

# WATER NEWS

GOLETA WATER DISTRICT



INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR WATER

*“Developing a diversified and reliable water supply portfolio has required tens of millions of dollars. The Water System Master Plan identifies over \$20 million in needed water system upgrades to continue to meet customer needs.”*

Kevin Walsh,  
General Manager

[www.goletawater.com](http://www.goletawater.com)

## 3 Ways We Keep Your Water Flowing

Even during blackouts and other emergencies

### 1 New Reservoir Adds 6 Million Gallons of Storage

The number of reservoir tanks in the Goleta Water District system grew to eight with the opening of the new Garrett Van Horne Reservoir in the foothills above Los Carneros Avenue. The 6.4 million gallon tank reservoir was built of pre-stressed concrete at a cost of \$7.4 million. It was dedicated May 24, 2001, to former Board member and prominent rancher Garrett Van Horne, who donated the land for the project. The huge 200-foot wide by 28-foot tall gravity-flow reservoir provides storage for daily operation, firefighting and other emergencies.



*Goleta Water District's Van Horne Reservoir during the construction phase.*

### 2 Backup Generators Ready For Power Outages and Emergencies

Goleta Water District uses backup generators at pump stations and the Corona del Mar Water Treatment Plant to continue service in the event of power blackouts or other emergencies. Fuel storage tanks allow the District to operate its system for extended periods on emergency power. Also, the majority of the system flows by gravity, lessening the need for electricity and saving our customers money.

### 3 Gravity Flow Through the Mountain

Water from Lake Cachuma, the Goleta Water District's prime source of supply, flows by gravity through the Santa Ynez Mountains via the Tecolote Tunnel to reach the District's pipelines without any need for electrical power.

# Water District Preparing for Future, F

**M**ajor water projects such as developing recycled water, building a large reservoir or upgrading wells can take years or even decades to plan, finance, overcome regulatory hurdles and construct. In addition, nature challenges the Goleta Valley with alternating cycles of drought and flood. To meet these challenges, Goleta Water District plans far into the future to ensure that the entire water system is able to meet the community's water needs as shown below:

## How We Ensure Ample, High Quality Water Supplies

- **Increase Use of Recycled Wastewater**

We have consistently expanded use of recycled wastewater for irrigation and are investigating further increases in its use.

- **Maintain State Water Project Water Supplies**

Supplemental supplies of State Project water are available for use in times of drought or if there are shortfalls in other sources.

- **Rehabilitate Groundwater Storage Wells**

For over 20 years the District has stored surplus Lake Cachuma water in the local groundwater basin. During the winter months of wet years, surplus Cachuma water is injected down existing wells for storage within the local groundwater basin. The stored water is then available for use during dry years or for emergencies.

After a quarter century of service, the District's wells are worn and require major upgrades. To limit the local cost of this \$3.6M project, the District is applying for state grant funds that would be used to rehabilitate six of our aging wells. The upgraded wells will be able to efficiently store

and extract water for many years to come, helping to meet peak summertime demands, and serving as a backup supply during droughts or emergencies.



*The Polonio Pass facility near Paso Robles treats imported supplies from the State Water Project before delivering the water to Lake Cachuma.*

## Undertaking Extensive Upgrades and Replacement of Aging Water System

- **Developed Long-Range Water System Master Plan**

Undertaking the Master Plan will ensure that the water system is properly maintained and continues to be an extremely reliable source of high quality drinking water.

- **Upgrading the Reservoir Network**

Besides the new reservoir, the Master Plan program includes replacing the aging Patterson Reservoir and building two additional reservoirs.

- **Improve Backup and Control Systems**

The District is upgrading pump stations, remote monitoring and control systems and backup generators.

# Flood, Blackout or Other Emergency



*An advanced computer system monitors and controls key treatment plant and other components remotely, improving emergency service and lowering costs.*

## Maintaining Water Quality

State and Federal water quality regulators steadily increase drinking water standards, making them stricter over time. Goleta Water District is already complying with the newest set of standards that go into effect in January 2002.

## District Already Meets Stricter Standards

Turbidity is a technical term for the clarity of the water. Too much turbidity can hide bacteria, making disinfection less effective. Extensive testing shows that Goleta Water District already meets more strict turbidity standards due to take effect in January 2002.

## Disinfecting and By-Products

Natural organic matter in water can react with chlorine and other disinfectants during treatment to form potentially harmful by-products, including Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids. Goleta Water

District's recently upgraded treatment plant already meets upcoming more strict controls on levels of disinfection by-products. The District is investigating improving the disinfection process to decrease formation of by-products even more.

## Advances in Technology

Improvements in technology at the treatment plant make it possible for the District to perform more sophisticated testing more often to ensure the highest possible water quality. Testing is done at numerous points in the system, even at the end point, from some customer faucets. The recently updated SCADA computerized monitoring system has brought about increased automation and made it possible to better operate and track the operating systems year-round and around-the-clock.

## Rate Increase To Help Maintain Water System

*After years of delaying any increase in water rates, the Goleta Water District Board has decided that a 5% boost is necessary to maintain the quantity and quality of the water system.*

***Water rates have been held remarkably stable over the last decade.***

<b>1991</b>	<b><i>No Rate Increase</i></b>
<b>1992</b>	<b><i>No Rate Increase</i></b>
<b>1993</b>	<b><i>No Rate Increase</i></b>
<b>1994</b>	<b><i>No Rate Increase</i></b>
<b>1995</b>	<b><i>No Rate Increase</i></b>
<b>1996</b>	<b><i>No Rate Increase</i></b>
<b>1997</b>	<b><i>No Rate Increase</i></b>
<b>1998</b>	<b><i>3% Increase</i></b>
<b>1999</b>	<b><i>No Rate Increase</i></b>
<b>2000</b>	<b><i>No Rate Increase</i></b>
<b>2001</b>	<b><i>5% Increase (starts November 1)</i></b>



# Visit Our Beautiful Water Conserving Demonstration Gardens

Goleta Water District's showpiece Water Conservation Garden is a living example of what you can do to conserve water while still maintaining attractive outdoor landscaping. The acre-plus garden is located on the grounds of the District's office at 4699 Hollister Avenue, across from San Marcos High School.

## Open Year-Around and Its Free

The garden is open to the public, and no reservations are needed. It is a wonderful opportunity for you to walk the paths, view the demonstration plantings, and get tips for creating your own garden using drought tolerant, native plants, and drip irrigation systems.

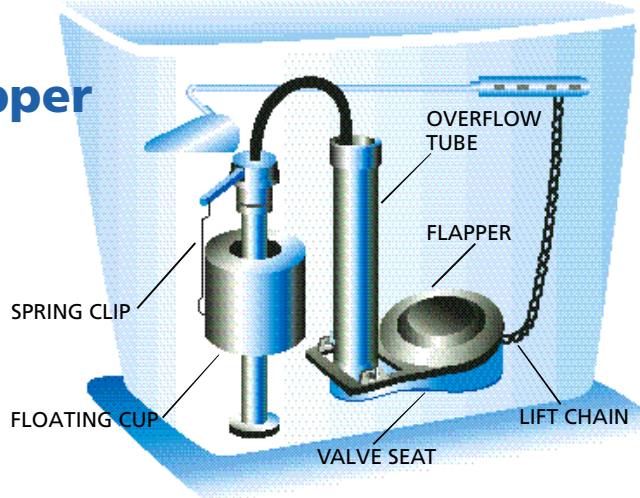


*Beautiful, low-water-use plants flourish in the District's Demonstration Gardens.*

### Water Saving Tip

## Replace a Worn Out Toilet Flapper

A common water-waster is a worn-out toilet flapper. The good news is that the rubber flapper can be easily replaced. Just follow these simple steps for a common type of flapper with side hooks (for other types, consult your hardware dealer or plumber):



- Step 1: Turn off the water to the toilet.
- Step 2: Flush the toilet several times.
- Step 3: Remove the flapper from its side hooks on the fill tube.
- Step 4: Remove the chain.
- Step 5: Install the new flapper, connecting it to the side hooks and chain.
- Step 6: Turn the water to the toilet back on.

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