



PIPELINE CONDITION ASSESSMENT UPDATE

In January, our newsletter described the process the District is using to identify pipelines with a higher risk for failure than others. This comprehensive Condition Assessment evaluated a variety of factors including age, system pressure, pipe material, and break history to give us a forecast of which pipelines are at highest risk. Since the completion of that report just a few months ago, we have been working to get the highest priority pipelines replaced.

All forecasts are essentially very educated guesses. Weather forecasters have satellites and sophisticated telemetry systems that monitor atmospheric conditions in great detail and yet they frequently can't tell us if it will rain or be sunny next week with any semblance of accuracy. Billions of dollars are spent on Wall Street trying to predict markets and yet when big swings happen even sophisticated investors are caught unaware.

Here at RMWD, we also know that our forecasts from our Condition Assessment are not a crystal ball. We cannot with 100% certainty say which pipeline will break and which will not because they are buried – hidden from view. Our forecasts are made on our detailed model of conditions that, on average, we feel are the best educated guess we can make.

Our Condition Assessment ranked all of our pipelines in terms of their risk of failure as well as the consequence of that failure. Not all pipeline failures are created equal – a pipeline that fails under I-15 will have more severe consequence than one running through a remote avocado orchard. All of these factors are taken into consideration within our model. The model consists of thousands of pipelines that are all ranked according to our scoring system.

Since the January Newsletter, we have had the unfortunate experience of two significant main breaks. Once we got the main breaks repaired and service restored, we looked at where these two breaks fell in our ranking system. Out of the thousands of pipelines segments in the model both of these breaks were on pipelines listed in the top 25 on the list.

While this is a small sample size, it does give us some assurance that the comprehensive model we have developed was accurate in its prediction on these pipelines. This confirmation gives us confidence that when we plan out a pipeline replacement project we will not dig up a pipeline and find that it is in good condition and not in need of replacement.

While this model is looking good, please don't ask us about the weather – we can't figure that out any better than the weather forecasters!

If you want more information about this program please join us at our monthly Engineering Services Committee meetings. For meeting schedule and agenda topics go to <https://www.rainbowmwd.com/2018-engineering-services-committee>.



SPECIAL DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL VIDEO CONTEST

The San Diego Chapter of California Special District Association has an exciting opportunity for high school students to learn about special districts and earn money for themselves and their school.

Create a 1-2 minute entertaining and creative video educating the public about ***“What’s So Special About Special Districts?”*** for an opportunity to earn prizes.



2017 Contest Winners
This year it could be you!

Prize Awards: 1st Place - \$1000, 2nd Place - \$750, 3rd Place - \$500
School Award: \$250 Per Prize Winner.

Special Districts are a form of local government, created by a local community, to meet specific needs within a specific boundary. Please visit the California Special District Association website www.csda.net/special-districts/ to find out more about special districts.

For contest rules and application go to the San Diego Chapter Special District website www.sandiegocsda.weebly.com. **Deadline for video submittal is April 1, 2018.**

Contact your local Special District about their services such as: Water, Wastewater, Fire Protection, Healthcare, Cemetery, Resource Conservation and Parks and Recreation.

AVOCADO FESTIVAL

Rainbow MWD is pleased to announce that we have secured a booth again at the Fallbrook Avocado Festival to be held this year on Sunday, April 15, 2018. This annual celebration in downtown Fallbrook reverses the importance of the avocado and the crops in and surrounding the Fallbrook area.

As the water provider to many of these groves we are delighted to be a part of these festivities and show our support to the local communities.

District staff and dedicated volunteers will be on-hand to answer questions and giving away informational items and fun prizes. Make sure to stop by our booth and see our new water system exhibition.

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