

RMWD CUSTOMERS ON TARGET WITH CONSERVATION EFFORTS

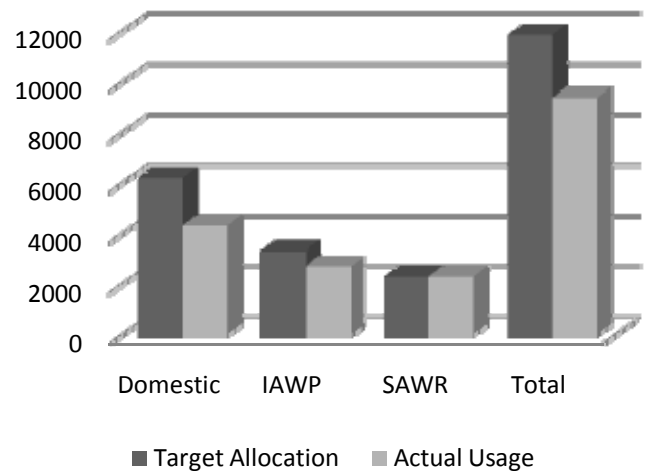
During the month of September RMWD customers continued to do a great job of cutting back on their water use—this in spite of some very hot weather. Overall the District is using about 80 percent less water than the target allocation! The biggest savings in terms of percentage was from residential and commercial consumers, who were 70 percent under their allocation on average. Agricultural consumers, who have been under mandatory 30 percent cuts since January 2008 were a close second by coming in at 80 percent of their target goals!

Our customers are answering the conservation challenge, so at the September meeting the RMWD Board of Directors approved a modification to the Drought Ordinance to expand landscape irrigation schedules during winter months. As originally written our drought ordinance allowed watering up to three days per week during summer months, and then cutting back to only one day of watering per week from November through May.

The new change gives the District the flexibility to reward customers when conservation goals are met by allowing watering **up to** three days per week year-around. During drought conditions the district will monitor conservation goals and establish the landscape irrigation schedule based on how much water our customers are saving. Since we are well under our target goal this year we will continue to allow watering up to three days per week; if we start to exceed our conservation goals we will cut back our irrigation schedule accordingly.

Of course we hope consumers will reduce their irrigation days if they can, but if we have a dry winter and you need to apply water to your landscaping more than once a week you now have that option. Keep in mind you still have to meet your allocation goals or you will pay penalty rates. Also remember that the landscape irrigation schedule requirements contained within our drought ordinance are only for residential and commercial landscaping—not for agricultural irrigation. Agricultural users are able to adopt their own watering schedule to meet their unique needs as long as they reach their conservation targets.

Water Use By User Class First Quarter Fiscal Year 2009



Water Use in Acre-Feet

TIME TO FALL BACK

Remember that Daylight Savings Time ends on November 1 this year. When you are resetting your clocks don't forget to readjust your irrigation timers as well. Shorter winter days typically means less demand for landscape irrigation, so cut back on your timers. This is also a good time to replace the back-up battery in your irrigation controller. Most sprinkler timers have a battery back-up to save the irrigation schedule in the event the unit is unplugged or loses power. Without the battery some models automatically reset to a default schedule that can result in too much water being applied and can cause you to waste water (and money). So while you are changing the batteries in your smoke detectors, change the battery in your irrigation timer too.

**RAINBOW
MUNICIPAL
WATER
DISTRICT**

3707 Old Highway 395
Fallbrook, CA 92029
760-728-1178
www.rainbowmwd.com

**2009
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Gerald Walson
Division 1*

*Jack Griffiths
Division 2
(760) 940-8935*

*George McManigle
Division 3
(619) 701-7974*

*Bob Lucy
Division 4
(760) 728-8325*

*Rua Petty
Division 5
(760) 731-6584*

STAFF

General Manager
Dave Seymour

Operations Manager
Chuck Sneed

Finance Manager
Gene Buckley

Human Resources
René Bush

District Engineer
Brian Lee

WATER QUALITY

The Metropolitan Water District has been steadily increasing the blend of water from the State Water Project which has helped reduce water hardness for RMWD customers, but the level is still higher than the base year 2007. Last month the Total Dissolved Solids measured 536 milligrams per liter; down from a high of 643 in February. In contrast the annual average for 2007 was only 495 mg/L.

~~~~~  
**EMPLOYEE CERTIFICATIONS**

In March Steve Coffey received his Water Technology Education Certificate from Palomar College and his Water Treatment Operator 3 Certification from Department of Health Services.

Both John Maccarrone and Chris Heincy received their California Department of Health Services Water Distribution Operator Grade 4 certification in May.

In July, Bryan Rose received a Certificate of Achievement for the concentrated college program in Water Technology Education, Chris Fletcher received his Water Distribution Operator Grade 3 certificate, and Kenny Diaz received both his Water Treatment Operator II certification and Backflow Prevention Assembly General Tester Certificate.

During the month of August Ruben Lopez passed his Collection System Maintenance Technologist Grade 1 exam and Robert Poole received his Backflow Prevention Assembly General Tester Certificate

Both Jerry Kraft and Joe Perreira received their Water Distribution Operator Grade 3 certificates in September.

Congratulations to all of you!

~~~~~

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE VACANCY

RMWD is currently seeking one new community volunteer to fill a vacancy on its Communications Committee.

This Committee is responsible for matters of internal and external communications including: positive public image; positive staff relationships; community outreach; media relations; water conservation programs; intergovernmental relations; and other public relations programs.

If you are interested in volunteering to serve on the RMWD Communications Committee, please contact Dawn Washburn at (760) 728-1178 Ext. 129.

Also, if there are any items of particular interest you would like to see in the newsletter, please email us at communications@rainbowmwd.com.

MOVING FORWARD ON INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIR

The RMWD has a comprehensive Capital Improvement Program, and while lately most of the attention has been focused on reservoir covers rest assured we are working on many other projects and programs to improve your water system.

At the September meeting the Board of Directors approved two projects to improve water system infrastructure. The first was a construction project to modify Connection 6, one of our points of connection to the County Water Authority system. The modifications will reduce the number of fittings, bends and valves in the piping and improve system pressure. The changes will also simplify system operation so customers in that area will enjoy enhanced reliability.

The second project was to study the North Feeder Pipeline, a 27-inch pipe in Rainbow Glen Road. That pipe has had several leaks over the last few months, all related to corrosion. The pipe is a main source of supply in the area, and when it breaks many customers go without water. The study will evaluate the cause of the premature corrosion and recommend cost-effective repairs. Part of the evaluation will be to consider adding new valves to the line to limit the number of customers affected by shutdowns when they do occur.