



District News



Bottled vs. Tap Water - What do you value?

When we think of value, we think of a lot of things: the value of our home, the value of our vehicle, the value of food in our refrigerator. Webster's Dictionary defines value as "the quality of something that makes it more or less desirable, useful, and a thing of quality having intrinsic worth." What about the value of running water in our home?

Did you know that it cost millions of dollars to operate and maintain Nipomo's water system? During the 2012-2013 fiscal year \$3.6 million from the District's water fund went to operate and maintain the water system. It's a 24/7 process of treating, analyzing, delivering, collecting, and returning water into the environment. To break it down more; before water

is delivered through your faucets, it is pumped from the ground, treated and tested for quality and safety. Your used water is then collected, treated again, and returned safely to the environment. This process continues all day, every day. Comparing water service to consumer goods: the average price per gallon of gas is \$4.00; the average price per gallon of coffee from a coffee shop is \$22.00; the price per gallon of milk is \$4.00. Now, what do you pay for a gallon of water delivered directly to your home? - \$0.004 per gallon. That's right; you pay less than one cent per gallon for safe drinking water delivered directly to your home. Looking at it another way: \$2

buys a liter of bottled water at the store or the same \$2 buys you 750 gallons of NCSO water delivered to your home - that's 2800 times more water and it's delivered! Furthermore, District water is more thoroughly tested and regulated than bottled water.

Your cost for District water also funds maintaining 3 million gallons of water in storage should a fire breakout in your home or our community.

We value water to support life; we value water to support health and safety; we value water to support our property values, landscaping and recreation. At any cost, the value of water service is incomparable.

Supplemental Water Project Moving Forward

The District may be nearing the end of its twenty-year long quest to obtain a supplemental source of water to augment potable supplies. In late May 2013, the District's Board of Directors is scheduled to award \$17M in construction contracts to build a pipeline connecting the District's water system with the City of Santa Maria. When construction on

the pipeline is complete in late 2014, the District will pump water directly from the City of Santa Maria's distribution system and deliver the City's blend of state water and groundwater. The supplemental supply will allow the District to comply with a court order to reduce area groundwater pumping. Reducing the demand on

the area's groundwater basin will improve basin long-term health and lessen the potential for seawater intrusion. The District is planning to fund the project with a combination of grant funds, reserves, and a loan secured with existing property tax revenues.

Nipomo Community Services District
148 South Wilson Street, Nipomo, CA
93444

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Update on Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade

The District's \$12M project to upgrade the Southland Wastewater Treatment and Reclamation Facility is progressing on time and within budget. The Project is nearly 30% complete with a scheduled completion date of May 2014. Project improvements will significantly improve the quality of the facility's treated discharge. The new plant facilities will replace the District's current pond treatment system resulting in a change of plant classification from a

Grade 1 to a Grade 3 classification by the State of CA. The project is designed to meet and/or better the new State regulatory permit requirements. The facility's treated effluent is directed to percolation basins where the water is eventually returned to the area's groundwater basin. For this reason, the District is aiming to do better than required by the facility's State issued permit. The District Contractor, Cushman Contracting Corporation,

is based in Goleta, CA and is using many local sub-contractors as well, resulting in many good paying construction jobs to the area. The District financed the Project with reserves and bonds secured by existing sewer rates. The project serves District sewer customers in the Olde Towne and core-Nipomo area (not the Blacklake area), and only those customers served by the facility are paying for the upgrade.



Spring Cleaning Outdoors - Check Your Sprinklers!

Spring is often a time for tackling those tough indoor chores. But you can also save water and money outdoors with a little sprinkler spruce-up this season.

If you have an irrigation system, chances are it has been dormant for the past several months. Take a few minutes to check your system for common problems, such as leaks or malfunctioning sprinkler heads. Just one broken sprinkler head could waste as much as 25,000 gallons of water and more than

\$100 over a six-month irrigation season.

Before you ramp up your watering this spring, spruce up your irrigation system by remembering four simple steps—*inspect, connect, direct, and select*:

Inspect. Check your system for clogged, broken, or missing sprinkler heads. If you're not the do-it-yourself type, go with a pro - look for an irrigation professional certified through a Water

Sense labeled program to help you maintain your system.

Connect. Examine points where the sprinkler heads connect to pipes or hoses. If water pools in your landscape or you have large wet areas, you could have a leak in your system. A leak about as small as the tip of a ballpoint pen (1/32nd of an inch) can waste as much as 6,300 gallons of water per month.

Direct. Are you watering the driveway, house, or sidewalk instead of your yard? Redirect sprinklers to apply water only to

the landscape.

Select. An improperly scheduled irrigation controller can waste a lot of water and money. Update your system's schedule with the seasons. Replace the back-up battery so the programmed schedule is saved in power outages.

Don't forget to add "sprinkler spruce-up" to your spring cleaning list this year.

Source: WaterSense Current, Spring 2013



\$75 REBATE
for
High-Efficiency Washers!

Save Water, Save Money!

Nipomo Community Services District
www.ncsd.ca.gov | 805.929.1133



To find out if you are eligible for the \$75 clothes washer rebate, visit the NCSD website at www.ncsd.ca.gov, click on the "High Efficiency Washer Rebate" link under Quick Links, then scroll down for the clothes washer rebate information and application

If you have any questions, stop by the office at 148 S. Wilson in Nipomo or call NCSD at 929-1133.

Meet Your District's Board of Directors

Nipomo Community Services was formed in 1965 under the State of California's Community Services District Law. NCSD is an independent local agency and is governed by a Board of five Directors. Each Director is a customer of the District and is elected by their fellow District customers. Directors serve four-year terms on the Board.

The Board of Directors is responsible for setting District

policy and hiring the General Manager.

The District's current Board members are:

President: Jim Harrison, December 2006 - December 2014, retired Fire Division Chief Officer

Vice President: Larry Vierheilig, December 2002 - December 2014, retired Aerospace Environmental Engineering Manager

Director: Dan A. Gaddis, December 2010 - December 2014, retired Aerospace Manager

Director: Bob Blair, December 2000 - December 2004, December 2012 - December 2016, retired Pharmacist

Director: Craig Armstrong, December 2012 - December 2016, retired Financial Executive

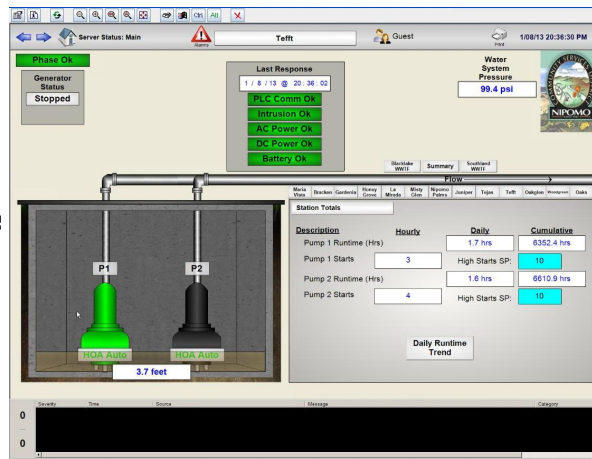
To learn more about the Board of Directors, please visit the District's website at www.ncsd.ca.gov



Board of Directors, from left to right: Craig Armstrong, Dan Gaddis, Jim Harrison, Larry Vierheilig, Bob Blair

New SCADA System

The District recently completed a \$350K upgrade to its Supervisory Controls and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system. The project finished on time and under budget. The project allows District operations staff to more effectively and efficiently monitor and control over 25 remote facilities locations spread throughout the District's seven



square mile service area. Operators monitor and control the system 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The new system automatically provides warnings and alarms to on-call operations staff. The advanced system allows the District to respond at the first sign of problems in order to mitigate and/or avoid operational problems altogether.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a water service charge?

The charge shown on your bill is the service charge for having water service available at your connection 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year.

What is the Sewer charge?

The Sewer charge shown on your bill is the service charge to pay for operating the sewer collection system, treatment plant and safe reintroduction of treated waste water back into the environment.

Can NCSD fix a pothole?

NCSD does street repair only if it is a result of a water leak repair. SLO County Road Department handles all other road maintenance and can be reached at 800-834-4636.



We welcome your feedback and questions! If you have a question you would like us to answer, feel free to contact info@ncsd.ca.gov

Providing the community with reliable, quality, and cost-effective services now and in the future.

Nipomo Community Services District
148 South Wilson Street, Nipomo, CA 93444
Phone: 805-929-1133 | Fax: 805-929-1932 | E-mail: info@ncsd.ca.gov | www.ncsd.ca.gov



Upcoming Meetings and Dates to Remember

Mon - Thu, May 13th - 23rd

Nipomo Area Chipping Event
through Cal Fire & FireSafe

Wed, June 12th @ 9:00 am

Board Meeting at NCSD Office
(public welcome)

Wed, May 22nd @ 9:00 am

Board Meeting at NCSD Office
(public welcome)

Wed, June 26th @ 9:00 am

Board Meeting at NCSD Office
(public welcome)

Mon, May 27th

District Office closed for
Memorial Day

Thu, July 4th

District Office closed for
Independence Day

Check ncsd.ca.gov for updates

Pay your bill online!

www.ncsd.ca.gov

For customer convenience, Nipomo Community Services District continues to offer an online bill paying service. This service accepts Visa, Master Card, Discover, and American Express, as well as debit cards and e-checks. Customers can also pay in the office Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm, except holidays. There is a payment drop box in the driveway.

CONSERVATION TIP

Water your lawn and garden in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler to minimize evaporation.



www.slowaterwiselandscaping.com