



Mesa Consolidated Water District

WATER DISTRICT NEWS



www.mesawater.org

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2009

VOLUME 23, NUMBER 5

Fresh Water Facts

Holiday Schedule

Our District office will be closed in observance of the following:

Veteran's Day

November 11, 2009

Thanksgiving

November 26 & 27, 2009

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2009

Christmas Day

December 25, 2009

New Year's Eve

December 31, 2009



New Year's Day

January 1, 2010

Hot Water News

Mesa Saves Customers \$2 Million



Mesa recently completed the refinancing of its outstanding debt, which will save nearly \$945,000 over the next 9 years. Combined with the amount from the refinancing done in 2008, Mesa will save its customers about \$2 million overall during the 9 year period.

Special Feature

Mesa's Colored Water Treatment Facility

Mesa was the first water purveyor in Orange County to treat and distribute colored water. The Colored Water Treatment Facility (CWTF) provides several benefits to the community including water independence by ensuring a reliable supplemental supply during times of drought and reducing reliance on costly imported water. The cost to produce this water is lower than the cost of imported water, which represents a significant economic advantage.

Colored water is found deep in aquifers ranging from 600 to 1,200 feet. The water is high in quality and extremely soft. Natural organic material from ancient redwood forests of the coastal plane gives the water an amber tint and a sulfuric smell.

Mesa is currently in the planning phase of expanding the CWTF. The expansion would update current treatment technology and increase capacity.

Mesa is currently seeking funding sources for this expansion project that is estimated to cost \$15 million. This project is on the

priority list for Proposition 50 Chapter 4b: Southern California Projects to Reduce Demand on Colorado River grant funding.

The CWTF expansion will provide up to 8,700 acre feet per year (af/yr) of local groundwater that will replace the more costly imported water purchased from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

The source of water for the expansion is two existing wells that tap the colored water aquifer in the Orange County Groundwater Basin. The colored water aquifer is extensive and has been estimated to contain as much as six million acre feet of water.

Since the CWTF went online in January 2001, it has produced over 30,000 af of water. In addition, Mesa has saved about \$1 million and is expected to save \$700,000 this fiscal year with the increased imported water rates.

For more information, about Mesa's CWTF expansion project, call (949) 631-1205 or visit www.mesawater.org.

Since the CWTF went online, Mesa has saved about \$1 million

Behind-the-Scenes Briefing and Tour

September 10, 2009

For more information and to register, call (949) 631-1205 or visit www.mesawater.org

Dedicated to satisfying our community's water needs

Conservation

How Water-Wise Are You?

Mesa can help you reduce your water usage and lower your water bill. We offer several Water Use Efficiency Programs, at no cost to you.

Residential Survey Program

An experienced conservation specialist will help you identify ways to lower water use in and around your home, including landscape, irrigation, and indoor plumbing systems.

Rebate Programs

Rebates may be available throughout the year to assist with the cost of replacing



indoor and outdoor high water using fixtures with water efficient models.

Landscape Programs

Water Efficient Landscape Classes are offered to our residential and commercial customers during the year. Online classes are also made available through links from our web site.

The Landscape Performance Certification Program is offered to Home Owners Association Board members, property managers, and landscape contractors to help ensure



that water is used efficiently, and sites avoid possible run-off pollution fines.

Water-Wise Gardening

Mesa proudly offers two water wise Demonstration Gardens, at our District offices and the Orange County Fair and Event Center in the Centennial Farm. They display a wide variety of attractive and water efficient plants.

For more information about Mesa's programs and how to take advantage of them, call us at (949) 631-1205 or visit www.mesawater.org.

Serving the Community

Local Kids Soak Up Water Knowledge



Mesa, the Municipal Water District of Orange County, and the Discovery Science Center, offer one of the most successful and well-recognized water education curriculums in Southern California at no cost.

About 4,000 students from the schools in Mesa's service area this past year learned about their water, including how necessary water is, where



their water comes from and water conservation.

Mesa is proud to recognize the following schools for their commitment to water education:

- California Elementary
- College Park Elementary
- Davis Elementary
- Kaiser Elementary
- Paularino Elementary
- Prince of Peace Lutheran
- Rea Elementary



- Saint Joachim Elementary
- Sorora Elementary
- Tewinkle Elementary
- Victoria Elementary
- Woodland Elementary

For more information about all of the water education programs that are available, call Mesa at (949) 631-1205 or visit Water Education in the Public Information section at www.mesawater.org.

Employee Recognition

Mesa's Board of Directors proudly recognizes the following outstanding achievements:

Ryan Graff, Meter Reader - completed the Association of California Water Agencies - Joint Powers Insurance Authority Operations Professional Development Program.

Fitch Ratings Services, a leading global rating agency, recently assigned an AA rating to Mesa refunding Certificates of Participation (COPS), series 2009. The certificates will refund Mesa's outstanding 1998 COPS. Such a rating reflects Mesa's consistently strong financial operations.

Board of Directors

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Board Meetings

Mesa Consolidated Water District's Board of Directors meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Regular meetings begin at 7:00 p.m., at 1965 Placentia Avenue, Costa Mesa and are open to the public. For more information, please call (949) 631-1206.

Water District News is a bimonthly publication produced by Mesa Consolidated Water District's Board of Directors to benefit its customers.

We welcome your comments. Send correspondence to:
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1965 Placentia Avenue
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www.mesawater.org

Water; Do more with less

