

Celebrating 90 Years of Serving the Community

The Vista Irrigation District (VID) celebrated its 90th anniversary in August 2013. In doing so, the District remembered its storied past and reflected on how the District, as well as the communities that it serves, has changed over the years. As chronicled below, the Vista Irrigation District was formed to provide a reliable source of water and has had the foresight to make decisions that will allow it to do so well into the future.

1923

VID formed on September 11

1926

Arrival of first water from Lake Henshaw, which was created in 1922, to coincide with the completion of the Vista Flume

1931

Completion of Pechstein Dam, creating Pechstein Reservoir, VID's major water storage facility

1946

VID purchases Lake Henshaw and the 43,000-acre Warner Ranch

1954

VID begins receiving imported water from the San Diego County Water Authority

1976

Completion of Escondido-Vista Water Filtration Plant, which enabled the District to provide treated water to all customers

1978

Pechstein Lake is replaced by the covered Pechstein Reservoir

1982

Henshaw Dam is re-engineered for seismic reasons, reducing the lake's capacity from 200,000 acre feet to approximately 50,000 acre feet

2013

VID enters into agreement to receive treated water from Oceanside's Weese Filtration Plant

Drought Declaration: What it Means to VID Customers

On January 17, 2014, Governor Jerry Brown declared a statewide drought emergency and called for all Californians to reduce their water use by 20%. While our water wholesalers, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and the San Diego County Water Authority, have indicated that their supplies are sufficient for 2014, both agencies have enacted the first level of their drought response plans and are requesting customers to voluntarily conserve. The Vista Irrigation District is also asking customers to voluntarily conserve and to continue to implement the water-use efficiency practices set forth in Level 1 of the District's Water Supply Response Program. See page 2 for more details regarding the region's water supply status for 2014 as well as a list of Level 1 water-use efficiency practices.

Be Water Smart

Being smart about our water use has enabled the San Diego region to reduce its water use even though its population has grown. Using water efficiently is a way of life in San Diego County and should never be ignored. The San Diego County Water Authority recently launched a new water-use efficiency website, www.watersmartsd.org. Here you can find links for water conservation information, rebates and incentives for homes and businesses and planning tools, like the all new eGuide to a WaterSmart Lifestyle. Visit the website today and learn how you can become more efficient with your water use.



More detailed information about the District's history, its water supply and demographic and financial data can be found in the 2013 Annual Report. The report can be viewed online at www.vid-h2o.org.

If you would like a hard copy of the document, please contact us at (760) 597-3100.

Photo: Cover of the 2013 Annual Report

Region's Water Supplies Sufficient for 2014

Healthy reservoir storage levels, strong regional water conservation efforts and growing water transfers from the Colorado River mean that San Diego County will have sufficient water supplies for 2014 despite a statewide drought declaration by Governor Jerry Brown, according to the San Diego County Water Authority (Water Authority).

The past two years have been dry across California. The Colorado River Basin has been dry 11 out of the last 14 years. Locally, precipitation at Lindbergh Field in San Diego was 63 percent of normal for the rainfall year (October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013).

While a third consecutive year of limited rainfall and snow would draw down several key reservoirs, the Water Authority and its member agencies, including the Vista Irrigation District (District), are not anticipating the need for extraordinary water conservation measures or water shortage allocations in 2014. The Water Authority and District are encouraging residents and businesses to continue their water-use efficiency efforts. The Water Authority will continue to monitor weather conditions, particularly in the Sierra Nevada and Rocky Mountains, where much of the region's water supplies originate.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) has indicated that it has adequate reserves and that no allocations are expected in the coming year, even though imports from the State Water Project are expected to be very low because of dry conditions and regulatory restrictions. Metropolitan had 3 million acre feet of water storage at the end of 2013. It is anticipated that Metropolitan will use stored water to augment imported water supplies to meet demands in 2014. (An acre-foot of water will serve two typical families of four for a year.)

The Water Authority's investments in diversifying its water supply portfolio and emergency storage will also help meet demands during dry periods. The conservation and transfer

programs that are part of the Colorado River Quantification Settlement Agreement of 2003 will provide San Diego County with about 180,000 acre-feet of Colorado River water that is not subject to shortage allocations from Metropolitan. The water transfers increase yearly to 280,000 acre-feet by 2021, enough water to supply more than 500,000 typical single-family homes.

Additionally, the Water Authority signed an agreement to purchase up to 56,000 acre-feet of water annually from the Carlsbad Desalination Project, which is expected to begin production in 2016. Over the last decade, the Water Authority also developed its Emergency Storage Program, which included the expansion of the San Vicente Reservoir to store more water locally to use during dry years and emergencies. The San Vicente Dam raise is nearing completion and the reservoir is expected to be filled over the next few years depending on water availability.

Regional water-use efficiency is another key component in balancing supply and demand. Water use in San Diego County has dropped by about 30 percent between 2007 and 2012. While regional water consumption has edged upward in 2013, the San Diego region is on track to achieve the state-mandated goal of reducing per capita water demand by 20 percent by 2020. (The Vista Irrigation District's per capita water use is also on track to meet its 2015 and 2020 conservation targets.)

The Water Authority has invested in diversifying its water supply portfolio and improving its infrastructure. Those investments coupled with the water-use efficiency measures implemented by residents and businesses across San Diego County mean that the region will have a sufficient water supply for at least 2014. That being said, the Water Authority and its member agencies will continue to work together on storage management strategies, implementing new water-use efficiency programs and developing new local supplies, such as groundwater and recycled water, to help ensure the region's water demands can continue to be met during prolonged dry periods.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO USE WATER WISELY

Even though the region's water supply may be sufficient for 2014, continued dry conditions may change that outlook for 2015. For this reason, the Vista Irrigation District (District) is asking its customers to voluntarily conserve and continue to use water efficiently. Also, customers are reminded the District has adopted a Water Supply Response Program that requires water users to implement certain water-use efficiency practices and measures based on water supply conditions. The District is currently at Level 1 of the Program which requires water users to implement the following water-use efficiency practices:

- No washing down paved surfaces, except when necessary to alleviate safety or sanitation hazards
- Eliminate water waste resulting from irrigation run-off, over-spray, etc.
- Water landscaping before 10 AM and after 6 PM
- Wash vehicles with a bucket and hand-held hose with a positive shut-off nozzle
- Use re-circulated water to operate ornamental fountains
- Repair all leaks within five days of receiving notification from the District

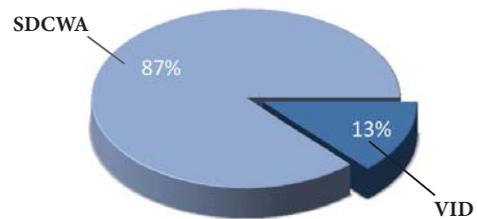
For more details on the District's Water Supply Response Program, visit www.vid-h2o.org or call our Water Conservation staff at (760) 597-3160. We appreciate your continued efforts to use water wisely.

Water Rates and Charges

Approximately 13% of the revenue generated by water usage charges is utilized by the Vista Irrigation District to cover operating and maintenance expenses. The remaining 87% is used to pay the San Diego County Water Authority (Water Authority) for water purchases.

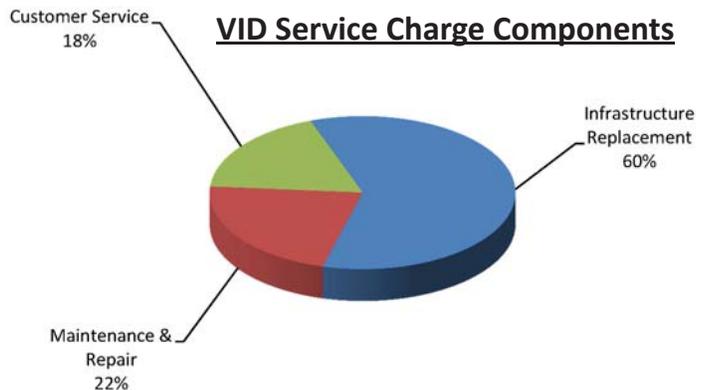
The Water Authority is responsible for supplying water to 24 member agencies within San Diego County. Not simply a water provider, the Water Authority is also responsible for the construction and maintenance of regional storage, delivery and treatment infrastructure necessary to ensure the reliable delivery of water to local water agencies like the Vista Irrigation District.

Water Usage Charge Allocation



The Vista Irrigation District's service charge, which represents a small portion of a typical customer's bill, helps pay the District's fixed costs, which exist regardless of the amount of water pumped and delivered. Fixed costs continue without regard to the amount of water that a customer uses in a particular month, and are sometimes called "readiness-to-serve" charges because they are incurred as part of keeping the water system ready to deliver water to any customer at a moment's notice. The largest component of the service charge recovers the cost of replacing the District's aging water system infrastructure.

VID Service Charge Components



Your Water's Journey



Imported water travels in aqueducts 242 miles from the Colorado River and 444 miles from the San Joaquin-Sacramento Delta.

Your Water's Journey

Imported water is distributed by Metropolitan to its member agencies, including the Water Authority.

Water Authority purchases from Metropolitan provided 46% of the region's water supply; the remainder came from water transfers and local sources.

Your Water's Journey

The Vista Irrigation District purchased 89% of its water from the Water Authority and the remaining 11% came from Lake Henshaw.

Water is stored in the District's twelve reservoirs, and is distributed to its customers via 473 miles of pipeline.



Getting Help Is As Simple As Dialing 2-1-1

Serving the entire region, 2-1-1 San Diego connects people to community, health and disaster services through a free, 24/7 phone service and searchable online database.

Everyday, customers in Vista Irrigation District's service area contact 2-1-1 seeking help in a multitude of areas including housing and assistance with paying their utility bills. To learn more about 2-1-1 San Diego, dial 2-1-1 or visit www.211sandiego.org today.

The screenshot shows the 2-1-1 San Diego website. At the top left is the logo with the text "2-1-1 SAN DIEGO". To its right, it says "3 simple numbers. 1 helpful voice." and "DIAL 2-1-1". There is a search bar with "Search for a Service" and fields for "Keyword" and "Enter your Zip Code". Below the search bar is a navigation menu with items: WHO WE ARE, SUPPORT 2-1-1, RESOURCES & SERVICES, DISASTER RESPONSE, EN ESPAÑOL, CONTACT US, and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. The main content area includes "OUR MISSION", "OUR VISION", and "OUR VALUES" sections, each with a brief description. A large graphic of the numbers "211" is composed of many small photos of diverse people.



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FAX (760) 598-8757
www.vid-h2o.org

District's office hours:
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Vista Irrigation District Board of Directors:

- Div. 1 Marty Miller
- Div. 2 Richard L. Vásquez
- Div. 3 Paul E. Dorey
- Div. 4 John B. Franklin
- Div. 5 Jo MacKenzie

General Manager:
Roy A. Coox

District board meetings are normally held the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 8:30 a.m. at VID's facilities located at 1391 Engineer Street in Vista.

Reflections is published semi-annually by the Vista Irrigation District in the interest of keeping customers informed. We welcome your input.

Please address any comments regarding this publication to the editor at the address above.

Vista Irrigation District is a public agency, proudly serving the City of Vista and portions of San Marcos, Escondido, Oceanside and San Diego County

The graphic features a black telephone handset on the left with signal waves emanating from it. To its right is a red circle with a white cross inside, resembling a medical or emergency symbol. Below these elements, the text "Update Your Emergency Contact Information With Us" is written in a large, bold, sans-serif font.

Please take a moment and provide us with a telephone number (or telephone numbers) where you can be reached in case of an emergency. Having updated information allows us to contact you quicker during a situation that affects your water supply. You can update your emergency contact number(s) by calling Customer Service at (760) 597-3120 or by e-mailing info@vid-h2o.org. When providing updated telephone number(s) via e-mail, please include your name and address or account number. Feel free to give us your work, home and cell phone numbers. Thank you for helping us keep you informed.