

Contact us at **805-929-1133** | www.ncsd.ca.gov | info@ncsd.ca.gov



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NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

ELECTED BOARD

Ed Eby, *President*
Dan A. Gaddis, *Vice President*
Bob Blair, *Director*
Craig Armstrong, *Director*
Dan Woodson, *Director*

STAFF

Mario Iglesias, *General Manager*
Lisa Bognuda, *Finance Director*
Peter Sevcik, *Director of Engineering and Operations*

Our Website Has Resources for You

CONSERVATION TIPS

The District's website provides tips on how to reduce water use at home. Visit www.ncsd.ca.gov and click on "Conservation" Under the "Quick Link" heading found on the home page.

SIGN UP FOR NEWS AND ALERTS

Sign up on our website to receive meeting, news, and emergency notifications from the District.

YOU CAN ALSO CALL OR EMAIL ANY TIME

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, we want to hear from you. Feel free to contact us at info@ncsd.ca.gov or at 805-929-1133.

Go to: www.ncsd.ca.gov

Connect with us:   /

USE WATER WISELY

Irrigating?

Check your irrigation system.

Irrigation systems develop leaks and could be costing you money.

For more tips go to our website: www.ncsd.ca.gov or so-



Nipomo Community Services District

Important Information from Nipomo Community Services District • Issue 21

Water for All

"[E]very human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes." So states California Assembly Bill 685, (Eng, 2012), Section 106.3. Decision makers responsible for making this happen in their communities have only one task greater than providing affordable water and that is to make sure the drinking water is safe. In California's current environment, combining these tasks and being successful in the eyes of constituents has become more difficult than ever. The question "Is safe, affordable water in our future?" is not an easy one to answer.

To begin with, Nipomo Community Services District (District) must prioritize safety over affordability to the extent required by the regulations that govern water agencies. The Environmental Protection Agency defines the quality of water agencies must provide to ensure it is healthy and safe for domestic use. Treatment costs to reach new water quality standards put pressure on the cost of water. Combine this challenge with the pressure of more people vying for less water and the cost of water is significantly outpacing inflation. The safety of our water supply is paramount, but what if you can't afford it?

To answer that question, policy makers must take a position. There are battles raging in the highest offices of state government down to the local water providers over people's rights to affordable water. As it turns out, affordability is subjective based on tangible and intangible concepts. Ideas such as value, worth, income level, and personal priorities are not universal, but vary from community to community. Here is a list of recent legislative proposals that look to address the rising cost of water.

- Assembly Bill 685 State Water Policy (Eng, 2012)
- Assembly Bill 401 Low-income Water Rate Assistance Program (Dobb, 2015)
- Senate Bill 623 Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund (Monning, 2017)
- Senate Bill 998 Discontinuation of Residential Water Service: Urban and Community Water Systems (Dodd, 2018)

Reading legislative verbiage can be overwhelming, but not knowing the consequences of these proposals could cost you money. For example, SB 623 recognizes that over 300 water systems are in financial need if they are to provide safe water for their customers. The financial aid being proposed by law makers will come from every customer served by a community water system through a 95-cent monthly water-meter fee across the state, along with increasing fees on fertilizer producers and dairy farmers.

There are many complex questions yet unanswered regarding water in California. Will climate change stress our water basins and delivery systems? As a community, are we ready to face the trend of water bills doubling every few years just to retain our water use at the current pace? How is a government that espouses the right to water for all citizens going to pay to ensure that right? It is clear that safe drinking water is essential for a healthy and thriving community. Safety can be scientifically determined and can lead us to understanding what should and should not be in our water. Science will not answer the ethical and moral questions about affordability and the right to a limited supply of such a commodity. Water is essential for life. In the near future, a new definition of water affordability will challenge us even greater as a community. As a community, we are tasked with finding answers.

Nipomo Community Services District

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Ensuring Reliable, Quality Services Now and in the Future

Nipomo Community Services District's Other Tasks

The primary responsibilities of Nipomo Community Services District (District) are to provide water to its customers and to take and process wastewater. However, the District is also responsible for the street lights in the Blacklake Golf Resort Community, a storm-water retention pond behind the Nipomo Swap Meet, and the Vista Verde Street Landscape Maintenance District.



Vista Verde Street Landscape Maintenance District (LMD)

NCSO recently completed a project at the LMD that removed turf and replaced the area with drought tolerant plants. The project fit within San Luis Obispo County's Cash-for-Grass program and provided \$700 in funding for the \$9,700 make-over.

Making these types of changes to landscaped areas helps save water, and that saves money for residents. The District has name tags identifying the different plants so residents can see how different plants look and hold up. Consider a drought tolerant make-over for your home!

Conservation Update

The District's conservation efforts remain steady.

From July 2017 to April 2018 the Nipomo CSD consumers used over one-half billion gallons of water. Slightly more than one-third of that amount was imported water through the Nipomo Supplemental Water Project (NSWP). Thanks to the arrival of supplemental water in July 2015, groundwater pumping has been reduced by nearly 50% from the 5-year average over the same period of time. The District's Board of Directors is working hard to keep our groundwater basin safe from saltwater intrusion. The NSWP is key to a sustainable future.

In April and May 2018, the groundwater basin Spring well readings were taken. The Nipomo Mesa Management Technical Group is calculating the results and will be providing them to the District in July. Look for these results soon.

Regularly Check your Irrigation the Next Few Months

Warm temperatures mean increased irrigation water use. Checking outdoor irrigation systems for leaks will:

- Help conserve our precious water resources
- Save some money on your water bill
- Protect landscapes from overwatering

Nipomo Community Services District Nipomo Clean-up Day



When: June 16, 2018 Saturday

Where to go: Corner of S. Frontage Rd and Hill Street

Time: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM or Until Complete

Items Accepted: no charge for disposal

Automobiles — pre-register by June 12 (781-5720)

Bulky items—Furniture, mattresses, appliances, other. Call by June 12 to schedule a pick: (788-2959)

Got Household Hazardous Waste?

TV, Paint, Solvents, Computers, Printers

Integrated Waste Management extended Hrs. 9:00 to 5:00 on June 16th ONLY

For more information: www.ncsd.ca.gov | info: ncsd.ca.gov

Election Season Means Opportunity for Public Service

It's election season around the Country. It's time to vote for representatives in all the political arenas; from governor of California to local Board Members of Special Districts. The Nipomo Community Services District has three Board Member seats up for the November 6, 2018 election. Please see below for information:

July 16 through August 10 (2018) – Candidates must file declaration of candidacy forms and other related nomination documents with the County Election Official.

August 11 through August 15 (2018) – [Extended Filing Period] If an incumbent officer does not file a declaration of candidacy by August 10th, any person other than the incumbent may file between these dates. The extension is not applicable if there is no incumbent to be elected.

Go to the San Luis Obispo County website below to learn more about running for public office.

<http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Clerk-Recorder/All-Services/Running-for-Public-Office.aspx>



Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

Is e-mail billing available?

Yes. The District can now e-mail a bill to owners or property management. Contact the District, if interested. (Paper bills still available).

How can I pay my utility bill?

- Pay in person at the District office during regular business hours (M-F 8 AM - 4:30 PM, 148 S Wilson St, Nipomo)
- Mail a check or money order to NCSO, P.O. Box 326, Nipomo, CA 93444 (Note: postmarks are not accepted)
- Drop a check or money order in the green drop box located in the driveway at 148 S Wilson St, Nipomo
- Pay online by visiting www.ncsd.ca.gov (Note: Official Payments processes the payments on the District's behalf and charges a \$3.95 convenience fee per transaction)
- Sign up for Auto Pay with the District (Only available for homeowners)
- Use your bank's online bill-pay service