



It Matters To You.
It Matters To Us.



Del Paso Manor Honored with Award

We are proud to announce our District received the Top Agency for Outreach award for our region from the Association of California Water Agencies. This award highlights the key role Del Paso Manor Water District played in ACWA's state and national advocacy efforts. We worked closely with ACWA to reach out to legislators, key regulators and administration officials that directly affected the outcome of numerous legislative decisions in the 2017-18 legislative session.

To advocate on legislative matters affecting our District, the District's General Manager, Debra Sedwick, participates on committees and working groups for regional and statewide water associations. Through associations such as ACWA, she monitors legislation that could impact our ratepayers, District, water community and region as a whole. She regularly provides legislative updates to the Board of Directors in order for the Directors to give direction or take a position on specific legislative proposals and public policy issues.

One example of our outreach during last year's legislative season was to oppose a bill that would have created a "water tax" to be included on everyone's water bill. The District would collect this tax from ratepayers through their monthly bill, then send the funds directly to the State of California. Although the Board understood and supported the importance of providing everyone in the State safe drinking water, they opposed the idea of individual water districts collecting the tax. The water tax legislation was removed on the last day of session with the assistance of ACWA and its member agencies. It is likely a comparable bill will be introduced on the upcoming legislative calendar. The District will provide continued outreach to help ensure similar results.

Water Rates are Increasing Nationwide

Water agencies and municipal utility departments throughout the nation are struggling to keep up with aging water infrastructure and mounting compliance and regulatory requirements at the local, state and national levels. Due to the public's expectation of low-cost water, many water agencies have put off improving or replacing infrastructure to keep prices low. The Del Paso Manor Water District is no exception.

Regulatory requirements are constantly increasing, requiring us to implement new procedures and additional testing. Additional laboratory certifications and added compliance procedures add to water testing costs. Water agencies are required to meet both federal and state testing requirements no matter the added cost to the local agency and their ratepayers.

In order to provide safe drinking water and maintain a reliable water supply for fire protection, District staff works around the clock. Our water production, testing and distribution team monitors the system 24/7. They maintain the distribution pipelines, pump stations and wells and all aspects of the District's water delivery system.

Since each water agency is required to have a "certified operator" to operate the system at all times, each operator must maintain his or her certification with annual continuing education. The District employs three certified operators to cover on-call hours and vacation time.

Ken



Ken's Conservation Tips

2019 Winter Water Tips: Let your lawn go dormant during the cold weather!

Your lawn may look brown but winter rain or morning dew is usually enough to keep the ground moist without the need to water it. Too much water during the winter may turn your grass yellow and promote weed growth. If you sense your lawn needs water, use a hose rather than your sprinklers. Your lawn doesn't need regular watering until spring.

Fix a Leak Week: March 18-24, 2019!

- ◆ The simplest way to spot a water leak is to listen for the sound of running water at night or another quiet time.
- ◆ Dye tablets are useful to detect small leaks in the flapper valve of a toilet. They also can detect if the toilet tank float level is not set correctly. Dye tablets are available at the District office.
- ◆ Dripping faucets should be repaired or replaced (a faucet that drips about 10 drips per minute can waste about a gallon of water each day or about 350 gallons per year). Some repairs can be done by do-it-yourselfers or by a licensed handyman or plumber. Always ask for an estimate.
- ◆ For more information, go online to BeWaterSmart.info or saveourwater.com.



Marissa Burt, John Lenahan, Trish Harrington

Welcome New Board Members!

We are pleased to introduce three new board members elected to serve the District for the 2018-2022 term. This election marked District history. For the first time, the District has elected women to our Board. The new board members are Marissa Burt, Trish Harrington and John Lenahan.

The new Board members were sworn into office on December 7 and participated in their first meeting on January 7. They each have a passion for our community and look forward to bringing fresh ideas to help the District provide high quality water at the lowest possible cost.

Please help us welcome our newest board members!

What is the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act?

In response to California's drought, Governor Jerry Brown signed into law a three-bill legislative package collectively known as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act on September 16, 2014. The goal of SGMA is to provide cost-effective, responsive and collaborative management of groundwater that achieves compliance without burdening local interests. Under the act, for the first time in its history, California will have a framework for sustainable groundwater management.

California water agencies who have access to groundwater are part of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency. The Del Paso Manor Water District is part of the Sacramento Groundwater Authority which includes all of Sacramento County north of the American River. The SGA is one of five Groundwater Sustainability Agencies in the North American Groundwater Basin. Together, all five GSAs will assess basin conditions and develop a comprehensive Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

All GSAs have the authority to levy fees on basin users to support implementation of the Act. The SGA assess fees to manage the basin to implement the requirements of the Sustainable Act. The SGA, along with many other GSAs, are pursuing funding under the Proposition 1 Water Bond – available on a competitive basis to use for the development and implementation of GSPs and planned actions and projects. However, there is a limited amount of funds available in the state. Due to this, we expect to see our costs increase to implement the requirements of this Act.

For more information on SGMA, visit www.water.ca.gov.

Stay Informed And Engage With Us

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Lori