

WHEN FIRE AND WATER COME TOGETHER

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire), North County Fire Protection District, and Rainbow Municipal Water District, three special districts created by the people of this community to provide specialized essential services, have teamed up again taking their commitment to our local community one step further.

By constructing the first ever Rapid Aerial Water Supply (RAWS) in San Diego County, we are quickly becoming the benchmark for other communities in San Diego County.

When temperatures rise, the air gets hot and dry, and Santa Ana winds start blowing, this is the team that puts Fire and Water together to protect and service our community.

Prior to reservoirs being covered, our local fire fighters were able to swoop down and gather water from these reservoirs to quickly respond to fires in the area. Then they had to rely on seasonal ponds for rapid response which was not adequate for these special districts. As a solution, this group of special districts teamed up to install a fire protection system on RMWDs Pala Mesa site, forming the RAWS partnership.

The RAWS allows the firefighting pilots to remotely operate a snorkel site (pictured above) where they can fill the 12' diameter by 5' deep tank in 120 seconds, fill up with their hoses, and return again and again to refill.

Having this type of local resource will reduce flight times between trips. A lot of fires start along the I-15 corridor, making this facility an ideal location above Pala Mesa.



Left to Right: Cal Fire Chief Tony Mecham, RMWD General Manager Tom Kennedy, and North County Fire Protection District Chief Keith McReynolds

WATER SMART THREE-HOUR VIRTUAL FALL LANDSCAPE WORKSHOPS

"ENSURING YOUR NEW LANDSCAPE IS WELL-INTEGRATED INTO YOUR PERSONAL LIFESTYLE IS THE GOAL OF THIS SESSION. LANDSCAPE EXPERT WILL SHOW YOU HOW TO PLAN FOR THE FUNCTIONALITY OF YOUR NEW SPACE AND PROVIDE TIPS TO ACHIEVE A DESIGN STYLE THAT FITS YOUR PERSONAL STYLE."

San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) is offering help to customers in creating WaterSmart gardens, increasing water use efficiency landscaping, and referring participants to rebate programs.

These FREE, three-hour online workshops will give you the skills and knowledge to create a yard that loves San Diego as much as you do! Each workshop, taught by a local landscape design professional, focuses on specific landscape topics with a "do-it-yourself" approach:

- landscape design
- soil identification and health
- turf types and removal tips
- plant selection
- rainwater catchment
- irrigation retrofits
- project installation
- landscape maintenance

All workshops are held online, and REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. Weekday workshops are held from 5:30 to 8:30 pm and Saturday workshops from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

www.watersmartsd.org/landscape-makeover-program/introductory-workshop/

The rainy season is coming! There are several new incentives for rain-saving containers and landscape features that can be found on the SDCWA website which are also a required element of turf replacement projects. Please go to www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/dpw/watersheds/RebatesIncentives to find out more.



Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 7, 2021, at 2:00 A.M. On Saturday night, set your clocks back one hour and don't forget about your irrigation timers as well.