



Welcome to

# Goleta Water District News

WINTER 2012

## **INVESTMENT UNDER WAY TO YOUR \$700 MILLION WATER SYSTEM**

*Goleta Water District is investing in needed upgrades and improvements to make sure water is always available to support public health, our economy and lifestyle.*

### **GENERAL MANAGER'S MESSAGE**

## **Projects Will Modernize the Water System**

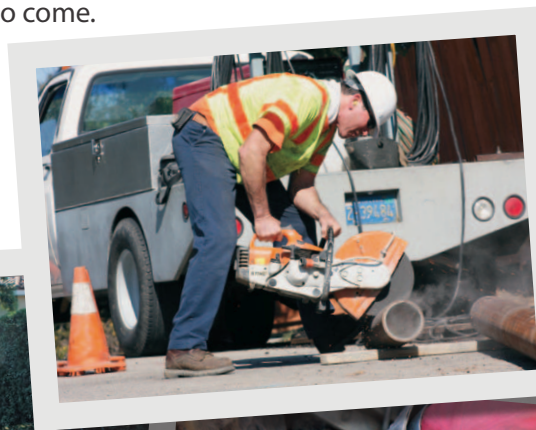
One key element of Goleta Water District's mission is supporting the vitality of our local community. We are committed to protecting public health, supporting residents and businesses by creating the conditions necessary for a thriving economy, and proactively managing our water resources.

One of the most important elements for addressing these goals is ensuring a reliable water system. Yet, did you know that a significant portion of the District's water system is over 50 years old? That's why we are modernizing the aging water system through the District's first comprehensive Infrastructure Improvement Plan. We are moving forward prudently by focusing only on projects that are critical or required by regulations.

With construction underway, infrastructure improvements are already providing an economic stimulus for the local economy. Over the long run, these investments will lower costs and increase reliability for our customers. Moreover, we are incorporating sustainability elements wherever possible, such as by capturing clean, hydroelectric energy using water flowing from District reservoirs. This win/win sustainability approach will benefit current and future customers for years to come.

John McInnes

General Manager



*District staff at work maintaining your water system.*





# UPGRADES AND MAINTENANCE ENSURE

*Whenever you turn a tap, many parts of Goleta's water system instantly go to work. With a total replacement of \$8,000 of water infrastructure per person served by the District. This massive system must work flawlessly every day.*

## New 5-Year Infrastructure Plan for Smart, Sustainable Operations

To keep the water system properly maintained and up-to-date, last year the District's Board of Directors adopted the first Infrastructure Improvement Plan to prioritize and schedule water system repairs over a 5-year period. This Plan saves money and ensures that the most critical repairs are carried out first.

### BENEFITS FROM IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Water system improvements create long-term value for customers by decreasing the number of pipeline breaks and shutdowns, which lowers maintenance and repair costs, while improving reliability of the entire system.



*District staff provide quality work with a smile.*



*Regional Projects are Tentatively Scheduled to Occur in Early 2012*

Visit [www.goletawater.com](http://www.goletawater.com) for announcements and more information.

*Water intake structure at Lake Cachuma.*

## Regional Water Projects Underway

*In addition to ongoing efforts by the Goleta Water District, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board (COMB) are scheduled to perform work in 2012 to enhance the reliability of local water supplies.*

This work is scheduled to proceed over brief periods during low-water-use days and will only impact approximately 30 agricultural customers who use non-potable water for irrigation purposes. All other District customers will be served through backup water supplies such as wells and storage reservoirs.

- **Tecolote Tunnel Inspection** – The Tecolote Tunnel is a 6-mile long, 7-foot wide tunnel through the Santa Ynez Mountains that transports water from Lake Cachuma to the South Coast. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation is scheduled to briefly de-water and shut down the Tecolote Tunnel during early winter 2012 as part of a regular 6-year inspection cycle.
- **Upper Reach Reliability Project** – COMB is constructing improvements to increase the reliability of the South Coast Conduit, the large pipeline that delivers Lake Cachuma water from Goleta to Carpinteria. Construction is scheduled to occur in early 2012.

# PURE QUALITY SERVICE AND LOWER COSTS

At a value of about \$700 million, there is close to \$1 million in savings per day and around -the-clock. Here's how we do it.

## Examples of How We Are Investing in Your Water System

### WATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS FOR BETTER RELIABILITY

The first phase of this multi-year, \$6 million project was just completed. It includes a 5-year schedule of basin reconstruction activities, along with the removal and disposal of natural organic material filtered out during the water treatment process.

**Customer Benefit:** Performance of the water treatment plant has been enhanced for the rainy season, a time when stormwater sediment makes water treatment more difficult.

### VALVE REPLACEMENT DECREASES IMPACTS DURING REPAIRS AND EMERGENCIES

This ongoing project is budgeted at \$762,000 over the next five years. With over 6,000 valves in the water system, this project is designed to ensure that these units are in sound operating condition to prevent leaks and improve system reliability.

**Customer Benefit:** New valves minimize the impacts to District customers of water shutdowns due to repairs or emergencies.

### HYDROELECTRIC POWER GENERATION PROVIDES RENEWABLE ENERGY AND POWER SAVINGS

This \$150,000 project enables the District to generate clean hydroelectric energy at the Van Horne storage reservoir, and will assess other locations for suitability to increase use of renewable hydroelectric energy.

**Customer Benefit:** Provides a local renewable energy source and ongoing revenue for the District, freeing up financial resources for other system uses.

## GOLETA'S WATER SYSTEM AT A GLANCE

*One of the water filters at the Corona Del Mar water treatment plant.*



- 270 miles of pipelines.
- 1,400 Fire Hydrants.
- 6,000 Valves.
- 24 million gallon per day capacity Corona del Mar Water Treatment Plant.
- 20 million gallons of water storage capacity in eight reservoir tanks.
- 6 active wells, all of which can pump water from the groundwater basin and inject water from other sources into the basin to maintain the health of the aquifer.

LEARN MORE

at [www.GoletaWater.com](http://www.GoletaWater.com)



## GOLETA WATER DISTRICT

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## Visit Our Website

www.GoletaWater.Com is a great resource:  
Water-Wise Landscaping Tips and Planting  
Resources | Board Meeting Details, Agendas And  
Minutes | Information About Rates | Water Quality  
and more...

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John McInnes, **General Manager**



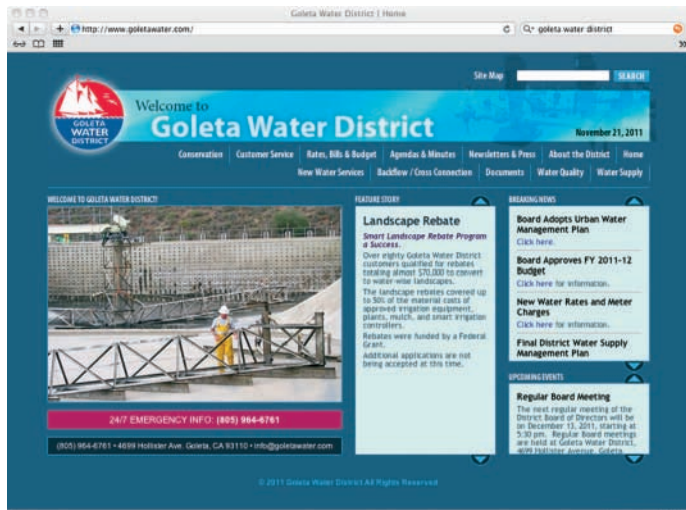
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with a sustainability charter. Each ton of recycled paper  
saves 7,000 gallons of water.

# GOLETA WATER DISTRICT

## Customer Service Enhancements

If you have visited our office recently, you will have noticed design changes to the customer service area that better accommodate disabled customers and provide a professional, inviting, and comfortable business environment.

**Watch for Online Bill Payment.** We are pleased to announce that the District is preparing to offer online bill payment and paperless billing by spring 2012. Customers will be able to view water billing and usage history, eliminate printed bills, and pay online using their personal bank account or credit card. Automatic payment will also be offered.



To help our customers save water and money, Goleta Water District offers a free water check-up service.

### Here is what you receive:

- A complete check for leaks inside and outside the home
- A review of sprinkler systems
- Suggestions on irrigation scheduling
- Suggestions on water efficiency.

## BOARD MEETINGS

The District's regularly scheduled Board of Directors meetings are at 5:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month. The public is always welcome.