

The Water Faucet

SEPTEMBER 2016

Check out our website. You can obtain water conservation information and rebate forms!

www.westboroughwater.com

Free dye strips to test for toilet leaks are available at the District Office.



Westborough Water District P.O. Box 2747 So. SF, CA 94083-2747

24-Hour Telephone No. (650) 589-1435

Fax (650) 589-5167
e-mail address:
wwd@westboroughwater.com

CALIFORNIA'S DROUGHT

Although we have received more rain this year, many parts of California are still experiencing severe drought conditions. The State Water Resources Control Board recently extended the drought emergency through January 2017, but allowed water utilities to self-certify their own water use reduction requirement through



January based on local water supply conditions over the next three years.

The District's goal is to conserve 10% water use. The following restrictions on uses of non-essential water during the current drought remain in effect:

- Use of potable water for washing sidewalks, walkways, driveways, patios, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surface areas.
- Use of potable water to clean, fill or maintain levels in fountains, including recirculating fountains.
- Use of water for recreation toys and equipment.
- Use of water through a hose or pressure washer to clean the exterior of any building, home, or driveway, except prior to painting or if required for health or safety purposes.
- Limiting watering duration to 15 minutes watering 2 days a week maximum. Watering or irrigating of lawn or landscape is also prohibited between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- The application of potable water to outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes runoff such that water flows onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots, or structures.

Thank you for your cooperation during this historic drought, and remember that we are always here to help you use water wisely. Visit www.westboroughwater.com for more information about the drought and conservation and rebate program.

Please continue to conserve water!

YOUR DISTRICT:

The Westborough
Water District board
meetings are held on
the second
Thursday of every
month at the District
office. The meeting
begins at 7:30 p.m. and
the public is
encouraged to attend.

The current Board members are:

President: David Irwin

Vice President: William Lopez

Directors: Janet Medina, Tom Chambers, and Perry Bautista



FREE water savings products are still available to all customers! SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED! STOP BY SOON!

- Low-Flow Kitchen and Bathroom Faucet Aerators
- Low-Flow Showerheads
- Toilet Dye Strips
- Shower Timers
- Garden Spray Nozzles
- •Cold Water Catcher
- Bucket (new item)
- Conservation Literature

YOUR WATER SUPPLY

The Westborough Water District receives 100% of its water from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). The Hetch Hetchy system also provides water to 1.7 million citizens, businesses and community organizations as well as protects the health, safety, and economic well-being. While



constructed and owned by the SFPUC, the water system was planned to benefit the greater San Francisco Bay Area population. The regional water system provides water to San Francisco, Santa Clara, Alameda and San Mateo counties. Eighty-five percent of the water comes from Sierra Nevada snowmelt stored in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir situated on the Tuolumne River in Yosemite National Park. Hetch Hetchy water travels 160 miles via gravity from Yosemite to the San Francisco Bay Area. The remaining fifteen percent of water comes from runoff in the Alameda and Peninsula watersheds. This local water is captured in reservoirs located in San Mateo and Alameda counties. Delivering approximately 260 million gallons of water per day, the regional system consists of over 280 miles of pipelines, over 60 miles of tunnels, 11 reservoirs, five pump stations and two water treatment plants.

INCREASE RATES AND FEES

The Westborough Water District provides local water distribution and sewer collection services to its customers. The District relies on the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) to deliver its water and the North San Mateo County Sanitation District (NSMCSD) to treat its sewage. A substantial portion of the rates charged by the District are passed through to these two agencies.

Water Rates:

Effective July 1, 2016, the SFPUC increased the District's rates by \$0.35 and the District needed to increase the rate an additional \$0.22. The District received only 3 letters of protest increasing the water rate. The District's Board of Directors held a public hearing on the proposed rates on July 14, 2016. After the Public Hearing the Board was faced with a tough decision, to be financially responsible and prudent with reserves, the Board of Directors approved to increase the water rater by \$0.57. The new water rate is \$6.48 per 748 gallons.

Sewer Rates:

The District was faced with a \$0.50 per unit increase in sewer charges from NSMCSD effective July 1, 2016. The District's Board of Directors held a public hearing on the proposed rates on July 14, 2016. The District received only 3 letters of protest increasing the sewer rate. After the public hearing the Board approved to pass on the \$0.50 per unit increase with no additional charge by the District. The new sewer rate is \$8.02 per unit applied to the amount of water consumed during January-February 2016 meter reading to determine the annual sewer charge collected on the upcoming property roll.



Make a one-time payment or sign up for reoccurring payments using your Visa,
MasterCard, or personal check on our secured website (FREE OF CHARGE):

www.westborough water.com

You must have your account no. to access it, so if you do not have it, please call the WWD Office to request it.



New Fees Increase

On July 14, 2016, the District held a public hearing to consider recouping the administrative and field staff cost for administering reconnection charges during business hours and after hours, shut-off notice fee, charge back fee for online auto payment credit card charges, non-sufficient funds or returned checks, and unauthorized connection to District water service.

These fees were increased as follows:

Reconnection charges during business hours from \$25.00 to \$50.00

Reconnection charges after hours from \$65.00 to \$115.00

Shut-off notice fee from \$15.00 to \$30.00

Charge back fee for online auto payment credit card charges to \$35.00

Non-sufficient funds (returned check) from \$25.00 to \$30.00

Unauthorized connection to District water service to \$50.00 \$20.00

BOARD MEMBER INFORMATION

The role of the Westborough Water District Board of Directors is to oversee the operations of the District. Some of the duties of the Board include the following:

Establish policy for effective and efficient services to the District, adopt resolutions and ordinances; set policies; participate in strategic long and short term planning; adopt Capital Improvement Plans; adopt budgets; hold public hearings; review and approve expenditures of District funds; serve on committees; appoint General Manager and measure goals, objectives and performance; approve contracts; and protect the interest of the community with respect to health, safety and welfare.

Board members are compensated \$100 (before tax) per meeting with no medical insurance. Board members are elected for a 4 year term and must be a resident of the District and registered voter. The District encourages residents to learn more about the District and how to become board members by participating and attending board meetings. Board meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month unless otherwise posted. Please see the District's website at www.westboroughwater.com for more information about opportunities for becoming a director.

For additional information, please contact the San Mateo County Election Office at (650) 312-5222 or visit www.shapethefuture.org. \$\ge\$

Our Board Members

REINVESTING IN OUR INFRASTRUCTURE

The District is making needed improvements by reinvesting in our water and sewer infrastructure. The District has approved the following 2016/2017 fiscal year Capital Improvement Projects to improve the safety and reliability of the water and sanitary sewer system:

Skyline Tanks Structural Analysis/Coating Inspection

In addition to inspecting the condition of the coating and prioritizing the repairs, this project involves conducting a structural analysis of all three storage tanks to determine the potential vulnerabilities during a seismic event and retrofit them if necessary.

Skyline Storage Building Improvement

This project involves expanding the existing storage building to store material, pipe and emergency equipment.

Purchase Segways for Meter Reading

The District employees read over 4,000 meters by walking the entire area. The Segways will improve meter reading efficiency while reducing the time and physical exertion placed on our employees.

Security Glass and Counter

This project will improve employee security.

District Wide Sewer Main Cleaning and Inspection

This project involves thoroughly cleaning all the sewer mains followed by a detailed TV video inspection. The inspection will detail the pipe condition and the specific location of any defects to help prevent sewer overflows or obstructions.

Avalon, Rowntree, and Westborough Sewer Pump Station Improvements

This project involves replacing the valve, pump, Micromac System, automatic transfer switch, variable frequency drive, and motor control center at all three sewer pump stations. \$\mathbb{Z}\$



The District has a Notary Public on duty that can notarize documents you may have for a fee of \$10 per signature. Feel free to take advantage of this service. Calling in advance is strongly recommended.

NOTARY PUBLIC

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water district

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