

Sustainable garden now open at water district

BY **MICHELLE BREIER**, ESCONDIDO, SAN MARCOS REPORTER
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2010 AT 7:30 P.M.



CHARLIE NEUMAN

Senecio succulent plants and a blue fan palm are among the native plants found in the Vallecitos Water District's new sustainable demonstration garden.

SAN MARCOS — The Vallecitos Water District celebrated its 55th anniversary Saturday, and more than 200 people braved gray, wet weather to see the district's new sustainable garden.

Environmental architecture and design students from Palomar College worked with the water district on the garden, which came together with the help of volunteers and donations from local businesses.

Visitors got a hands-on look at such features as weather-based irrigation controls and rain barrels. A hydroponics display is now in the district headquarters lobby.



PHOTO BY CHARLIE NEUMAN

A casting of a hand by Palomar College student Jerimiah Ames is mounted in a large boulder below a faucet that pumps recycled water over it when the sun shines in the new sustainable garden at the Vallecitos Water District building.

An ornamental water feature includes a casted bronze hand created by the Palomar College sculpture and foundry departments.

The garden includes a 2,500-gallon-capacity rainwater collection system, solar power and California native plants.

The district said visitors are welcome to see the garden anytime during business hours, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, at 201 Vallecitos de Oro, San Marcos.

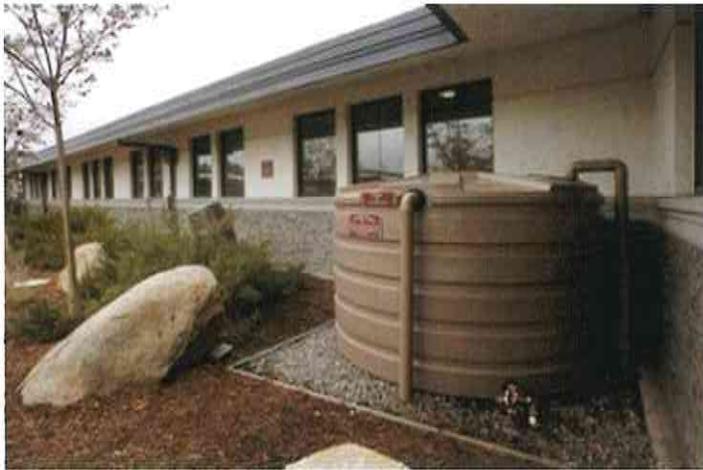


PHOTO BY CHARLIE NEUMAN

This rain-collection barrel in the Vallecitos Water District garden holds 1,110 gallons of water.

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SAN MARCOS: Water district plants seeds of conservation

Posted: Monday, July 26, 2010 6:28 pm | [\(5\) Comments](#) | [Print](#)

Three vast rain tanks are the start of a sustainable garden that the Vallecitos Water District said it hopes will inspire its customers to choose water conservation measures and drought-resistant landscaping for their own yards.

The garden, designed by Palomar College architecture students, will include new water features, shade structures and a variety of native and succulent plants when it's finished in the fall.

"It will be a demonstration garden for North County residents, so they can come and learn how to have low-water gardens that are also very lush and beautiful," said Lisa Urabe, spokeswoman and conservation supervisor for the district, which serves about 90,000 customers in San Marcos and portions of Carlsbad, Escondido and Vista.

Crews installed the tanks last week, connecting them to PVC pipes hooked up to the district's rainwater gullies. As rainwater flows down the roof, it will be collected in the tanks, two of which hold 1,110 gallons and one of which holds 305 gallons. Urabe said she couldn't say how much water they will collect in a year, but Andy Moffat, co-owner of San Marcos-based Ace Rain Systems, which volunteered to install the tanks, said a 1,000-square foot roof can capture 600 gallons from one inch of rain.

He joined the project to let homeowners know how rainwater containment can stretch supplies in an era of water shortages.

"Rainwater's free, and you can capture it," Moffat said. "And if you take the steps to make your landscape more drought-tolerant, a person can make a huge difference."

The water collected in the tanks will fill three water features, each run by solar-powered pumps. Two "bubbling boulders" will circulate rainwater through large rock formations. The features give an impression of abundant flowing water by recirculating small amounts, said David Garcia, general manager of San Marcos-based KRC Rock, which is donating the rocks for the structures.

In addition, a polished metal sculpture of a hand catching a stream of water from a spigot illustrates the value of water, Urabe said. Three students ---- Jerimiah Ames, Brianna Ruland and Jeanette Bonavries ---- designed that sculpture in a class competition judged by the water district board, said architecture and interior design professor Sandra Andre. Another Palomar College student will be designated to construct it, she said.

The garden will also showcase California natives like colorful monkey flowers, California poppies, California lilac, and manzanita, which thrive in low water conditions, along with non-native succulents, Urabe said. Choosing the right plants can reduce water use by 50 to 75 percent, said Shari Matteson, owner of San Marcos-based Buena Creek Gardens, a San Marcos-based nursery which is donating drought-resistant plants to the project.

The garden plan was a project of Andre's environmental architecture and design class, which tested soils, evaluated the health of existing plants and designed shade structures last spring, Andre said.

"Students started to learn what the responsibilities of an architect are, not only to the client, and the community, but to the environment, particularly to our water issues locally," Andre said. "And that's something you don't get from a classroom."

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Project will help teach others about water-wise landscaping

SAN MARCOS: Teacher, students create native-plant garden at their school

[ANDREA MOSS - Staff Writer](#) North County Times - The Californian | Posted: Saturday, April 25, 2009 12:00 am | [Loading...](#) | [Print](#)



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Ryan Ortiz, 13, prepares to plant a manzanita shrub at a drought-tolerant garden at San Marcos Middle School last week. (Photo by John Koster - For the North County Times)

SAN MARCOS -- San Marcos Middle School now has a native-plant garden that will provide ongoing lessons in water-wise landscaping, thanks to the efforts of a teacher and some of his students.

Seventh-grade history and geography teacher Lawrence Osen oversaw the garden's creation Thursday and Friday afternoons.

Osen said Friday that he undertook the project because he believes that native plants provide the best landscaping in Southern California.

"You see a lot of land that's been disturbed or had its vegetation removed," he said. "And instead of putting ice plant in ... there are a lot of benefits from putting in native plants -- their variety, erosion control and the color of their flowers."

He said native plants also thrive with little water, attract birds and butterflies and emit fragrant scents.

His stance is in line with a water conservation education program that the Vallecitos Water District developed last year. The water district kicked in \$75 for plants to get the school's garden going after Osen asked the district to help with his project.

About a dozen of Osen's students and some of their friends volunteered to help put the plants in a giant concrete planter in an open area at the school's center.

Although some of the kids had no gardening experience, the group had "a really great time" creating the drought-tolerant garden, Osen said. It now boasts wild lilac shrubs and decorative rocks arranged around a tree-like manzanita shrub.

"The kids were very enthusiastic, and there were lots of compliments from teachers and other students and just people walking by who thought this was really great," Osen said. "And we're hoping to continue it into other areas."

San Marcos Middle School Assistant Principal Jeff Moore said the garden will be a showcase for drought-resistant landscaping to everyone who passes it, he said.

"The nice thing of it is, it's (where) you come into the main part of the campus," Moore said. "So people coming onto our campus will have a chance to see it. It's not stuck in a corner or somewhere where people can't see it."

The water district helped the city and volunteers install a native-plant garden in Walnut Grove Park last September. That garden and a similar one at the district's headquarters on Vallecitos de Oro serve as demonstration sites that educate visitors about drought-tolerant landscaping.

Vallecitos spokesman Torrey Webb said his agency saw the school garden as a chance to assist the campus and its students interested in California-friendly plants.

"We're all about anything that's going to help save water," he said. "So we were definitely eager to help out."

Contact staff writer Andrea Moss at (760) 739-6654 or amoss@nctimes.com.

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Water district rewards customers

4 months ago | 81 views | 0 | 1 | |

SAN MARCOS — As customers come up with more innovative ways to conserve water, Vallecitos Water District is coming up with more innovative ways to reward them.

Starting this month, Vallecitos' field crews will be part of a new program where they will drive past front yards and distribute letters of recognition to customers that exemplify unique or exceptional examples of a water-efficient landscape. In addition to thanking the residents for being leaders in the community, the letters will also contain a nice surprise — donated gift cards from local businesses.

By collaborating with local businesses in the community, Vallecitos was able to secure the donation of gift cards to reward area residents for their conservation efforts. Jersey Mike's Subs, Chick-fil-A and Buena Creek Gardens are just a few of the vendors to provide gift cards to the Vallecitos Water District program.

Now Vallecitos Water District customers setting an example by removing turf, using drought tolerant plants, or designing unique rockscapes may receive gift cards that encompass a range of items, from free sandwiches to discounted coupons for plants.

Gift cards will be distributed to approximately 150 homes within Vallecitos' service area. Ten additional customers with exceptionally beautiful and water-friendly landscapes will be chosen to be recipients of \$25 gift certificates donated by Green Thumb Nursery.

To learn more about other conservation programs, garden resources, rebates and water saving tips, visit www.vwd.org or www.bewaterwise.com.

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Old barn is new conservation center

Educational facility to host school groups

BY LINDA LOU
FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009 AT 2 A.M.



Ranger Ron Vinluan checked a bacteria slide in the Conservation Barn during a tour yesterday. (Eduardo Contreras / Union-Tribune)

SAN MARCOS — A red barn formerly filled with piles of junk has been converted into an educational conservation center at Jack's Pond Park in eastern San Marcos.

Yesterday, the city's Community Services Department opened the doors for a preview of the new Jack's Pond Conservation Barn. The center will start accepting bookings from schools next month, but it won't be open to the public except during special events in the summer.

The project was made possible with grants from the Vallecitos Water District, the San Diego County Water Authority and The Home Depot. The two water agencies gave about \$16,000 total, and Home Depot provided \$5,000.

Inside the barn are seven brightly colored rooms that were former horse stalls. Each room has a specific color and an educational theme, such as insects; the solar system, rocks and minerals; wildlife and habitats; and facts about the Vallecitos Water District, which is based in San Marcos.

One room is set up with microscopes for examining slides of bacteria such as salmonella and shigella dysenteriae, and of planaria, a type of flatworm. Another room features native plants and pictures of animals.

There also are two exhibits about wastewater treatment and how solar panels work.

Bill Rucker, general manager of Vallecitos, said he was pleased with how the conservation center turned out.

“There are a lot of visuals and hands-on exhibits,” Rucker said. “Kids learn by putting their hands on things.”

David Perrine, a San Marcos Community Services commissioner, said children and adults will learn from the exhibits.

“If they come through something like this, they will understand why they need to conserve water,” Perrine said.

It has taken about two years to make the project happen, officials said.

Susan LaJoie, director of Jack's Pond Nature Center, said the Conservation Barn is designed for children in grades four through six. A smaller red barn nearby houses the nature center, which is for younger kids. The city acquired the two barns when it bought the property for the park, which opened in 2000.

Fees to tour the new Conservation Barn are nominal for schools. The San Marcos Unified School District's price is \$37.50 for a class of up to 25 children. For other districts, the cost is \$50.

For more information, call (760) 744-9000, ext. 3508.

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New feature at Jack's Pond geared to third- through sixth-graders

SAN MARCOS: Conservation barn is latest addition to nature center

[ANDREA MOSS - Staff Writer](#) North County Times - The Californian | Posted: Saturday, April 4, 2009 12:00 am | [Loading...](#) | [Print](#)



Jack's Pond Nature Center director Susan LaJoie holds up a magnifying glass to show off a tarantula specimen. (Photo by Jamie Scott Lytle - staff photographer)

SAN MARCOS -- A city recreation area already being used to teach children about nature now has a barn where elementary school-age youngsters learn about natural resources.

The new facility was unveiled last month at the Jack's Pond Nature Center at 986 La Moree Road.

The city and the Vallecitos Water District teamed up to create the "conservation barn," which offers third- through sixth-graders the chance see micro-organisms swimming in pond water by using microscopes.

Visitors also can pick up backpacks and go out for outdoor soil, water and weather tests and to learn how to use a compass and conduct solar experiments.

Some of the other exhibits and displays let kids use magnifying glasses to examine insect specimens, crank a handle to see how water cycles through various climates, see what a solar oven looks like, watch a water treatment demonstration, write in a scientific journal and make science-related art.

Giving a tour of the conservation barn's multiple rooms Friday, Jack's Pond director Susan LaJoie said she and fellow park staff member Nancy Miller try to make the facility's exhibits as fun and hands-on as possible.

"I've never done anything like this before, and I've never worked in a museum," LaJoie said. "So it was a real challenge to put all of this together. But Nancy's a retired school teacher, and together we tried to think of things that kids would find interesting."

The barn is now available to teachers looking for a way to weave real-life experiences into their science lessons.

Jack's Pond has been a popular destination for school field trips. Named after a caretaker who looked after the property when it was a chicken ranch in the 1950s, the site eventually was acquired by the city, which turned it into a park with hiking trails, picnic areas, playground equipment and a man-made pond.

The park opened in 2000. A small red barn on the grounds houses a nature center that has been open to young children for several years.

A second, two-story barn is closer to the park's entrance. The city uses the building's second floor to offer nature-themed programs for school groups, birthday parties and other visitors.

The large building's lower level was used as a giant closet of sorts until last year.

LaJoie said the city had been using the lower half of the building for storage.

"But we always felt this would be a nice place to kind of step it up a bit and make something that fits with the concepts we try to teach there, only geared to the slightly older kids," LaJoie said. "We kept saying, 'Now, what could we do with this (space)?'"

The barn was the brainchild of former water district spokeswoman Cinnamon McIntosh.

She helped the district obtain an \$8,000 grant for the project. The San Diego County Water Authority contributed \$8,000 and Home Depot provided \$5,000 worth of community grant money to bring the idea to life, LaJoie said.

McIntosh, who also created conservation-oriented curriculum for elementary school students in the San Marcos Unified School District, left the water district last fall. Vallecitos' deputy general manager, Dennis Lamb, said the conservation barn is the latest example of a cooperative effort between three agencies.

"We've been working with the city and the (school district) for quite a few years just to encourage water conservation," he said. "I can't even tell you how many students we've had come through (Jack's Pond) over the years."

Jack's Pond is open to the public from 9 a.m. to noon every Saturday, although the conservation barn is opened for school groups only. Call (760) 744-9000, Ext. 3508 for information about the conservation barn.

Contact staff writer Andrea Moss at (760) 739-6654 or amoss@nctimes.com.

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Water district's new garden open for viewing

BY [MICHELLE BREIER](#), ESCONDIDO, SAN MARCOS REPORTER
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2010 AT 6 A.M.

SAN MARCOS — The Vallecitos Water District will dedicate its new sustainable demonstration garden during an open house and 55th anniversary celebration today.

Environmental architecture and design students from Palomar College collaborated with the water district on the garden.

The district says the garden design is an extension of the agency's sustainability strategy. It includes a rainwater collection system, solar power and native plants. Student volunteers and businesses donated time and supplies.

The open house will include tours of the garden; presentations on native plant gardening, rainwater harvesting and fire-resistant landscaping; an aquaponics demonstration; and refreshments.

The event is free and open to the public. It will be from 1-4 p.m. at the district headquarters, 201 Vallecitos de Oro, San Marcos.

The Vallecitos Water District provides water and wastewater services to 94,000 people in a 45-square-mile area that includes San Marcos and portions of surrounding cities.

Splash!

A Quarterly Publication
of the Water Specialists

Spring 2010

*****DROUGHT UPDATE*****

Winter rain doesn't spell drought relief

Some of this winter's rain has been quite impressive, with some systems at times dropping up to 4 to 8 inches of rain. However, when numbers are totaled, the final amount of water supplied wasn't really enough to make a dent in our drought, but rather, a minor scratch.

Unfortunately, a quick fix is not anticipated. It's been projected that the sources Vallecitos imports water from would need excessive rain and snow for five winters straight to see relief from the drought and related mandatory conservation measures.

Therefore, with warmer, drier days of spring upon us, all customers are reminded that we are still under mandatory water-use restrictions associated with Level 2 of the VWD Drought Ordinance.

Conserve 10 percent outdoors by following these actions:

- Limit residential and commercial landscape irrigation to no more than three unassigned days per week. This excludes commercial growers and nurseries.



Although the rains this season made an impact, reservoir levels still remain low. VWD Drought Ordinance and related mandatory conservation measures are still in effect.



- Limit irrigation using sprinklers to no more than 10 minutes per watering station per day.
- Do not wash down hard pavements.
- Prevent water waste associated with malfunctioning sprinklers or overflows onto non-targeted areas, properties, hard scapes and roadways.
- Irrigate only before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m.
- Use a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shut-off nozzle or bucket to irrigate landscapes not connected to an automatic system.
- Wash vehicles using a bucket and hand-held hose and shutoff nozzle.
- Repair water leaks within 72 hours of notification by Vallecitos Water District.

To learn more about mandatory conservation actions, please visit our site at www.vwd.org or call our Conservation Office at (760) 744-0460.

State's proposed \$11.14 billion water bond receives Vallecitos wholesaler endorsement

The water bond is designed to address:



Water Supply Reliability



Environmental Protection



Seawater Desalination



Bay-Delta Sustainability

For years, California lawmakers have grappled with various initiatives to address the state's water crisis. The most recent one - The Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010 - just recently was endorsed by the Board of Directors for the San Diego County Water Authority – wholesaler for the Vallecitos Water District.

The bond, which voters will have the opportunity to vote for this November, addresses water supply reliability, Delta sustainability, water recycling, conservation, surface and groundwater storage, groundwater cleanup and drought relief.

Roughly \$400 million of the state's proposed \$11.14 billion package will go towards drought relief – specifically the financing of statewide solutions.

This includes projects such as desalination, water recycling, groundwater cleanup, and increasing groundwater and surface water storage that offers alternatives during periods of constrained water supply.

Locally, the bond is projected to provide \$87 million for regional and local water reliability projects and \$40 million for conservation and environmental protection programs.

It also raises \$2.25 billion in funding to improve the sustainability of one major drinking water source for our region – the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. This will be executed through the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan to achieve ecosystem restoration and water supply reliability to the Delta. A broader part of the plan includes building new transportation routes around or through the Delta to restore water deliveries to Southern California that have been cut by regulatory restrictions to protect threatened fish species.

For more information on the Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010, visit www.bewaterwise.com.

Ruptured sprinkler line leads to water-efficient landscape transformation

When Vallecitos Water District customers Richard and Yaz Manley's sprinkler broke at their White Sands Drive residence in San Marcos, they didn't simply call somebody to repair the line. Instead, they came up with a water-efficient way to repair the yard.



Richard and Yaz Manley

The end result was a total landscape makeover and a substantial water use decrease from 24 units (1 unit = 748 gallons) to 13 units per month.

Gone was the yard that featured turf with dead patches, thirsty tropical plants with little seasonal color, and demanded extended care. Now in its place is a water-efficient one of vibrant Mediterranean/California native plants, controlled drip irrigation and little maintenance.

"We had a sprinkler line break somewhere that went undetected," said the 10-year San Marcos resident of what initially prompted the change.

"It wasn't going to be a cheap fix. While we debated what course of action we wanted to take, we noticed a substantial reduction in our water usage."

Capitalizing on the low water use, the Manleys set out to design something entirely different.

"We wanted a colorful yard with lots of areas of interest but very little hands-on time. We also wanted to have mostly plants that could exist with little or no irrigation once established."

After completing a plan, which they considered the only difficult part of the entire transformation process, they went to work placing plants in groupings and making their residence's entrance look attractive without grass.

"We couldn't be happier with the outcome. Curious neighbors and people passing by have been observing all along the way and wondering what we had in mind when they first noticed we let the grass die completely," she said.

Now the Manley's, thanks to all the



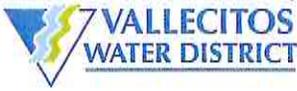
Before



After

positive feedback, are certain they did the right thing in fixing the yard as opposed to the sprinkler.

Have you recently made changes at your home or business that have resulted in significant water savings? You may be featured in an upcoming issue of "Splash!" Contact us at (760) 744-0460, ext. 238.



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Splash! is a publication of information and interest to Vallecitos water and sewer customers. If you receive water or sewer services from another district, please disregard any information that does not apply to you.

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All are welcome to attend the Vallecitos Board Meetings the first and third Wednesday of each month at 4:00 pm in the Administration building—
 201 Vallecitos de Oro in San Marcos.



Prevent leaks

Leaks any size can waste a substantial amount of water per day.

the dial on the meter is still spinning, it is likely you have a leak.

meter, contact the District's Conservation Office at (760) 744-0460.

For assistance in reading your

Our ordinance requires they be fixed within 72 hours of notification by the District.

Your meter is a valuable tool for the detection process.

Meters are usually located in the parking strip or in the sidewalk at the front or side of the house. After locating your meter:

Turn off all plumbing devices in the residence. If

A continuous leak from a hole the smallest of sizes would waste water in the amounts shown below:

Leak Diameter at 60 PSI	Daily Average Wasted		Gallons Wasted - 3 months
	Size	Amount	
1/4"	6.5mm	13,122 gallons	1,181,000 gallons
3/16"	4.8mm	7,244 gallons	652,000 gallons
1/8"	3.2mm	3,388 gallons	296,000 gallons
1/16"	1.6mm	822 gallons	74,000 gallons

Between the Pipes

Fall 2010

Newsletter for the Vallecitos Water District Employees

Bring Your Dog to Work Day a Howling Good Time!

On October 21st, VWD employees participated in the first ever, "Bring your dog to work" day. Dogs as small as chihuahuas and as large as huskies enjoyed spending the day with their human companions. The dogs all agreed they would like to come visit again some day!



VWD's new greeter...
Isabel the wiener dog



...and new safety officer, Captain.



Off to play!



Dennis Lamb trains
for the "Hallway Iditarod"!



Got a complaint about your high
water bill? Dazi can help! Grrr...
woof...scratch...scratch...

Torrey's dog
"Deeohgee"
Pronounced
D - O - G!



What is Happening With Our Water?

This season, rain came in abundance and snow heaped steadily upon the slopes of the Sierra Nevada and Colorado Rockies, but the limited availability resulting in need for water-use restrictions remains a constant.

When all is said and done, 2009 was a year slightly above normal in rain in the region. Snow was 106 percent of normal in California and 80 percent of normal in the Colorado Rockies.

This is definitely good. But not good enough. You mix complications from a water shortage and complications from a court room drama and you have our setting of our water supply program.

Actually, the drought was nothing new. As early as 2003, water supplies from the Colorado River were strained. By 2006, our wholesaler – Metropolitan Water District of Southern California - turned its attention to Northern California, which was having more steady rain and much more sturdy snowpacks, as a remedy.

However, the reprieve wouldn't be for long. The same drought that had plagued the Colorado Basin had moved to encompass all of California.

To compound the problem, a ruling in September of 2007 set a legal precedent. In a Fresno courtroom, a judge sided with environmentalists and ruled in favor of protecting the threatened Delta Smelt that were being killed in pumps responsible for transporting water to our region. This existence of this fish that serves as an environmental indicator of Delta health was deemed important enough for the pumps to be turned off during migration.

Unfortunately, migration isn't a few days or a few weeks. Try something closer to 10 months out of the year!

Without the pumps, the snowmelt from the Sierras that is usually diverted to the Central Valley and Southern California via the California Aqueduct starts an exit process through the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, San Pablo and San Francisco bays, and finally leaving the state underneath the Golden Gate Bridge.



To compensate for that loss, Metropolitan is forced to meet demand through its series of reservoirs, which despite the rains, remain low.

So the future ahead is definitely a challenging one that all employees will have to contend

with for years to come.

Employee News



Meagan Genovese joined the District this past May as Office Assistant II in the operations and maintenance department. She comes to us after more than three years of

part-time employment with the City of Escondido. Meagan fills a newly created position. Meagan is single and has no children. In her leisure time, she enjoys the beach, movies, yoga, and spending time with her friends. Meagan is a fan of "I Love Lucy" and a cat-lover.

Recently, VWD received letters of commendation for the excellent service that they received from **Carlos Rivera, Cliff Cross** and **Alicia Yerman**. Way to go!!!

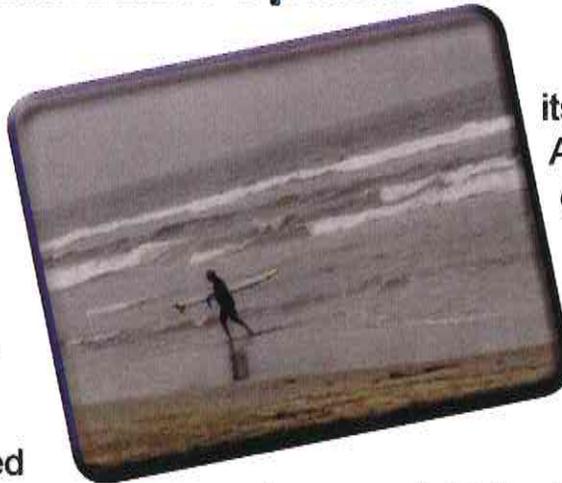
VWD says goodbye to **Jon Sherwood**, who is retiring after ____ years with the District. We will miss you Jon!

And last but not least, VWD's bowling superstar, **Cheryl Brandstrom**, recently bowled a 214! Unfortunately, she had her lucky bowling ball stolen shortly after...

Desalination Update

Vallecitos, as well as nine other agencies in the county, previously negotiated an agreement with Poseidon Resources for desalinated water that would be produced in Carlsbad.

Desalinated water per unit is more expensive than the imported water received from Vallecitos' wholesalers. As an incentive to increase imported water availability and to assist with locally developed water supplies, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) agreed to subsidize a portion of the cost to increase affordability for critical projects. However, the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) recently decided to take legal action against MWD regarding



its rate structure. An unfortunate casualty of the lawsuit is MWD discontinuing its subsidy to ensure affordability.

As a result, Vallecitos and the other agencies have set aside their individual interests to allow SDCWA to represent them and enter into agreement with Poseidon Resources.

Negotiations between the two are ongoing and will hopefully end with this much-needed source available at a price that all can afford.

VWD's Carlos Fimbres - an Artist Rendering from the Great Room



When employees pass the Great Room in the Engineering Department,

they are likely to see Carlos Fimbres sitting and observing a poster size paper in deep thought. But this isn't due to choice. It's due to design.

One aspect of his job requires him to be a Capital Facilities Coordinator Picasso, carefully scrutinize engineering water and sewer design plans with colorful lines that look like abstract art to the outsider. Despite the tediousness and

required attention to detail, it's his favorite part of the job.

"As a plan checker you are the first one to get asked why something was not caught or corrected during the plan check process." Unfortunately, his typical day at work isn't entirely devoted to plan checking, but he is just fine with that.

"Every capital project we work on is challenging in a different way which keeps my job interesting.

When Carlos isn't coordinating engineering projects or coaxing his wife Josie to make delicious treats, he follows his son's athletic endeavors and his beloved LA teams.

Awards & Certifications

Systems Construction Worker Brian Spencer earned a Certification of Achievement and Associate's of Arts degree from Palomar College.

Water Systems Operator Richie Arballo earned his Certificate for Water Distribution Operator Grade D5 from the California Department of Public Health.

Systems Construction Worker Alex Stanko achieved his Certificate of Competence as Grade 11 Operator in Collection System Maintenance from the California Water Environment Association.

Welder/Fabricator Larry McDougle received his Certificate for Water Distribution Operator Grade D1 from the State of California Department of Public Health.

Senior Water System Operator Ed Pedrazzi received his Certificate of Competency as a Backflow Prevention Assembly General Tester from the American Water Works Association.

Plant Operator Matthew R. Wiese received his Certificate for Water Distribution Operator Grade D2 and Certificate for Water Treatment Operator Grade T2 from the State of California Department of Public Health.

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45 Day Review Period for the 2008 Master Plan Program EIR Commencing May 10, 2011. Review the Documents Here

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Construction projects to manage a growing region.



Following similar Board actions of its wholesalers, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and San Diego County Water Authority, Vallecitos Water District Board of Directors downgraded its Drought Alert, ending all mandatory water-use restrictions and drought-rate pricing. However, Vallecitos staff asks all customers to continue living a water-wise lifestyle. The District will be adhering to SBX7-7 – a new state water conservation mandate requiring 20 percent water use reduction by 2020. Customers maintaining current levels of conservation will be essential to navigating us to compliance in the future. [Click here for more information.](#)

Check your taps a couple of times a year to make sure all faucets are working properly.

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Preguntas más frecuentes con respecto a la factura del agua



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45 Periodo de Revisión del Día para Maestro del Programa EIR 2008 Comenzando el 10 de mayo 2011. E de los Documentos Aquí

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Construction projects to manage a growing region.



Únete a nosotros en el camino hacia 2020 - una visión hacia un futuro de agua confiable

Tras similares adoptadas por la Junta de sus maestros del Distrito Metropolitano de Agua del Sur de California, el Distrito de Agua del Condado de San Diego, Vallecitos Distrito de Agua del Condado de San Diego County Water Authority, Vallecitos Distrito de Agua del Condado de San Diego Consejo de Administración rebajó su alerta de sequía poniendo fin a todas las restricciones del uso del agua obligatoria y de tasa de fijación de precios sequía. Sin embargo, el personal de Vallecitos pide a todos los residentes continuar viviendo un estilo de vida racional del agua. El Distrito se adhieren a SBX7-7 - un estado de conservación.