



**MesaWater**  
DISTRICT

# Water District News

**SPECIAL DROUGHT EDITION**

[MesaWater.org](http://MesaWater.org)

**Volume 28, Number 2 March/April 2014**

## **Hot Water News**

### **Mesa Water's Storage Reservoirs**

Did you know that Mesa Water® owns and operates three water reservoirs that, combined, can store 30 million gallons of water? That's great news for the more than 105,000 residents and large commercial customers that Mesa Water® serves, including John Wayne Airport, the OC Fair, Orange Coast College, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, and South Coast Plaza (all important to our economy). Mesa Water continually circulates an average of 17 million gallons of high-quality water throughout the District's service area every day.

## **Fresh Water Facts**

### **Conserving 20 Percent**

California's Governor has asked everyone throughout the state to reduce their water use by 20 percent, but what does that mean to you? Small changes add up to big water savings and you can save:

- 💧 15 gallons a day by installing a drip irrigation system to water your yard;
- 💧 20 gallons a day by fixing leaky faucets and plumbing; and
- 💧 40 gallons a day with the installation and proper programming of a weather-based irrigation controller.

You can visit [MesaWater.org/conservation](http://MesaWater.org/conservation) for a full list of water-saving tips.

## **Mesa Water® Remains Reliable During Drought**

Governor Brown recently declared a drought State of Emergency for California. California's water supply condition is serious and indeed at a historic low. Some regions, mostly in Northern California and the Central Valley, are in mandatory conservation. It is important for you to know that Mesa Water District (Mesa Water®) is prepared.

In Mesa Water's service area, consumers are now experiencing the benefits of decades-long investments in water use efficiency and water infrastructure projects to help lower our regional dependence on imported water.

Two decades ago, Mesa Water's Board of Directors set a goal to reduce our reliance on imported water from Northern California and the Colorado River by increasing the District's production of groundwater and recycled water. Mesa Water® is fortunate to be able to pump safe, high-quality groundwater from Orange County's clear-water aquifer and from the deeper, amber-colored aquifer located in our service area.

The recently-completed [Mesa Water Reliability Facility \(MWRF\)](#) is the final step in eliminating the District's dependence on imported water as Mesa Water® is now able to meet 100 percent of its community's water needs with locally-sourced supplies. Furthermore, producing local water uses less electricity than is needed to import water from hundreds of miles away.



Though Mesa Water's local water supplies are not affected by the drought, it is always a good idea to use water efficiently. Rebates, water use efficiency workshops, and tours of the MWRF can be great starting points in learning about water use. Please contact Mesa Water® if you are looking for ways to reduce your water use in your home or business.

Thank you for supporting past, current, and future investments in local water reliability. We are in a good position today because of the decisions made by the Mesa Water® Board of Directors, with your support, to invest in ongoing improvements in infrastructure and water use efficiency.

***Dedicated to Satisfying our Community's Water Needs***

# Environmental Stewardship

## Improving Outdoor Water Use Efficiency

There are many ways to improve water use efficiency in our homes and businesses and Mesa Water® offers **Water Efficient Landscape Workshops** that can help customers and community members be more efficient with their outdoor water use, including:

💧 **The Basics** – Saturday, May 10, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., covering:

- Basic Landscape Design & Maintenance
- California Friendly® Plants
- Sprinkler System Basics
- Watering Techniques

💧 **Advanced Topics** - Saturday, May 24, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., covering:

- Rainwater retention practices
- California Friendly® plants
- Water-efficient sprinkler systems
- Fine tuning sprinkler timers



Both workshops are offered at no cost to participants. Please RSVP by calling 949.631.1200.

# Community Connection

## Water Recycling and the Groundwater Replenishment System

Mesa Water® pumps approximately 70 percent of its water supply from the Orange County groundwater basin's clear-water aquifer which serves north and central Orange County. Managed by the [Orange County Water District \(OCWD\)](#), the basin is replenished with recycled water produced with sophisticated technology at OCWD's [Groundwater Replenishment System \(GWRS\)](#). Since 2008, the GWRS has produced nearly 130 billion gallons of water recycled from wastewater, a reliable local water source, using microfiltration, reverse osmosis, and ultraviolet light with hydrogen peroxide.

Every day, the GWRS produces 70 million gallons of recycled water for replenishing Orange County's groundwater basin. Mesa Water encourages customers and community members to learn more about their water supplies by signing up for OCWD's GWRS tour. Visit [gwrsystem.com](http://gwrsystem.com) or contact Becky Mudd, Tour Coordinator, at 714.378.3362 or [BMudd@OCWD.com](mailto:BMudd@OCWD.com).



# Employee Excellence

## Barry Carlson: One Customer at a Time

Barry Carlson began working with Mesa Water in 1990 as an entry level Maintenance Worker I, focused on repairing hydrants, fixing leaks and changing water meters. He has several certificates, including Water Utility Science, California Public Health, Distribution 3 and Treatment 2, AWWA Conservation Practitioner, and Irrigation Auditor. Barry has served as a Customer Service Field Representative, Field Service Supervisor, Resource Efficiency Specialist, Customer Service Supervisor, and in 2011 was promoted to Customer Services Manager. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Public

Administration. Now beginning his 25th year with the District, Barry believes in the importance of every customer and wants each person to know that a little difference in water use can add up to making a big difference overall. "Every customer contributes to Mesa Water's success in being efficient with our water use." Barry is a resident within Mesa Water's service area. His favorite local restaurant is Wafu of Japan Sushi Bar.



## Board of Directors

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## General Manager

Paul E. Shoenberger, P.E.

## 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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