

Manager's Column

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Looking Back and Moving Forward: 50 Years of Service

The mission of the Nipomo Community Services District is to provide its customers with reliable, quality, and cost-effective services now and in the future.

The Nipomo Community Services District is in its 50th year of service to the Nipomo community – yes, NCSD has been providing safe and reliable water service for 50 years now!

Here's a little recap on the history of the District.

After four confirmed cases of typhoid fever in the early 1960's, the San Luis Obispo County Health Department tested private wells in the community and found high concentrations of nitrate, chlorides and coliform bacteria in the water. It was determined that wastewater was seeping into the water supply. In June 1964, County Hydraulic Engineer Mr. Bob Born made a report to the County Board of Supervisors on the water and sanitary problems in Nipomo and recommended that a public entity be formed to address these problems.

On January 28, 1965, Nipomo Community Services District was formed under the Community Services District Law of California. The first elected Board Members were *William C. Black, Cecil E. (Gene) Davis, James A. Kitchen, Oren W. (Jim) Miller and John R. Mylan*. The Board of Directors immediately pursued the construction of the District's first public water system with completion in November 1966.

Today, the District serves over 4,000 water system connections through over 90-miles of buried water lines. The District's ten person engineering & operations staff manages a water system which includes eight wells to produce water. The District maintains over 4-million gallons of water in storage for system reliability and emergency (fire) response.

Additionally, the District serves over 3,000 sewer connections through more than 30 miles of sewer collection piping that feeds the District's two wastewater treatment and reclamation facilities. In 2013, the District had no sewage spills from its collection system and no violation notices at its treatment facilities. The District proudly uses 100% of its treated wastewater to meet irrigation demands or recharge area groundwater.

Our community will continue to face new challenges – like those presented by the current drought and limited water supplies – however, the District is confident that with the continued leadership and commitment from its customers and the Board of Directors they elect, our community will continue to have safe, reliable drinking water in each household and business for generations to come.

Until next time...

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