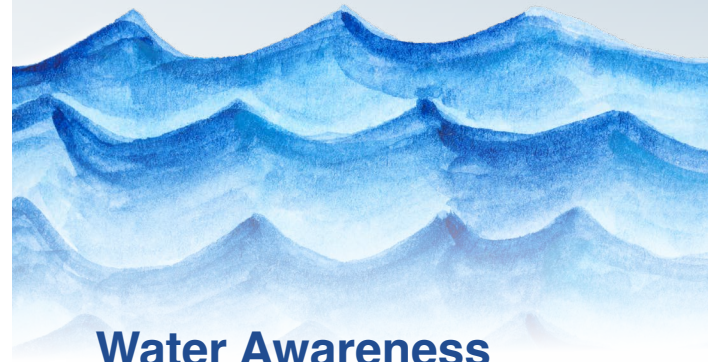
DIY Leak Checklist - continued

- ➔ Perform a toilet water leak test by using a few drops of food coloring in the toilet tank and wait ten minutes to check if any color is in the toilet bowl. A leak will be confirmed if the toilet bowl has color after the ten minute period. Remember to flush after ten minutes to avoid staining.

Rebate Programs Available

Premium High-Efficiency Toilet Rebate
Replace an old toilet and earn a rebate from the SoCal WaterSmart Premium Toilet Rebate Program. Rebates of \$40 per toilet are available for high efficiency toilet using 1.1 gallons per flush or less. For more information on the rebate visit SoCal WaterSmart: <http://tinyurl.com/shk6rrtk>

Flume Water Monitoring System Rebate
Get Flume for \$49 after an instant rebate (regular price \$249). Order your device at: flumewater.com/rainbow



Water Awareness Poster Contest Calling All Fourth Grade Artists

Rainbow Water is accepting entries from fourth grade students for the 2024 North County Water Agencies "Love Water, Save Water" poster contest. Contest entry forms are available at the Rainbow Water office. For contest info and more, please visit: rainbowmwd.ca.gov

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For more Flume information and video tutorials visit our website: <http://tinyurl.com/2cdb7vxt>