



April 2010

Carpinteria Valley Water District

H₂KNOW

Lots Going On

Lots of things are going on at the District this year. Here are some updates:

El Carro Well and Pipeline Project

This Project is now back on track, with the benefit of \$2 million Proposition 50 grant funds. The District and the City of Carpinteria successfully negotiated a new arrangement at El Carro Park. Instead of revising the original Lease for the use of the property, which did not allow for the drilling of a new well, the District is purchasing a permanent easement from the City. This Project is expected to get underway in June.

Cost Control and Water Rates

The District this year has pursued a more aggressive role with its joint powers agencies, namely the Central Coast Water Authority (State Water), the Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board and the Cachuma Conservation Release Board to reduce their budgets. This is causing some controversy, but resulting in lower costs for the District which helps the District hold the line on its water rates.

The District has taken steps to prevent increasing debt service obligations, shifting more costs to future customers after the year 2022 for assets with a life value of 50 years or more. It did this by refunding some of its Revenue Certificates of Participation (COPs), and issuing new Capital Appreciation Certificates. This action is directly contributing to the projected reduction in monthly water bills for many customers beginning in August (bills for water used in July). A large portion of these funds is earmarked for the Advanced Treatment Project (using ozone) at the Cater Treatment Plant in Santa Barbara. The Project will help the District meet current and future safe drinking water standards for the water coming to the Carpinteria Valley from the Cater Treatment Plant.

Ortega Reservoir Cover Project Lawsuit

The District continues to pursue a lawsuit against engineers and contractors of the Ortega Reservoir Cover Project. Montecito Water District, the lead agency on the Project, and the District share all of the legal costs on a 50-50 basis.

Veneco Paredon Project

The District has determined that the proposed Veneco Paredon Project poses no risks to the Carpinteria groundwater basin, and is therefore incurring no costs associated with this proposed Project.

El Distrito es bilingue. Favor de llamar (805) 684-2816 con cualquier pregunta sobre su cuenta o el uso de agua, estamos aqui para asistirlos.

Proposed Rates & Budget FY 2010-2011

The projected monthly bill change in July for the average residential customer of the District using 12 units of water is a **reduction of \$1.92 or a 1.9 percent decrease**. Due to the nature of the proposed changes, some customers will experience increases in their monthly water bills. Please call the District at 684-2816 ext. 117 if you would like to know more specifically how the proposed adjustments to the Rates and Charges for water used beginning this coming July are likely to affect your monthly bill.

Green Gardener Classes

Green Gardener classes begin **April 14th** at SBCC's Schott Center. To learn resource - efficient and pollution prevention landscape maintenance practices highlighted in this bi-lingual course for professional gardeners as well as homeowners, visit www.greengardener.org or call 683-8260.

Water-Wise Gardening in SB County and Smart Landscape Rebate Program

Spring has sprung and many of us are looking for and making changes in our gardens. One resource tool for water-wise plants is the **Water-Wise Gardening in Santa Barbara County website** which can be accessed through www.sbwater.org. This website tailored for Santa Barbara County, provides a searchable plant database, garden design ideas, compost techniques and more. CDs of Water-Wise Gardening in SB County can be purchased at the District for \$2.85.

Now is also the time to consider participating in the District's **Smart Landscape Rebate Program**. The rebate is for fifty percent of the material costs of **approved** irrigation equipment, water-wise plants and mulch with a one-time, maximum rebate of \$500. Projects must be approved in advance and landscapes for new construction are not eligible. Participation in the rebate program is on a first-come, first served basis for CVWD residential and commercial customers. For more information call Rhonda at 684-2816 ext. 116 or visit www.cvwd.net/comm_conserve_rebate.htm

Board of Directors Meetings

The Board Meetings for the month of **April**:

Wednesday	April 14	5:30 pm	City Hall 5775 Carpinteria Ave
Wednesday	April 21	4:00 pm	District Board Room 1301 Santa Ynez Ave

Carpinteria Valley Water District Board of Directors

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