

Upgraded Treatment Plant Dedicated

The largest construction project in Goleta Water District's recent history—the modernization and upgrade of its Corona Del Mar Water Treatment Plant—was dedicated in October, 2007. Completion of the project ushered in a new era of improved water quality for Goleta Valley residents, and will serve the community for decades to come.

Certification Expected for "Green" Building

The new laboratory control building of the treatment plant was built to "green" building specifications. The District is applying for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification from the United States Green Building Council, and hopes to obtain a Gold Certification level.

District Received Two Grants

At the dedication ceremony, Lynn Scarletti, Deputy US Secretary of the Interior, presented the District with two checks totaling almost \$300,000 to help pay for improvements to the District's water distribution system.



Budget in Balance, No Rate Change Planned

The budget for the current fiscal year is solidly balanced and no rate increase is proposed in 2008-09.


Over the last decade or so, the District invested over \$72 million to modernize pipelines, pumps, wells, storage tanks, and the treatment plant. This massive effort required that the District utilize most of its reserves.

The District is now focusing its fiscal policies on slowly rebuilding the reserve funds to cover unexpected expenses and emergencies, and to help keep rates stable.

Public Budget Hearing

A public budget hearing will be scheduled soon.

For details call the District at (805) 964-6761 or check the website at goletawater.com.

Each ton of recycled paper saves 7,000 gallons of water. 

Chip Wullbrandt, General Counsel

Kevin D. Walsh, General Manager and Chief Engineer

Jack Cunningham, President
Harry E. De Witt, Vice-President
Bert Berrando, Chuck Evans,
Lynette Mills

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

4699 Hollister Avenue
Goleta, CA 93110-1998
805-964-6761
www.goletawater.com



GOLETA WATER DISTRICT

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Click to goletawater.com for updated information about water.

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SANTA BARBARA, CA
PERMIT NO. 1215

APRIL 2008



INFORMATION
ABOUT YOUR WATER

WATER NEWS

GOLETA WATER DISTRICT

Fire, Drought, or Flood— the District is Prepared

Long-range planning has prepared Goleta Water District to meet community water needs year-in and year-out, at all times of the day or night. Our job is to assure that the District can always meet all normal and emergency water needs.



After two years of unusually dry weather, the recent rains quickly topped off Lake Cachuma. Previous to the rains, Lake Cachuma water levels had been falling. Thanks to the District's broad portfolio of water supplies, adequate water to meet community needs was maintained despite the long dry spell.

Then Lake Cachuma began to spill, the District promptly took overflow water from the lake and injected it into the groundwater basin, saving it for dry times or emergencies. Long-term, the District remains careful not to waste water, and to encourage conservation, even during rainy times.

The District has made significant investments to ensure that there is adequate storage capacity in reservoir tanks, that water mains are properly sized, and backup systems are in place to ensure that there is adequate water flow for fire fighting.

Long-range planning and active water management are the keys to water supply reliability.

Conservation Can Save You Water and Money—Here's How

Find **RESIDENTIAL** Water Conservation Tips and Rebates

www.H2OHouse.com

www.BeWaterWise.com

www.SBwater.org

www.GoletaWater.com

Free **COMMERCIAL** Water Conservation Programs

e-mail Conservation@GoletaWater.com

or call (805) 879-4634

Free **AGRICULTURAL** Water Conservation Programs

Call us at (805) 879-4643





Taking Action on Water Quality Impacts from the Zaca Fire

Runoff from this winter's heavy rains increased the level of nutrients and organic materials in Lake Cachuma due to the ash and debris left by the Zaca fire. The additional organics can lead to increased algae growth, especially in summer. While not harmful to health; the algae may cause changes in water taste and odor.

The organic carbon can also combine with the chlorine disinfectant used in water treatment, and form substances called Trihalomethanes (THM) and Haloacetic acids (HAA) as byproducts. These disinfection byproducts have been linked to possible adverse health effects following long-term exposure above regulatory levels.

Meeting Water Quality Standards

The District meets the regulatory health standard for these byproducts. Because warmer water temperatures tend to increase production of byproducts, there is a possibility that upcoming test results may be higher. Therefore, the District is taking intensive treatment and supply actions that are expected to keep District water within standards.

For more information about water quality, contact Greg Paul at (805) 879-4671, watch the District's website at www.goletawater.com, or go to the United States Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water website at www.epa.gov/safewater/index.html

Long-Range Plan Provides Reliable Water Service to Our Customers

Goleta Water District focuses its knowledge and resources on providing top quality water services for our customers

Water Demand and Supply in Balance

This winter's abundant rainfall ended a two-year dry spell. This raised questions about Goleta Valley's water supply. The bottom



line: the District has enough water to meet identified long term water needs of the Goleta Valley.

In 2005, the District completed its most comprehensive water supply assessment ever. At that time, the Urban Water Management Plan accounted for every known factor: City of Goleta and County General Plans, UCSB long-range plan, customer water use patterns, state water policies, rainfall trends and so on.

Water conservation continues to be an essential part of the District's supply plans—there is never enough water to waste.

The conclusion is that the District has secured enough water to meet community's needs for the next twenty-five years. During lengthy droughts, some mandatory rationing will be required.

The water demand projections are based on what was known in 2005. If the City or County changes land use plans, if agriculture expands, or other unexpected changes in water needs occur, the District will take the actions needed to meet community water needs.

Meeting With the Public on Water Supply Plans

The State recently determined that the District's long-range plan is complete. The next mandatory update is due in 2010. However, to keep planning up-to-date, the District is already meeting with the public to get input on an interim update for 2008. The meetings are open for the public and you are invited to attend. Contact the District at (805) 879-4621 for more information.

Strong Portfolio of Water Sources

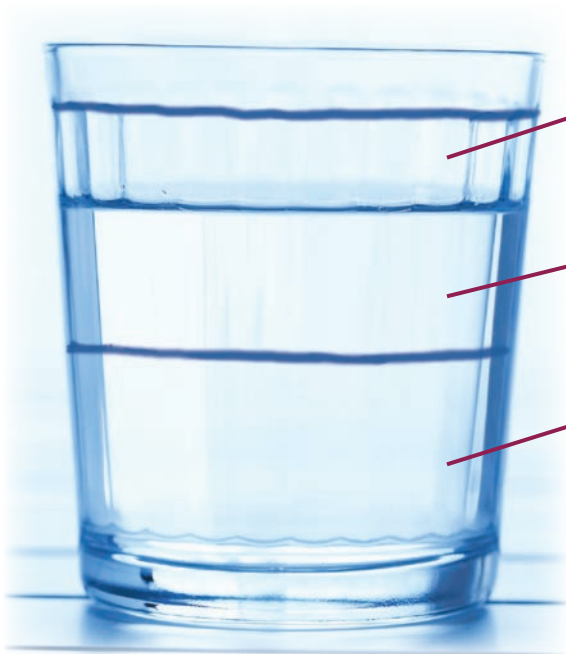
Following the major drought of 1986 to 1991, Goleta Water District invested heavily in developing a variety of water sources. This “portfolio” approach recognizes that at any given time, one water supply or another may be less available while another may be plentiful. By having multiple sources, the District is able to always deliver enough water to customers.

Refurbished Wells Strengthen Water Supply

Six of the District’s nine wells have been fully upgraded, with half of the \$3.6 million cost paid for by a state grant. The wells are used to inject excess water from Lake Cachuma during wet winters into the underground aquifer, saving the water for use during droughts. The wells and aquifer storage can provide a substantial backup source of quality water in the event that Lake Cachuma water is temporarily cut off or decreased by an earthquake or other emergency.

Goleta’s Average Long-Term Potable Water Supply is 16,172 acre-feet

(Each foot equals 326,000 gallons, enough to cover a football field to a depth of a foot.)



Potable Water

**Groundwater Wells:
2,350 Acre-Feet**

**Imported Water:
4,500 Acre-Feet**

**Lake Cachuma Water:
9,322 Acre-Feet**

Recycled Water

**Non-Potable Water:
1,500 Acre-Feet**

The District along with its partner, Goleta Sanitary District, can produce 1,500 acre-feet of recycled water for use on agriculture, large landscapes and other non-potable uses.

SAFE Ordinance Assures Safe, Secure Water Supply

The SAFE Ordinance was approved by District voters in 1991 and amended in 1994. This ordinance sets requirements and restrictions on how the District’s groundwater basin is operated, and governs the release of water for new construction and expanded uses.

Goleta Water District conforms fully with the voter-approved provisions of the SAFE Ordinance. Accordingly, the District releases only one percent of its total available potable water supply annually for new connections, and meets or improves upon groundwater storage requirements required by the ordinance.