



Protecting Public Health and the Environment by Cleaning Water and Recovering Valuable Resources

District Service Charges Cut by \$25.45 Per Household

Thanks to excellent long-range planning and ongoing efficiencies like the energy improvements described below, the District is able to continue providing high quality services at costs below state and county averages. On July 1, 2015 the District reduced its annual service charges by 5.6% or around \$25.45 per household!

Energy Efficiency Improvements to Save \$1.4 Million

With wastewater flows into the District at low levels due to successful indoor water conservation during the drought, many of the pumps, blowers and processes at the treatment plant are larger, more powerful and use more electricity than is necessary.

In addition, energy costs are continuing to rise. Goleta Sanitary District recently completed a detailed energy audit and will be implementing extensive energy efficiency improvements through right sizing equipment, utilizing variable speed motor controls, and more.



The Sanitary District operates many very large motors and pumps that are being made more efficient.



Financial Benefits:

- \$128,000 in annual energy savings.
- \$86,000 in incentives from the electrical utility.
- \$1.4 million in total savings.

Environmental Benefits:

- Reduced greenhouse emissions equal to taking 1,841 cars off the road.

Operations and Maintenance Benefits:

- Reduced maintenance costs.
- Improved equipment safety and reliability.

These energy efficiency actions are an important step towards achieving energy neutrality

Sanitary District Teams with Water District to Explore Expanding Recycled Water Use in Goleta Valley

It is the fifth year of the worst drought in Goleta's history, the expected Godzilla El Niño was a dud with below average rainfall, and Cachuma is practically empty at 15% of capacity.

With both the current drought and long-term water needs in mind, Goleta Sanitary District and Goleta Water District are working together to explore how best to expand the use of recycled water to meet Goleta Valley's long-term water demands.

The goal is to triple recycled water use from 1,000 acre-feet per year to 3,000 acre-feet per year of drought-proof, purified water supply – totaling about 21% of Goleta's total water needs.

Feasibility Study Underway on Higher-Level Uses of Recycled Water

Goleta Sanitary District currently treats about 1,000 acre-feet of wastewater each year (equal to 1 million gallons per day) to a high-level and provides it to Goleta Water District, which serves about 30 large water users, such as UCSB, primarily for irrigation of landscapes. This represents 7% of Goleta's supplies and offsets the use of potable water.

Goleta Water District has obtained a grant and is retaining a consultant to identify and evaluate the types of advanced treatment needed and opportunities for expanding use of recycled water in the Goleta Valley.

The study will also seek out any issues that could prevent successful construction or operation of a possible future project.

Recycled water is locally controlled, drought proof, and always available regardless of rainfall or not.

Start of a Multi-Year, Multi-Step Process

Depending on the outcome of the feasibility study, there is a potential that a permanent advanced treatment facility will be needed in the future. Both Goleta Sanitary District and the Goleta Water District will conduct full public outreach programs, with numerous opportunities for the public to learn more, have questions answered, and provide input as the options to expand the use of recycled water are explored. The feasibility study, which is scheduled for completion by the end of 2016 is the first step in a process that could take several years to complete.



Currently, recycled water in Goleta is used primarily to irrigate large landscapes.

This provides a benefit in that every gallon of recycled water used saves a gallon of potable water.

The continued availability of recycled water will help protect against damage and loss of valuable landscaping should insufficient potable water be available for outdoor irrigation in the future.

The District has produced over 7 billion gallons of recycled water, equal to about 1.3 years' worth of all the water used in Goleta.

Key Reasons to Explore Advanced Water Purification

There is legislation being discussed to one-day outlaw disposal of treated wastewater into the ocean. Purifying water for customer use is an ideal alternative.

The record drought reminds us that Goleta needs new, locally controlled and reliable sources of water supply like advanced purified water.

The Sanitary District is producing millions of gallons per day of highly treated wastewater and releasing it into the ocean. Instead, it could be purified to meet critical water needs in the future.

Local reservoirs are at record low levels.

Moving Recycled Water Beyond Irrigation Use

One Alternative: Indirect Potable Reuse. This involves purifying recycled wastewater to a very high level and then: pumping it into the groundwater basin; allowing it to remain for a period; pumping it out; and then treating and using it. Such a system has been used in Orange County since 2008.

Another Possibility: Direct Potable Reuse. This involves using advanced filtration/treatment to create extremely pure water using constant, real-time monitoring to produce fully potable (drinkable) water that is safe and healthful for direct potable use. This is more of an opportunity for the future. The state of California is working on standards that would allow the Department of Public Health to effectively regulate direct potable reuse, but those regulations are not available yet. In the meantime, several cities, such as San Diego and San Jose have pilot potable reuse projects



in operation and others are exploring the option.

A Third Possibility: Purify the Water to Meet Commercial and Agricultural Needs. Recycled water use could be expanded by purifying it to meet specific business and agriculture needs.



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Dispose of Medications Properly

DON'T: Dump medications down the drain. The treatment plant is not able to fully remove old pharmaceuticals that may adversely impact fish and the environment.

DO: Dispose of unwanted medications at approved locations that can be found by calling or visiting the websites listed to the right.

**For More About
 Household Hazardous
 Waste Disposal:
 Call (805) 882-3602
 or visit:
 LessIsMore.org
 GoletaSanitary.org**



Sewer Cleaning...Firefighting...Finding Lost Jewelry and More....

This vehicle is made for cleaning sewers, but in the past, our crews have shown a lot of initiative by using similar trucks for emergency firefighting and even to retrieve valuable jewelry that was accidentally flushed down the drain.

Awarded Collection System of the Year...Again!

Goleta Sanitary District was recently awarded the Collection System of the Year by the California Water Environment Association (CWEA).

This award is for outstanding achievement in operating and maintaining its facilities and equipment in an exceptional manner that protects the environment, promotes professionalism within the staff, and sets benchmark accomplishments within the industry.

The District has won this prestigious award two times in the past.

WHY WE WON: Excellent Management Results in Lower Ratepayer Costs and Environmental Protection

- Zero sanitary sewer spills in 2015 and zero so far in 2016.
- Highly trained, state-certified staff.
- Proactive maintenance ensures round-the-clock reliability.
- Ongoing investment in the system keeps it in excellent shape.