



State Water Regulations Target Water Agencies, *Not Residents*

On May 31, 2018, Governor Jerry Brown signed into law two new bills that will require urban water providers throughout California to set new permanent water use targets for their service areas. Senate Bill 606 (Hertzberg) and Assembly Bill 1668 (Friedman) provide a framework for setting water-use targets, as well as implementing and enforcing the new water use requirements.

Erroneous media reports have created confusion about the new regulations. One particularly prominent report said there was a statewide mandate not to take a shower and do laundry on the same day. It also said there was a statewide mandate that would limit each person to a certain amount of water indoors. Neither of those assertions are accurate.

The primary regulatory mechanism in the new law is setting water-use objectives for retail water agencies—not people or businesses. Retail agencies, like the Vallecitos Water District, will have discretion over how to meet the objectives.

Under the new law, Vallecitos must calculate water-use objectives by November 2023, and every year thereafter. The state's calculation for evaluating water-use efficiency by agencies will be very complex. In its simplest form, it will compare actual water use by agency to the state's objective for each agency to assess whether agencies are performing efficiently. The calculation will include:

- Indoor and outdoor residential water use
- Commercial, industrial, and institutional landscape irrigation
- Water loss (system leakage)
- Unique local uses (i.e., livestock, swamp coolers, etc.)
- Potable reuse credit

The regulatory development process is under way, and there are numerous questions about exactly how the rules will work. Many of the answers probably won't be finalized for months--or even years.

By 2027, urban water providers who do not meet their targets can be fined by the State Water Board (up to \$1,000 per day during non-drought years and \$10,000 per day during drought emergencies). Again, the fines apply to the urban water provider and not to individuals. Vallecitos will provide updates on this subject as information becomes available. If you would like someone from Vallecitos to speak to your community group about how these bills will affect residents, please call (760) 752-7120.



A Simple Change of Habit for Cleaner Beaches

Sometimes it's the simple things we do every day that make our world so much better. Like in our kitchen, for example. Did you know that by simply not pouring grease down the drain, you can help prevent pollution and keep our creeks, lakes and beaches clean? It's true and here's why...

Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) are generated at home when we cook foods like bacon grease, butter, and cream sauces. If these items are poured down the drain, the oils can stick to the sewer lines and block the pipe. This can cause wastewater to flow into your home, onto your property, or out of the nearest sewer manhole, causing the wastewater to flow untreated to the nearest body of water.

Fortunately, there is an easy solution requiring just a simple change of habit. Instead of pouring household grease down the drain, throw it in the garbage. For disposal ease, Vallecitos has a limited supply of free "Fat Trapper" grease collection containers available at the District's Administrative offices, specifically designed to store cooking grease until it is time to throw it away. The airtight unit contains foil-lined bags to contain your cooking grease. Once full, simply throw the bag away. To learn more about FOG, go to www.vwd.org/grease.

Restaurants can also do their part, as food service establishments can be a significant source of FOG due to the amount of grease and oil produced when cooking or preparing food. Without proper cleanup practices and maintenance of a grease removal device, such as a grease interceptor, food particles and FOG will flow to the sanitary sewer system and block sewer pipes--an occurrence that can lead to sewer spills in our region.

To reduce the chances of a sewer spill, Vallecitos is required by the State to implement a FOG Control Program for food service establishments to reduce the discharge of FOG to the sanitary sewer system. In response, the District's Board of Directors adopted Ordinance 191 on December 10, 2013, to assist food service establishments in controlling FOG by establishing a monitoring and inspection program. For more information about the proper disposal of restaurant FOG, please contact Corey Harrell, Source Control Technician at charrell@vwd.org or (760) 752-7161.

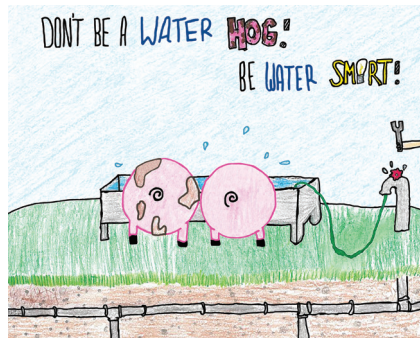
North County Water Agencies 4th Grade Calendar Contest Winners

Congratulations to the 2018 calendar contest winners, who were recognized at a Vallecitos Board meeting. The winners are:
1st place: Phoebe Nuyen; 2nd place: Audrey Pearl; and
3rd place: Megan Orr.

All winners received Amazon gift cards and the “viewers choice” winner (who received the most votes on Facebook), Audrey Pearl, also won a frozen yogurt party, compliments of Menchie’s San Marcos Grand Plaza. Vallecitos extends its sincere appreciation to Menchie’s and all of the students who participated in this year’s contest!



First Place: Phoebe Nuyen



Second Place: Audrey Pearl



Third Place: Megan Orr

Congratulations to Vallecitos' 2018 WaterSmart Landscape Contest Winners!

Our three winners were awarded with gift cards to Green Thumb Nursery. Check out our video link below to see their award-winning yards and to hear their inspiring landscape transformation stories.

www.vwd.org/landscapecontest



2018 WaterSmart Landscape Contest Winners: Third Place: Patti Joyce and Jeffrey Moore; Second Place: Dennis and Shannon Root; First Place: Rhonda Holmes and Jeff Jenco.



201 Vallecitos de Oro
 San Marcos, CA 92069
 (760) 744-0460
www.vwd.org



Between the Pipes 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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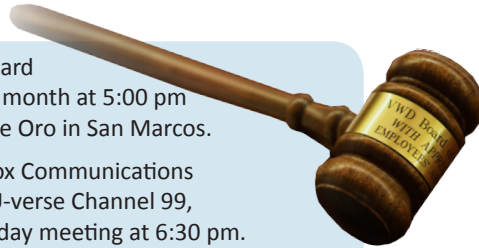
Management Staff

Glenn Pruim, General Manager
 Rhondi Emmanuel, Administrative Services Manager
 James Gumpel, District Engineer
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Postal Customer

The public is welcome to attend the Vallecitos Board Meetings the first and third Wednesday of each month at 5:00 pm in the Administration building—201 Vallecitos de Oro in San Marcos.

Meetings are also aired on San Marcos TV on Cox Communications Channel 19, Time Warner Channel 24 or AT&T U-verse Channel 99, which air on the Monday following the Wednesday meeting at 6:30 pm. Visit www.san-marcos.net/smtv for programming schedule.



“Like us” on Facebook or follow us on Twitter @vallecitoswater

Water Academy Tour set for Thursday, October 25, 2018

Our certified water and wastewater specialists offer customers a first-hand look at what it takes to operate the Vallecitos Water District and provide reliable, exceptional and sustainable water and wastewater services to the more than 100,000 residents in our service area.



Participants board a chartered bus for a first-hand look at the District’s 33-million-gallon and 40-million-gallon capacity Twin Oaks Reservoirs. The grand finale of the tour is a visit to the District’s Meadowlark Water Reclamation Facility in Carlsbad. The event is held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and begins at the District’s Administrative Offices located at 201 Vallecitos de Oro, in San Marcos.

Register online at www.vwd.org/wateracademy or contact Alicia Yerman at (760) 752-7123.