What is Pure Water San Diego?

Pure Water San Diego is the City of San Diego’s (City) program that will provide nearly one-half of San Diego’s water supply locally by 2035. The Pure Water Program will include a system of treatment facilities, pump stations and pipelines that will be constructed in multiple phases and will:

• Use proven technology to clean recycled water to produce safe, high-quality water
• Provide a reliable, sustainable water supply; and
• Offer a cost-effective investment for San Diego’s water needs.

What does Phase 1 Include?

The Pure Water Program is the largest integrated infrastructure program the City of San Diego has ever undertaken. Phase 1 - North City is comprised of several projects that will deliver 30 million gallons per day (mgd) of purified water for San Diego. The purified water will be piped to the Miramar Reservoir for storage and then will be treated again at the Miramar Drinking Water Treatment Plant and distributed to the public. The projects under construction as part of Phase 1 include the Morena Pump Station and Pipelines, the North City Water Reclamation Plant Expansion, the North City Pure Water Facility and Pump Station, the North City Pure Water Pipeline, and Metropolitan Biosolids Center improvements. A detailed map of the project locations can be viewed online at phase1.purewatersd.org.
Completing our Water Cycle, Securing our Future

Morena Pump Station and Pipelines
This project will transport up to 32 mgd of wastewater to the North City Water Reclamation Plant (NCWRP), where it will be treated before being sent to the new North City Pure Water Facility (NCPWF) for further purification. Construction will include a new pump station on Sherman Street and two parallel 10.7-mile-long wastewater pipelines. One pipeline will transport wastewater to the NCWRP, while the other will transport salt and contaminants removed during the water purification process at the NCPWF to the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant. The wastewater pipelines will start at Sherman Street, follow West Morena Boulevard to Clairemont Drive, continue to Genesee Avenue and go through University City to the NCWRP on Eastgate Mall. This project will also include the construction of two approximately 3.5-mile water pipelines, a 16-inch water distribution pipeline, and a 36-inch water transmission pipeline, which will run parallel to the wastewater pipelines along West Morena Boulevard and Morena Boulevard.

NCWRP Expansion
This project will increase the amount of recycled water the NCWRP produces. The NCWRP is located on Eastgate Mall and treats wastewater to recycled water standards for irrigation and industrial uses. The plant capacity will increase from 30 mgd to 52 mgd to continue to meet non-potable water demands, as well as supply the NCPWF. A new pump station located at the NCWRP will convey up to 42 mgd of recycled water to the new NCPWF across the street for further purification.

NCPWF and Pump Station
A new Pure Water Facility will be built on Eastgate Mall across the street from the existing NCWRP to clean the recycled water further to produce 30 mgd of safe, high-quality water that meets all state and federal drinking water standards. The NCPWF will use the proven five-step water purification process of ozonation, biological activated carbon filters, membrane filtration, reverse osmosis, and ultraviolet disinfection with advanced oxidation.

North City Pure Water Pipeline
This project will transport purified water produced at the NCPWF to Miramar Reservoir. A new pump station will be constructed next to the NCPWF on Eastgate Mall along with an 8.4-mile pipeline that will convey approximately 30 mgd of purified water to Miramar Reservoir. The pipeline will start on Eastgate Mall, follow Miramar Road, and continue through Scripps Ranch and end in the Miramar Reservoir.

Metropolitan Biosolids Center (MBC) Improvements
MBC is the City's regional biosolids facility that receives and processes solids from both the NCWRP and the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant. To accommodate the increase in flows and loadings that will result from the NCWRP expansion, this project involves upgrades at MBC including equipment replacements and improvements to grit removal, biosolid thickening, anaerobic digestion, biogas handling, and the centrate pump station.

Local residents, community groups, environmental organizations and local businesses support the Pure Water Program.

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Visit purewatersd.org to sign up for a free tour of the Pure Water Demonstration Facility or request a presentation for your organization.