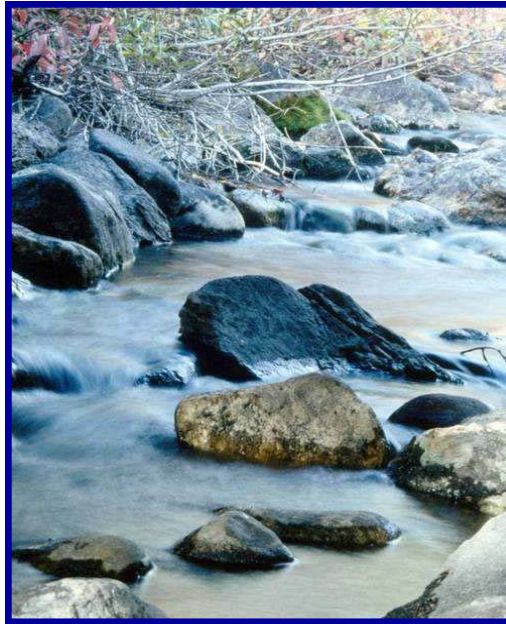
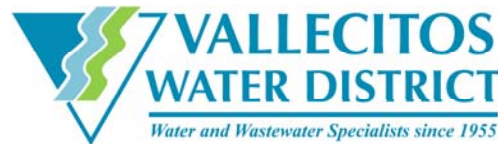


## Tips for Customers

- Avoid running your tap water and avoid using your washing machine or dishwasher if you see a crew flushing a hydrant on your street. Tap water used during the flushing process may have sediment that causes discoloration. When laundering clothes, wait until the water runs clear at the tap, then wash a load of dark clothes first.
- If you notice discolored water, simply shut the water off and wait several minutes. After waiting, check the clarity by running cold water for a few minutes, allowing it to work its way through your pipes. If it is clear, it can be used.
- In some cases, slight discoloration may linger for a few hours. This discoloration only affects the appearance of the water and does not affect water quality. There are no health hazards associated with discolored water from hydrant flushing.
- If water pressure or water volume seems low, check the faucet screens for trapped particles.
- Flushing a hydrant generally takes between 15 minutes to an hour.

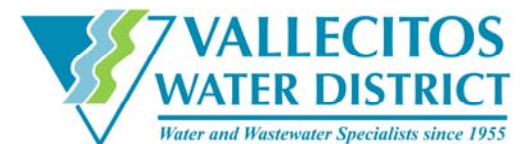


**Vallecitos cares about the environment.** Water that must be released to the storm drain is dechlorinated, tested and monitored to ensure that it meets all required environmental regulations to protect our local streams and wetlands.



Vallecitos Water District  
201 Vallecitos de Oro  
San Marcos, CA 92069  
(760) 744-0460  
[www.vwd.org](http://www.vwd.org)

# Pipeline Discharge and Water Quality Information



**The Vallecitos Water District** (Vallecitos) is dedicated not only to service reliability, but also service quality. It is for this reason our state-certified staff may be observed discharging water at pipelines, tanks, fire hydrants, pump stations and water meters.

**Q. Why is water discharged?**

**A.** During or after maintenance and repairs, water may be released from Vallecitos' infrastructure to meet health and safety standards. This is also necessary to ensure that state and federally mandated amounts of chlorine are present in the water.

**Q. Are these discharges regulated?**

**A.** Vallecitos operates in compliance with the Regional Water Quality Control Board's No. R9-2002-0020 and NPDES No. CAG679001 general waste discharge requirements for hydrostatic test water and potable water to surface waters and storm drains or other conveyance systems in the San Diego Region.

Vallecitos staff is required to test and monitor water quality prior to, during, and after discharges

to meet Best Management Practices requirements established in the California Urban Water Conservation Council, United States Environmental Protection Agency and State Water Resources Control Board regulations.



*Vallecitos staff perform thousands of tests each year to ensure that your water meets all local, state and federal drinking water standards.*

**Q. Can this water be captured?**

**A.** Due to the high cost involved in collecting this water, and the minimal amount of discharge, this water is typically not captured.

There are certain procedures, such as cleaning processes, when it is necessary for water to run at high-flow rates. The release force is simply too great to be captured and trucked somewhere. In this instance, Vallecitos will discharge into the sewer where it will likely be recycled at its Meadowlark Water Reclamation

Facility in Carlsbad. That water, after going through an extensive treatment process, will then be redistributed to irrigate various locations in Carlsbad and Olivenhain.

**Q. What about water that can't be released into the sewer system?**

**A.** After receiving approval from the appropriate regulatory agency, this water will be directed to storm drains or to natural bodies of water. Prior to being discharged, the water is dechlorinated to protect wildlife and sensitive species. The excess water blends with existing streams and wetlands, further improving the health and quality of these bodies of water. Ultimately, the water finds its way to the Pacific Ocean.

**Q. Where can I find out more information?**

**A.** For more information about Vallecitos' water quality, visit [www.vwd.org/WaterQuality](http://www.vwd.org/WaterQuality) or call:

(760) 744-0460

7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.—  
Monday through Thursday  
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.—  
Fridays