



www.GoletaWater.com

WATER NEWS

GOLETA WATER DISTRICT

Board Meeting Time Change to 6:30 P.M.

The District's regularly scheduled Board of Directors meetings are the second Tuesday of every month. The time has been changed from 7:00 to 6:30 p.m.

Have questions or comments or just want to learn more?

Here is how you can contact us:

WEB: www.GoletaWater.com

E-MAIL: Info@GoletaWater.com

CALL: 805-964-6761

See the inside pages for information about Goleta's varied water supplies. The District brings you the water you need every day and around-the-clock for less than a penny per gallon.

Achieving Excellence In Water Service

A Message From Our New General Manager, John McInnes

My name is John McInnes, the new general manager of Goleta Water District. Since arriving in December 2009, I have had the opportunity—working closely with the five elected Board members and Staff—to undertake a systematic and comprehensive review of the entire District including our facilities, finances, operations and customer service. This will assist in improving all aspects of our business, ensuring that you, our customers, are receiving great service.

To accomplish this, we are making sure our administrative procedures and computer systems work efficiently and effectively. We are evaluating our financial services and programs to determine where we meet the highest standards and where we must make improvements. And we are reviewing our approach to customer service to make sure we are addressing customer needs in a timely, fair and objective manner.

All the Board members and most of our Staff live in the service area. I, too, call this area home, and I am pleased to be serving our community through the Goleta Water District. All of us at the District share a common purpose of making our services the best that they can be for current and future generations.

I encourage you to learn more about water and provide your input by checking the District website (www.GoletaWater.com), and by participating in our board meetings and public workshops.

John McInnes

General Manager





Despite recent rainfall, there is never enough water to waste in our semi-arid climate.

The Lemon Festival

The California Lemon Festival was held this past October in Girsh Park. Goleta Water District sponsored a booth that featured helpful water conservation tips, tools and activities for kids (and parents). Thank you to everyone who joined in the festivities!



Making Sure You Have Water

How do we fit into the State water picture

Even though this winter has brought rain to much of California, the past three years of drought in the West have left our state with severe water shortages. Major reservoirs throughout California are dangerously low. The governor has called for massive action, including a Water Bond that will be on the state ballot in November. Water allocations to farmers across the state have been severely reduced. Many communities have enforced restrictions on residential water use.

This leaves many of our customers wondering: How do we fit into this picture? Is our situation as dire as in the rest of California?

The short answer is that we are currently in better shape than many other parts of the state. The Goleta Water District is blessed with a portfolio of water sources. Our main resource,

Lake Cachuma, is replenished by a huge, mountain watershed that has received good rains this year, after several very dry years. Our underground aquifer, fed mostly by our Goleta Valley watersheds, adds to our annual water supply and serves as well-protected storage for the water we keep in reserve for drought emergencies. *(See the update on our Groundwater Management Plan below.)*

We also receive State Water, a supply that is susceptible to Northern California drought and to restrictions put in place by judges to protect endangered fish species. State Water, fortunately, is not a major part of our supply, but acts as a very helpful backup when we face local drought and Northern California does not.

Conservation is another important component of our water portfolio and Goleta customers have historically been



Groundwater Management Plan Under

If you've been reading the newsletter, you know that the District, in partnership with [Company Name], has been working on a Groundwater Management Plan for the past year. [The plan] is now open for public review. We've scheduled a Public Workshop—details are on the back page.

- The District's efforts in the past decade to replenish the underground basin have been successful. Recent monitoring wells show that water levels are good and there is significant water stored for drought.
- The voter-approved SAFE Water Supplies Ordinance and the Wright Judgment serve as the framework for managing the basin. The Groundwater Management Plan will provide operational details within those guidelines.
- The Plan will present a strategy for managed well-pumping to meet annual water supply needs while protecting our drought buffer.

The District welcomes your comments, questions and suggestions on the draft Plan.

ter When You Need It

picture?

champions at adopting new methods for saving water. Low-flow toilets and showerheads, water efficient appliances, replacing lawns with drought tolerant plants (*see our website for info on how and see the notice below, on rebates*), fixing leaks, taking shorter showers, and now, graywater systems (*see page 4 and our website for more info*) are all important ways to make our supply more secure by using less. And, of course, conserving water saves you money.

We also provide reclaimed water, treated at the Sanitary District, for landscape irrigation for certain large commercial customers.

All of this leaves your District in good water shape, compared to much of California, as we enter the dry part of the year. The District is mindful that circumstances can change significantly

and that we must always be cautious with the use of this precious resource. Just last year at this time, Lake Cachuma was much lower than it is this year, and prolonged local droughts will always place enormous stresses on our local water supplies.

Going forward, California is considering statewide restrictions on water use, which would affect all of us. This could include targeted amounts of conservation and requiring tiered rate systems, which would benefit those who conserve and financially penalize those who waste water. Most South Coast water districts already employ this type of rate structure. We will, as always, keep our customers informed about any and all developments.



Laundry to Landscape Graywater Installation Workshop

Coming Later This Spring

For Landscape and Plumbing Professionals

- Learn to install washing machine graywater systems
- Hands-on workshop installing a system in a home
- \$20 per person
- Workshop limited to 20 people

For Information or to Sign Up
Call (805) 964-6761 x643



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with the La Cumbre Mutual Water
A draft of the Plan is nearly ready
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en successful—our monitoring
ght protection.

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recommendations for working

upply needs while always

We'd Like to Give You Up to \$1,000 to Make Your Landscape More Water Efficient

Get a Rebate of Up to 50% off the
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and Smart Irrigation Controllers.

Go to www.GoletaWater.com/conservation/rebate to download an application or call (805) 964-6761.

100% Funded by a Federal Grant



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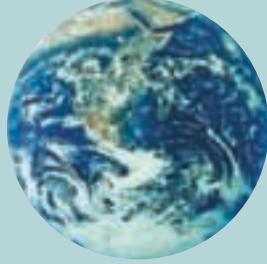
40th Anniversary Earth Day Festival "Bringing it Home"

Saturday, April 17, 2010, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sunday, April 18, 2010, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Visit Our Booth for:

- Helpful water conservation tips
- Free sustainable landscaping CD
- Smart landscape rebate info.
- Graywater information

Alameda Park in Santa Barbara
(1400 Santa Barbara St.)



Groundwater Management Plan Workshop

Wednesday, April 7, 2010, 7 p.m.
Goleta Union School District
401 North Fairview Ave, Goleta

Agenda

- Learn the results of the latest thorough study of the groundwater basin.
- Ask questions and receive answers from our expert groundwater scientist and managers.
- Provide your input about future plans for the groundwater basin.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CLICK TO
WWW.GOLETAWATER.COM OR CALL 805-964-6761**

Ask Dale About Water Quality



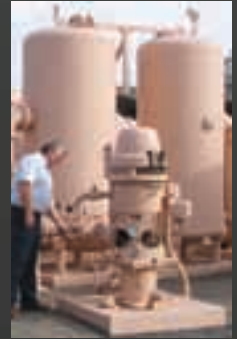
Dale is the District's water quality laboratory supervisor, and he has answers to all your water quality questions.

*Q: Why does the flavor of my water sometimes change?
— Thirsty in Goleta*

Dear Thirsty, While we primarily provide water from Lake Cachuma through our Corona del Mar Water Treatment Plant, we sometimes also use our groundwater wells. The water from the wells has a different mineral content and some people do notice a difference in taste. We're proud that your Goleta drinking water meets state and federal quality standards.

If you have any other questions please contact me.

Email: AskDale@GoletaWater.com or Phone: (805) 879-4678



DO YOU HAVE TIPS FOR CONSERVING WATER THAT YOU CAN SHARE?

Send them to Goleta Water District for inclusion on our website.

Printed on FSC certified paper from well managed forests, using 50% recycled and 25% post consumer recycled paper that is elemental chlorine free, from a clean mill with a sustainability charter. Each ton of recycled paper saves 7,000 gallons of water.



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Fran Farina, General Counsel

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Bert Bertrando, Lauren Hanson,
Jack Cunningham, Vice-President
Bill Rosen, President

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GOLETA WATER DISTRICT

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Check Out 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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