

Mesa Consolidated Water District (Mesa Water) Water District News

Volume 26, Number 1
Jan./Feb. 2012

www.MesaWater.org

Hot Water News

Slower First-Class Mail Delivery Starts Jan. 2012

Due to U.S. Postal Service cuts, there will no longer be overnight delivery for a stamped letter mailed in Orange County to another Orange County address. If you mail your Mesa Water bill payment, allow at least four business days for your payment to arrive on time. To avoid late or missed payments, try Mesa Water's Online Bill Pay—click the "Sign Me Up!" link under "Online Bill Pay" on the top right side of www.MesaWater.org, or call (949) 631-1200.

Fresh Water Facts

Mesa Water Hosts 26th Annual Water Issues Study Group

Mesa Water's Water Issues Study Group (WISG) is a fee-free adult educational program for District customers and community members interested in learning about Mesa Water and local, regional, and state water issues. The 2012 WISG begins Wednesday, February 15, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., in Mesa Water's Boardroom at 1965 Placentia Avenue in Costa Mesa. Mesa Water's WISG meets on the third Wednesday monthly, at the same time and location, through May. For more information or to RSVP, please email event@MesaWater.org or call (949) 631-1201.

Building Construction Complete at CWTF Improvements Project

Mesa Water's Board assembled a team of industry-leading experts for the Colored Water Treatment Facility (CWTF) Improvements Project, designed to achieve the District's goal of 100 percent reliance on local water supplies.

Over the past several months, the CWTF has looked more like a construction site than the world-class water-supply facility that it is. Crews were busy pouring foundations and building a new 9,100 square-foot structure to house the new treatment equipment. The CWTF Improvements Project reached a key milestone with the final portion of the new structure's roof being set into place, marking the end of the building construction phase.

Efforts have shifted to installing the various pumps, filters, and piping that will turn Mesa Water's soft, colored groundwater into high-quality, soft, clear drinking water. The colored water treatment process consists of the following steps:

- Pump water from deep underground;
- Separate out any sand and large particles;
- Run water through fine membrane filters; and,
- Disinfect the water to keep it clean and safe.



Photo by Mesa Water

For site beautification, the CWTF Improvements Project team is selecting more than 15 redwood trees to plant at the Facility. The trees are a symbol of the ancient redwood forests that give the deep groundwater treated at the CWTF its amber color.

Mesa Water's Board has determined that the CWTF Improvements Project will provide several important benefits for the District's customers and community, including:

- Providing a drought-proof local water supply;
- Increasing the colored water treatment capacity by 50 percent;
- Reducing the need for more expensive, less reliable imported water;
- Protecting the region's clear-water basin from colored water migration;
- Improving energy efficiency;
- Creating 20 local jobs;
- Lowering CWTF noise levels; and,
- Stabilizing long-term water rates.

Visit www.MesaWater.org/colored_water_treatment.php to see a live webcam and time lapse video of the CWTF Improvements Project. For more information, email info@MesaWater.org or call (949) 631-1201.

Dedicated to Satisfying our Community's Water Needs™

District Spotlight

Mesa Water is an Award-Winning District!

Mesa Water won several awards in 2011 for its excellent work in the areas of engineering, finance, public outreach, and business operations. Offered annually by prominent industry organizations, the awards honor top-performing government organizations and water agencies:

- Mesa Water's Colored Water Treatment Facility Improvements Project was selected as a "Top Project of 2011" by *Water & Wastes Digest*, a prestigious trade publication that annually bestows this award to ten projects nationwide;
- For the 17th consecutive year, the Government Finance Officers Association awarded Mesa Water a Certificate of Achievement for the

District's Comprehensive Annual Finance Report;

- For the second year, Mesa Water received a Meritorious Operating Budget Award from the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers for the District's annual budget;
- For the first time in its history, Mesa Water won an Exceptional Public Outreach award from the California Special Districts Association (CSDA); and,
- CSDA's Special District Leadership Foundation again accredited Mesa Water as District of Distinction for providing essential public services in a responsible manner.



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Board Meetings

Mesa Water's Board meets on the second Tuesday and fourth Tuesday monthly. Regular meetings begin at 7 p.m. at 1965 Placentia Avenue, Costa Mesa, and are open to the public. For more information call (949) 631-1206.

Produced by Mesa Water's Board of Directors, **Water District News** is a bi-monthly publication to inform Mesa Water's customers and community about water-related issues and events.

We welcome your comments:

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Winter Water-Wise Tip

Let the Clouds Water Your Garden!

Along with the winter rains come cooler and shorter days, which means your garden needs very little or no water at all. Remember to turn off your sprinkler system during the winter, and only water if extended dry spells occur.

To learn more about outdoor water use efficiency, please go to the "Conservation" tab at www.MesaWater.org or call (949) 631-1200.



Employee Recognition

Litvak's Longevity Leads to Fiscal Feats

Senior Financial Analyst Glynis Litvak has served 20 years at Mesa Water, where she works with the District's CFO on preparing the financial reports and budget for the Board's consideration, in addition to facilitating financial policies, procedures and processes.

One of Glynis' most rewarding work experiences was when Mesa Water received a Meritorious Operating Budget Award from the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers for the District's FY09 budget. Another of her achievements was leading Mesa Water's conversion to an updated computerized financial system.

A California State University Fullerton (CSUF) graduate, Glynis shares this story about joining

the District: "While attending CSUF, I did a temp assignment at Mesa Water in the Customer Services department which led to working part-time there for the next few years. After I got my B.A. in finance, Mesa Water had an accounting opening, for which I applied and, fortunately, I've been here ever since!"

Glynis, a Costa Mesa resident since 1992, also recently celebrated her 20-year wedding anniversary; she and her husband enjoy picnics at Fairview Park with their 7-year-old daughter.

Mesa Water's Board values the dedicated services of staff like Glynis, helping the District to remain stable, strong, and responsible to our customers.

