



The City of



Public Utilities

FACT SHEET

Water Reclamation Plants

The City of San Diego has two water reclamation plants that treat and purify wastewater so that the reclaimed water provides a dependable, year-round and locally controlled water resource to help meet future water demands while reducing dependence on imported water. Recycled water can be used for landscape irrigation and manufacturing, industrial and other non-drinking or non-potable uses. Reclaimed pipelines, sprinkler heads, meter boxes and other irrigation equipment are color-coded purple to distinguish reclaimed water pipes from drinking water systems.

North City Water Reclamation Plant

The North City Water Reclamation Plant can treat up to 30 million gallons of wastewater per day. Reclaimed water produced at the plant is distributed throughout the northern region of San Diego via more than 79 miles of distribution to our customers for irrigation, landscaping and industrial use. The plant also provides reclaimed water for the City of Poway.

All the power required to operate the North City Water Reclamation Plant is provided by an on-site cogeneration facility, which is powered by methane piped from the Miramar Landfill and Metro Biosolids Center digesters. Approximately 75% of the power produced is used for the plant's electrical needs with the remainder of the power sold to the local electric grid.

The North City Water Reclamation Plant is also the home of the [Pure Water San Diego](#) demonstration project.

South Bay Water Reclamation Plant

The South Bay Water Reclamation Plant opened in 2002 and has a wastewater treatment capacity of 15 million gallons a day. The plant relieves the South Metro Sewer Interceptor System and provides local wastewater treatment services and reclaimed water to the South Bay. The City's plant should not be confused with the nearby South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant, which treats sewage originating in Tijuana, Mexico, and is owned and administered by the International Boundary and Water Commission.

Monitoring Reports and More Information

For annual monitoring reports of both water reclamation plants, see the [Wastewater Treatment Monitoring Reports](#) web page. For additional information about recycled water, visit the City's website at sandiego.gov/public-utilities/sustainability/recycled-water.

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