

pipeline

A NEWSLETTER FOR CUSTOMERS OF THE OTAY WATER DISTRICT

↓ SUMMER 2006

Otay Water District Activates Pumps at Massive Station

The Otay Water District (OWD) formally dedicated the recently completed 980-2 East-Lake Greens pump station in eastern Chula Vista. This new \$8 million facility will pump up to 36 million gallons of water per day. At full power, the four 5,200 gallon per minute pumps could fill a standard swimming pool in about one minute.

The district worked closely with the City of Chula Vista to ensure that noise produced by the facility would not affect nearby housing. This included the construction of a permanent sound wall and orienting the building to make

certain that any sound generated at the station would be directed away from neighboring homes.

The pump station will serve the equivalent of 17,500 homes and has a 2,000-kilowatt generator that will operate if power on the commercial power grid is unavailable. It is located in what is known as the 980-pressure zone (980 refers to the elevation above sea level). Averaging more than 20% growth per year, for the past five years, the "980 zone" has been the fastest growing area in the district.

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The Otay Water District's Board of Directors were joined by Port Commissioner Bill Hall, Chula Vista Deputy Mayor John McCann, Chula Vista Chamber of Commerce President Dave Ruch and CEO Lisa Cohen for the dedication of the 980-2 pump station.



OTAY WATER DISTRICT
2554 Sweetwater Springs Blvd.
Spring Valley, CA 91978-2096
www.otaywater.gov

Annual Scholarship Awarded Monte Vista High Grad Receives Scholarship

Every year during Water Awareness Month, the OWD offers a \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating high school senior living or going to school within our service area. This year the OWD awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Monte Vista High School student, Michael Ramirez.

Michael is a graduating senior at Monte Vista High School with a 4.7 GPA and is the Valedictorian of his class. Michael has been accepted to UCSD where he plans to major in biology.

The district invites graduating high school seniors to compete in its annual scholarship program. Applicants are asked to submit an essay on the purpose of special districts as well as a personal essay. The OWD also nominates its scholarship recipient to compete for other coun-

tywide scholarships awarded by the California Special Districts Association. For information on the next scholarship competition, visit our Web site beginning in February, 2007.



Scholarship winner Michael Ramirez and his family were acknowledged at an OWD board meeting.

Honoring Otay Water District Day

Chairman Bill Horn and the members of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors proclaimed June 20th, 2006, as Otay Water District Day in San Diego County. The proclama-



County Supervisors Dianne Jacob and Greg Cox, with OWD Vice President Jose Lopez and GM Mark Watton, proclaimed June 20th, 2006, as Otay Water District Day in San Diego County.

tion was presented to district officials at the regular meeting of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors in recognition of 50 years of outstanding service, leadership and commitment to residents of the district's service area.

As part of a yearlong celebration, the Otay Water District celebrated its Golden Anniversary by hosting an open house to celebrate 50 years of service to the community. The event included live music, prizes, tours of the Ralph W. Chapman Water Recycling Facility and The Water Conservation Garden, and booths hosted by community partners including the County Water Authority, San Diego County Parks, the San Diego Blood Bank, Spring Valley Citizen's Association, South Bay Expressway, the Jamul-Dulzura Planning Group, and the San Miguel Consolidated Fire Protection District.

November General Elections

The Otay Water District is a public utility providing water, sewer and recycled water service to customers in southeastern San Diego County. The district serves the public through a five-member board of directors.

Two Otay Water District director seats are up for election and will be on the ballot in the November, 2006, general election. Residents of the district can vote for candidates or apply to be a candidate in the divisions in which they live. For more information or to obtain a candidate filing guide, please contact the San Diego County Registrar of Voters at (858) 565-5800, toll free 1(800) 696-0136, or visit their Web site at www.sdvote.com.

Otay Water District Board of Directors

The Board of Directors meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 3:30 p.m. in the Boardroom. The public is encouraged to attend at 2554 Sweetwater Springs Blvd., Spring Valley, CA

President

Jaime Bonilla, Division 2
jbonilla@otaywater.gov

Vice President

Jose Lopez, Division 4
jlopez@otaywater.gov

Treasurer

Mark Robak, Division 5
mrobak@otaywater.gov

Boardmember

Larry Breitfelder, Division 1
lbreitfelder@otaywater.gov

Boardmember

Gary Croucher, Division 3
gcroucher@otaywater.gov

Do you have tips or a story about conservation, gardening or anything else water related that you would like to share with your fellow Otay Water District Customers? If so, please email it to Armando Buelna at abuelna@otay-water.gov or mail to 2554 Sweetwater Springs Blvd., Spring Valley, CA 91978

Bill Payment Address Change

The return mailing address for bill payment has changed. As part of our ongoing commitment to deliver superior service, we have partnered with our bank to improve payment processing. The address of our new payment processing center is:

Otay Water District
P.O. Box 51375
Los Angeles, CA 90051-5675

If you are an online bill payer, please make sure you change the return address to ensure prompt processing of your payment. Please feel free to call a customer service representative if you have any questions at (619) 670-2222. Representatives are available Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Receive \$265 for Installing High Efficiency Toilets

For a limited time, a \$265 voucher is available per toilet to replace older pre-1994 toilets with high efficiency toilets. Call the voucher processing center for more information or to receive a voucher at 1-800-986-4538.

FREE Weather "Smart" Irrigation Controllers

Sign up now to receive a FREE weather "smart" irrigation controller. You must have an existing controller and irrigation system to qualify. Call 670-2291 for more information.

Recycled Water History

The Otay Water District has a history in water recycling that stretches back nearly forty years.

In the 1960s, Director Ralph W. Chapman recognized the value of using this resource and became a vocal advocate for water recycling. Today, not only is it fitting that OWD's water recycling facility bear his name, the Ralph W. Chapman Water Recycling Facility, but the district has continued working to achieve his dream of widespread recycled water use.

In the late 1960s, OWD began water recycling with a small packaged treatment plant affectionately named "Miss Stinky." At the time, however, there were few customers for recycled water. It took until the early-1980s for Chapman's vision to take shape. As the EastLake I community began construction in 1986, millions of gallons of water were needed for soil compaction and dust suppression. An inexpensive source of this water was the Chapman facility.

By the early 1990s, Chula Vista and OWD began requiring dual piping in new developments such as EastLake Greens. One set

of pipes would supply drinking water for human consumption, while the other would deliver recycled water to irrigate common areas.

OWD has the largest recycled water network in San Diego County today, and it is continuing to



expand. When the new supply link to the South Bay Water Reclamation Plant comes online in early 2007, recycled

water used for irrigation will equal approximately 15 to 20 percent of OWD's total water usage.

Ralph Chapman knew one day recycled water would be a low-cost, long-term supply of new water that would help the region offset its demand for imported water. Today, his dream is being realized. As OWD celebrates its 50th Anniversary, it is fitting to acknowledge the contributions of one of OWD's founding fathers and honor his place in history.

2006 California-Friendly Landscape Contest Winner

OWD customer Lynn Brown-Reynolds, a regional winner in the 3rd Annual San Diego County California-Friendly Landscape Contest, poses next to her award-winning garden.



