The City of San Diego’s water resource strategy includes conservation, recycled water, groundwater, water reuse, and watershed and resource protection to help meet future water needs.

Welcome to Pure News, a newsletter about the City of San Diego’s Pure Water Program! This week is Drinking Water Week, which recognizes the vital role tap water plays in daily life and the infrastructure that is required to carry water to homes and businesses. We appreciate water as one of the world’s most precious resources – and the Pure Water Program will ensure a safe, local, and sustainable drinking water supply for the future.

The Pure Water Program will provide 83 million gallons per day of high-quality drinking water by 2035. Based on recent water use projections, Pure Water will contribute nearly one-half of San Diego’s water supply needs.

This edition of Pure News includes an exciting construction update and covers the latest Pure Water Program activities, including the redesigned Phase 1 website, recent virtual presentations, and our 2020 Year in Review for a look back at all we accomplished in the last year.

Construction Begins on the North City Pure Water Facility and Pump Station Project

In late April, construction began on the North City Pure Water Facility (NCPWF) and Pump Station project. Construction is expected to take place between April 2021 and mid-2025, with most of the work anticipated to be completed by mid-2024.

The new facility will be constructed on the north side of Eastgate Mall between Eastgate Drive and Interstate 805 and will include a visitor/discovery center. As shown in the picture on the right, initial equipment is on-site and work is gearing up.

The North City Pure Water Facility will purify recycled water produced at the North City Water Reclamation Plant. 30 million gallons per day (mgd) of purified water will be conveyed by the North City Pure Water Pump Station to the Miramar Reservoir for storage. In total, 12 diverse, robust, and complementary proven treatment processes, along with storage at Miramar Reservoir, are used prior to distribution to San Diego homes and businesses.
Currently, work hours are primarily from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Monday to Friday, with some weekend and night work. A majority of facility work is being conducted on-site behind a perimeter fence; however, area residents and businesses can expect increased traffic on Eastgate Mall between Interstate-805 and Eastgate Drive, some utility work, temporary removal of parking along Eastgate Mall, and construction-related noise and heavy equipment. Access will be maintained for residents, businesses, and emergency responders.

For questions about the Pure Water Program or the North City Pure Water Facility and Pump Station project, please call the project hotline at 833-UTC-PWSD (833-882-7973) or email purewatersd@sandiego.gov.

Redesigned Phase 1 Website

The Pure Water Phase 1 section of the website has been reorganized and updated to focus on the Pure Water projects under construction. Now, you can learn more about each individual project and find important information about construction in your neighborhood.

Visit phase1.purewatersd.org and see the projects located in each Phase 1 community. Each project page has information on the project’s construction schedule and detailed project maps. These pages will also house newly updated informational materials and construction notices as construction progresses.

Additionally, to receive regular project updates during construction, please click the “Sign Up for Email Updates” tab on the website’s right side and select the project pertinent to your area or interest.

Virtual Speakers Bureau

In 2021, the Pure Water team has continued to provide virtual presentations. Recently, Pure Water speakers bureau members have presented to groups including the San Diego Green Building Council, the USD Surfrider Foundation Student Club, Hoover High School, Downtown San Diego Lions Club, University City Brokers Group, and more! During these presentations, we cover a wide range of topics, including program regulations, project maps, wastewater treatment process, history of recycling drinking water, project updates, and engineering.

The Pure Water team also provides presentations to area planning and community groups to inform stakeholders of the latest Phase 1 construction information and impacts in their areas and to help address any questions or concerns about the work in their communities. Recently, presentations were given to the University Community Planning Group, the Scripps Ranch Planning Group, and the Clairemont Community Planning Group. The presentations included segment-by-segment walkthroughs of the pipeline and facility work in their respective communities.
Our presentations are available to educators, clubs, and other groups in the San Diego area that are interested in learning about the Pure Water Program and how it will change the future of San Diego’s water supply for the better. You can find the latest version of the Pure Water community presentation here.

If you are interested in arranging a virtual presentation or obtaining one of our teacher toolkits/lesson plans, please email your request to purewatersd@sandiego.gov.

2020 Year in Review

Despite 2020 being a year of uncertainties and obstacles due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was a busy time for the Pure Water Program as we geared up for Phase 1 construction. Instead of traditional in-person tours and community events, we shifted to connecting with the community virtually. Outreach activities in 2020 included providing virtual presentations to community groups and developing a tour of the Pure Water Demonstration Facility. Check out our digital 2020 Year in Review for a snapshot of the accomplishments and activities that took place in 2020.

Quick Links

- Pure Water San Diego
- City of San Diego
- Sign up for emails
- Show your support

In This, Together

While we navigate an unprecedented pandemic, the City of San Diego continues to provide safe, high quality drinking water for its customers each and every day. Stay healthy and safe, and cheers to a sustainable water future.

www.purewatersd.org

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