

EMWD REPORTS • JANUARY 2021

Water Banking: Saving For A Dry Day

Have you ever heard of water banking? Water banking is another way of keeping a safe and reliable local water supply ready for our customers.

As an important part of our Groundwater Reliability Plus initiative, water banking facilities receive imported water supplies available during wet years. That "banked" water is then stored in local



groundwater basins and used to meet water demands during dry periods.

EMWD is investing in projects like water banking that will benefit our customers, because you never know when the next drought cycle will occur. One of our current projects is the Mountain Avenue West Groundwater Replenishment Basin, located in San Jacinto. This new project will take part in the water banking process, and store water in large ponds, where it will then seep into our groundwater basin, and be available for use during drought years.

The project will help EMWD store enough water for more than 15,000 families each year while improving the quality and quantity of water in our local groundwater basins.

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EMWD Is Here For You

EMWD is committed to helping our customers get through these challenging times by working together.

EMWD would like to remind customers that payment arrangements may be made by contacting our Customer Service team and discussing your individual account information. A variety of water use efficiency rebate programs are available online. Less water means less energy needed for water heating, lowering your energy bill too.

In addition, EMWD has partnered with United Way to offer the Help2Others customer assistance program. Help2Others offers a \$100 bill credit, one time within a twelve-month period, to qualifying EMWD residential customers. Some restrictions apply; please visit: www.emwd.org/help2others, to see if you qualify.

The County of Riverside is also offering one-time utility assistance through their CAP Cares Program, for eligible applicants that meet specific qualifications. For more information, please visit: <u>www.capriverside.org</u>.

A Quick Look at Milestones for Today and Tomorrow

Each year, EMWD works on projects to ensure that our customers continue to have safe and reliable water, wastewater, and recycled water services.

Let's take a look at some of the critical infrastructure projects our team kicked off this year and will be working on in 2021 :



Perris North (Perris/Moreno Valley): The Perris North Groundwater Program is a long-term solution to improve groundwater quality and prevent contamination in the area. It will consist of six groundwater wells, up to 20 groundwater monitoring wells, pipelines, and a treatment facility. EMWD has received an agency-record \$44.9 million grant from the State Water Resources Control Board to fund 50 percent of the project costs.

Mountain Avenue West (San Jacinto): The Mountain Avenue West Groundwater Replenishment Basin project is the hub of EMWD's new Water Banking program and will provide the ability to replenish the local groundwater basin with water imported from Northern California during wet and normal years. That water will be available to be pumped from our local aquifer during dry years.

Perris II Desalter (Menifee): Located on Murrieta Road just north of Salt Creek in Menifee, the new desalter will allow EMWD to provide water to additional 15,000 homes further reducing our reliance on imported water supplies. The Perris II Desalter is set to begin operation in mid-2021.

<u>Murrieta Road Pipeline Project</u> (Menifee): Running south down Murrieta Road to La Piedra Road, the Murrieta Road Pipeline project will increase EMWD's water delivery capacity from its current Desalination Complex. The project will begin in the Spring of 2021 and run through the Winter of 2022.

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"EMWD Reports" is designed to keep EMWD's customers and the public informed of matters affecting them. It is published every other month.

EMWD Main Phone Number: 951.928.3777

EMWD Customer Service: 800.426.3693

Job Hotline: ext. 3300

Conservation Hotline: ext. 3322

Water Quality: ext. 3327

Systems Outages, Trouble Calls: ext. 6265 or 800.698.0400

Public and Governmental Affairs: ext. 3430 PublicandGovtAffairs@emwd.org

Milestones for Today and Tomorrow (Cont. from Page 3)

Las Brisas Water Transmission Pipeline (Murrieta): Located near Hancock Avenue and Las Brisas Road, this project will provide additional water transmission capacity and alleviate low water-pressure for homes and businesses in the area. The project is set to be completed this year.

French Valley Recycled Water Pipeline Expansion Phase II (French Valley): Beginning construction in the summer of 2021 along Benton and Pourroy Road, this project will expand EMWD's recycled water pipeline to several sites in the French Valley community so they may use recycled water for landscape irrigation.

<u>Sky Canyon Sewer Project</u> (French Valley): This project will extend sewer pipeline to the community of French Valley along Winchester Road, and through Sky Canyon Drive from Hunter Road to Murrieta Hot Springs Road.

DON'T BE SCAMMED!

EMWD wants to help protect you against potential scams. Sometimes customers are approached or called by individuals claiming to be from EMWD. Most often these individuals are salespeople or scam artists who are NOT affiliated with EMWD. We ALWAYS wear uniforms and carry EMWD IDs. Questions? Call us at: 951.928.3777

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