

# NEWS ON TAP VOLUME 35, NUMBER 2, MARCH/APRIL 2021

### **Women in Water**

From Operations, to Water Quality and Water Policy, the many women at Mesa Water who work to ensure our community receives 100% safe, local and reliable water every day never cease to amaze us! In the Q&As below, these remarkable professionals share their experiences.

#### Check out the full articles at MesaWater.org.

#### Tracy Manning, Water Operations Manager, 27 years at Mesa Water

## Q: What is your favorite/most inspirational book, TED Talk or podcast?

A: When I first started with Mesa Water, I read "Cadillac Desert" in a Water Resources class. While not exactly a historical textbook, it really outlined the entwined connection between the settlement of the west and the development of reliable water supplies. It really opened my eyes to the critical role a plentiful, safe, and local water supply has in

sustaining our livelihoods and lifestyle here in Orange County.



#### Jennifer Reyes, Water Quality Technician I, 1 year at Mesa Water

## **Q:** What excites you the most about the water industry?

A: The water industry is a growing field that is fluid. In the water quality field, we are always adapting and using new technology to ensure our water supply is safe and reliable.

## Stacy Taylor, Water Policy Manager, going on 11 years at Mesa Water

## **Q**: What would people find surprising about your job?

A: People might find it surprising to know about the complexities of policy work which can involve intense time investment, including off hours. Being successful at policy work requires conducting what I call the "5 C's" of advocacy—collaborating, communicating,



coordinating, coalition-building, and consensus-building. Policy work hinges on staying well connected and informed, having both legal and technical support or expertise, and placing people first in terms of prioritizing positive working relationships.

### Safety Measures Upheld at Mesa Water



As an essential public service provider, Mesa Water has successfully sustained operational continuity throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. We are dedicated to staying connected and available to our cherished customers via telephone, email, and social media.

To ensure the safety of our tap water, our treatment process disinfects the water before it enters our system. In addition, Mesa Water conducts over 30,000 water quality tests annually to ensure our water meets rigorous drinking water standards. As always, we remain dedicated to ensure safe and reliable water services.

#### MesaWater.org Gets a New Look



Mesa Water's website is getting a new look! The updated MesaWater.org will go live in spring 2021. The website will continue to offer easy to use features such as online bill pay, updated calendars for Board meetings and special events, the latest news about Mesa Water and water use efficiency information. Stay connected with Mesa Water and explore <u>MesaWater.org</u>.

## "Spring" into Water-Wise Gardening

The change in seasons is upon us. Here are some springtime tips to help you maximize your water efficiency.

- If you've turned off your sprinklers for the winter, be sure to give them a test and flush out the drip systems.
- Freshen up the mulch in your garden. Natural mulch reduces moisture loss in soil, helps prevent weed growth, and puts the finishing touch in a California Friendly garden.



• Plant California Friendly and Native plants in your garden before spring ends to take advantage of cooler temperatures and rainfall.

Visit MesaWater.org/savewater for watering schedules and more.

### World Water Day March 22

Join millions of people around the world as they celebrate the value of water and raise awareness of the 2.2 billion people living without access to safe water.

Water is our most precious resource, and water systems are identified as one of the top vital infrastructure sectors in the United States. In 1992, the United Nations General Assembly declared World Water Day to be celebrated annually on March 22.

By celebrating and acknowledging all the different ways water benefits our lives, we can value the abundance of water that Mesa Water customers receive.



Courtesy of worldwaterday.org

For more information, visit www.worldwaterday.org.

### How it works: Nanofiltration

In honor of the Mesa Water Reliability Facility's (<u>MWRF</u>) ninth anniversary, we are highlighting the state-of-theart technology that allows Mesa Water to serve 100% local and reliable water, nanofiltration.

The MWRF pulls water from deep below ground and has an amber tint from ancient redwoods. The ambercolored water is 12,000 years old and naturally soft, meeting all water quality standards even before treatment. The



pulled water moves through a sand separator which removes sand and grains. The water then flows through a cartridge filter that removes particulate matter up to 5 micron, about the width of a human hair! Finally, the water makes its way through the vessels which removes the color by pushing the water through a semi permeable membrane element, only allowing the clean water to pass.

The purified water then moves into the onsite reservoir before being pumped into the Mesa Water distribution system and eventually out of your faucet.



#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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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, **News On Tap** is a bi-monthly publication to inform Mesa Water's customers and community about water-based issues and events.

#### We welcome your ideas:

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#### MesaWater.org

#### Follow us @MesaWater





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