

Hot Water News

Water Education Encourages Conservation

Water education helps people learn about water and ways to use it wisely to ensure we have water for current and future generations. To encourage water conservation among youth, Mesa Water® offers an in-school water education assembly for 5th graders at schools in the District's service area, at no cost to the schools. Presented by [Discovery Science Center](#) teachers, the interactive assembly meets California's science curriculum standards. School administrators and 5th grade teachers in Mesa Water's service area can schedule an assembly by calling 714.263.3806.

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Fresh Water Facts

Low Water Loss Makes Mesa Water® Excellent

With California experiencing one of the worst droughts in its history, every drop of water counts now more than ever. Mesa Water's infrastructure upkeep results in very low water loss by the District. According to a 2012 third-party study, Mesa Water's water loss rate is only 4½ percent, earning the District an "excellent" rank for being among the best one percent of North American water providers. Mesa Water® continues to implement improvements to tighten its water delivery system and be even more water efficient.

Water Supplies, the Drought, and Mesa Water®

The State of California recently adopted new, mandatory regulations to help residents and businesses reduce outdoor water waste and alleviate some of the pressure on our water supplies. The drought is serious and we all need to do our part to be efficient with the water we use.

[Mesa Water®](#), as a regular business practice, focuses on the District's water delivery infrastructure to make sure leaks and water loss are kept in check, helping us achieve one of the lowest water loss rates in the country. We also maintain three water-efficient demonstration gardens that are available for customers and community members to visit and gather ideas for their own gardens or commercial landscapes.

The new state regulations include the following restrictions:

- 💧 No watering of hard surfaces such as driveways and sidewalks (with an exception for those activities conducted under Health Code or permit);
- 💧 No water runoff from your property;
- 💧 Only wash your vehicle with a hose that contains an automatic shutoff valve on the nozzle;
- 💧 Potable water may only be used in fountains if the water is recirculating.



Mesa Water® adopted its Water Conservation Ordinance in 2009 and this ordinance is a permanent, year-round regulation of all of the activities now prohibited by the state. Under this ordinance, outdoor watering may only be done before 8am or after 5pm. There are a few exceptions, such as a golf course or park that is using recycled water (purple pipes) or a resident that is hand-watering potted plants.

There are programs available to help customers be more efficient, such as a Water-Wise House Calls, landscape workshops, and rebates. Please call 949.631.1200, visit MesaWater.org or follow us on Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram for more information.

Conservation Corner

Save Water and Money with Helpful Rebates

Replacing thirsty turf with drought-tolerant landscaping is a great way to reduce outdoor water use and can create an attractive outdoor area. In association with [Metropolitan Water District of Southern California](#) and [Municipal Water District of Orange County](#), Mesa Water® is currently offering a turf removal rebate that can help offset some of the costs associated with replacing turf. Remember that the goal of the program is to save water, so the property

is required to go through a pre- and post- participation evaluation.

In addition to turf removal, there are also rebates for rain barrels, soil moisture sensors, and high-efficiency toilets. Visit MesaWater.org/conservation for details.



Community Connections

Conservation Connection: Hurley's Water Stewardship

[Hurley's H₂O program](#) received Mesa Water's Water Stewardship Award for visionary leadership in protecting water as a precious resource. Water awareness is embedded in the Hurley brand and the organization is a proven global, regional and local leader in water stewardship.

Regionally, Hurley works with surfing icon and humanitarian Rob Machado for outreach on ways to use water wisely. Hurley is also aligned with The Ecology Center, an organic San Juan Capistrano farm that inspires water conservation with education about healthy watersheds and ways to make our water go further. These



programs engage and empower people with practical environmental solutions for Orange County households and communities.

Locally, at its headquarters in Costa Mesa, Hurley has water-efficient plumbing, "ocean friendly" gardens, and uses a rain downspout to water the employee herb and vegetable garden, and hosts employee events about how to save water. Thank you, Hurley!



Infrastructure Integrity

Investing In Improvements

Mesa Water® owns and maintains an extensive water delivery system of wells, pipes and many other essential pieces, to bring a reliable supply of water to its customers. The system is maintained according to a perpetual infrastructure philosophy that maximizes the useful life of the parts that make up the water delivery system. Mesa Water® is testing the system in phases to determine whether parts have reached their useful life, have more useful life to live, or need to be rehabilitated or replaced. Factors that contribute to this analysis include remaining structural integrity (i.e. Pipeline

thickness), surrounding soil conditions, improvements in technology, risk management criteria, and repair history. Pipelines are assessed according to non-destructive (in place testing using ultrasonic technology) and selected destructive load tests and how much of its useful life remains. This process has resulted in a savings of time and money for the District and its customers in the delivery of a reliable water supply.



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Board Meetings

Mesa Water's Board meets the second Thursday of each month. Regular meetings begin at 6 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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