

WATER NEWS

GOLETA WATER DISTRICT



INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR WATER

WELCOME TO THE NEW CITY OF GOLETA

General purpose governments, such as cities and counties, provide police, courts, welfare, roads and many other services.

Goleta Water District is a Special District—an independent, local government focused on providing a single vital service: water. It is governed by an elected Board of Directors who live in the service area and are customers like you. They are your representatives.

Counties and cities establish land use regulations governing development, building and zoning. Goleta Water District's sole job is to provide quality water service to all Goleta Valley residents, businesses and agriculture. The District will coordinate its water service policies with the new City of Goleta, and continue to work with the County in unincorporated areas.

We welcome the new city, and look forward to working together in serving the citizens of the Goleta Valley.

www.goletawater.com



Assuring a Secure Water Supply



Recent events have brought the issue of security to the forefront in every walk of life. People are asking if their water supply is safe and secure? The answer in the Goleta Valley is yes!

While there are no absolute guarantees in life, Goleta Water District is continually planning and preparing to ensure a secure water supply. We have taken steps to provide reliable service in the event of earthquakes, fires and other emergencies; during power outages; during floods, droughts and other problem situations.

This newsletter answers questions you may have about the quality and security of your water supply.

We Worry About The Water Supply

Goleta Water District has only one job—to provide our customers with plenty of high quality water at a reasonable price. We focus all of our knowledge and resources on this single goal. This page describes some highlights of our efforts in this area.



Goleta Water District's Corona del Mar treatment facility.

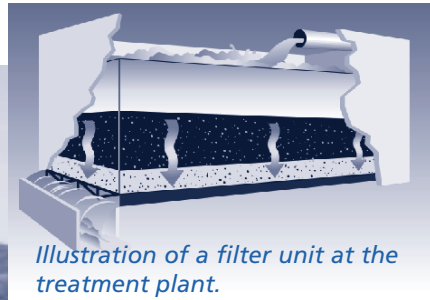


Illustration of a filter unit at the treatment plant.

Improving The Water Supply

Goleta Water District has developed a portfolio of water supplies to ensure it can meet customer water needs under all circumstances.

Lake Cachuma—Our primary water supply.

State Project Water—A supplemental water supply and important drought buffer.

Local Wells and Groundwater Storage—The District has been injecting excess water from Lake Cachuma into the groundwater basin where it is stored for future use as a supplemental water supply.

Recycled Water—A smaller but vital water supply provided only for landscape irrigation.

Increasing Water Quality Capabilities

How We Provide Quality Drinking Water

Your water undergoes numerous treatment steps at our modern plant:

- Removal of particles.
- Disinfection with sodium hypochlorite to kill any existing bacteria.
- Filtration through 40 inches of granular activated carbon and 6 inches of silica sand.
- Chlorination in minute quantities to protect the water in the pipelines until it reaches your home.
- Supervision around-the-clock by state certified professionals using computer-controlled monitoring systems.

Extensive Upgrades Ensure Quality

In the last several years, our treatment plant and computer monitoring controls were extensively upgraded to meet tough new quality standards. The District's water quality professionals and consulting engineers are now undertaking a review of the laboratory and other processes to make sure that we meet increasingly strict drinking water quality standards.



One of several groundwater wells.

Supply, So You Don't Have To

Tightening Security



Cooperative Effort

Goleta Water District has adopted heightened security measures to protect your water supply. The District is working closely with many businesses, fire departments, utilities and community groups to coordinate responses to emergencies of any sort. Some of the features that provide reliability and security for our customers include:

- Physical security through fenced and locked facilities.
- Additional alarms and improvements to our automated monitoring system.
- Additional patrols of facilities and water supplies.
- Additional water quality testing to detect any changes in quality.
- Backup power generators that can operate key facilities without normal electrical service.
- Multi-million gallon tanks that can provide ample water to meet daily and emergency water needs.
- Well maintained system of pumps and pipelines that provide reliable service.

Modernizing the System

Computerized Mapping

The District's engineering department is overseeing creation of a computerized program—called Geographic Information System (GIS)—to create digital maps that represent the location of roads, pipelines and buildings. This mapping system will include zoning information; system details such as pipe size, location, and age; customer data; and other engineering information. The GIS information will allow staff to maintain and improve the system more efficiently. The 3-D aerial photographs that are at the heart of GIS were taken in cooperation with other local agencies, saving our ratepayers money.



Aerial GIS photo of Goleta.

Great Employees, Key To Success



Goleta Water District has maintained and improved its aging water system, and complied with increasingly strict quality regulations while keeping rates below the rate of inflation.

To do this, the District has invested up to \$4 million each year in facility improvements and added technical specialists to its staff.

Welcome to our newest water treatment operators who were hired to provide increased water quality control at the treatment plant. (Left to right) Jimmy Ibara, Dave Schiedow, Robert Ivers, and Frank Cronkite.

Plan Your Garden to be Water Wise

Goleta Water District has developed a water supply adequate to meet customer water needs, but there is never enough water to waste.

The greatest potential for water savings is in our landscaping. With Spring just around the corner, it is a good time to plan your garden for water efficiency. Here are a few tips:

- Select water thrifty native plants.
- Group together plants that share similar water requirements.
- Limit the size of your lawn.
- Apply three inches of mulch around plants to retain water and combat weeds.



You are invited to visit the District's Demonstration Gardens for ideas on water-conserving gardening.

KIDS' PUZZLE

Can you find all ten words in the puzzle and circle them?

	R	G	A	L	L	O	N	S	G
CONSERVE	V	E	V	R	E	S	N	O	C
GALLONS	D	N	S	D	A	M	L	E	F
WASTE	W	I	G	E	T	R	W	Q	A
FAUCET	L	L	E	W	R	I	B	D	U
WELL	K	E	O	C	A	V	Y	H	C
PIPELINE	A	P	J	B	I	E	O	M	E
RAIN	P	I	Q	N	N	R	Z	I	T
RESERVOIR	V	P	W	A	S	T	E	V	R
DAM									
RIVER									

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WATER DISTRICT

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