

# Water News

Winter 2005

## Carpinteria Valley Water District Board of Directors

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Daniel Rodriguez  
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Although recent storms replenished Lake Cachuma, conservation is essential to maintaining a sufficient water supply.

photo courtesy of Santa Barbara News Press

## **Water Conservation and Efficient Water Use Prolong the Availability of Water Resources**

Water conservation and efficient water use is a lifestyle that benefits you, the community, and our water resources. There are several steps you can take in order to reduce your water use and increase its efficiency.

### **Complimentary Residential Water Savings Survey**

One important step toward saving water is understanding where your water is currently being used. A residential water savings survey is offered at no cost to CVWD customers. Via the survey, you will learn how to conserve water by reviewing your landscape, irrigation and indoor plumbing systems.

### **Stop those leaks.**

Check your indoor water appliances and devices for leaks. Many silent leaks allow water and your money to go down the drain. Studies have shown homes can waste more than 10% due to leaking, which costs both you and the environment.

### **Replace your old toilet, the largest water user inside your home.**

Toilets made prior to 1993 use anywhere from 3.5 gallons per flush (gpf) up to 8 gpf. New high efficiency toilets are mandated to use 1.6 gpf or less.

### **Replace your clothes washer, the second largest water user in your home.**

Energy Star rated washers that also have a **Water Factor** at or lower than 9.5, use 35-50 % less water and 50% less energy per load.

### **Plant water conserving gardens with proper landscape design and irrigation.**

Select plants that are appropriate for our local cli-

mate. Consider the trend toward Xeriscape—using “low water use” plants, a more natural, native landscape or wildscape. A list of “Green Gardener Certified” landscape and gardening professionals is available in our office. These professionals promote and utilize resource efficient landscaping practices.

### **Water only what your plants need.**

Most water is wasted in your garden by watering when your plants do not need the water or by not maintaining the irrigation system. Consider installing a weather adjusting ET irrigation controller that automatically saves water by not watering when the plants don't need the water.

If you have questions about watering, water conservation tools for your garden, or would like a complimentary water savings survey, please call (805) 684-2816.

## **Save Water, Save a Buck Rebate Program**

Businesses can save money and water by participating in the “Save Water, Save a Buck” Rebate Program. Rebate dollars will be given for the replacement of water guzzling toilets, urinals, and washing machines with water efficient ones - ultra low flush toilets and urinals, waterless urinals, and high efficiency clothes washers. For more information, phone 1-800-215-7559 or log onto [www.sbwater.org](http://www.sbwater.org).

## Carpinteria Reservoir Cover

This \$6 million project is now almost completed. The new cover, a response to the California Department of Health Services 1995 policy addressing open reservoirs, has resulted in dramatically improved drinking water quality and a much more secure facility. It has been funded by a low interest loan from the California Department of Health Services.

## Water Storage Tank

This \$7.5 million project has progressed through the environmental review and permitting phase, and the annexation has been completed. Design is nearly complete and the District hopes to begin construction by spring of 2005. The Project consists of the construction of a **3.0 million gallon (MG) underground water storage tank** and related facilities for District purposes, **annexation** to the District of 2,265 acres of mostly Rancho Monte Alegre (RMA) lands, and construction of **water facilities for purposes of serving RMA properties.**

The 3 MG tank will have long lasting benefit to the District. It will enable efficient utilization of District wells, help the District meet the new and more stringent water quality standards set by the EPA, and provide local independence and reliability for the delivery of water to most all of the customers within the City of Carpinteria. The annexation enables RMA to obtain District water to support 300 acres of avocado and olive orchards as well as serve existing and future home sites on the ranch.

All annexation and RMA facility costs are being paid for by the ranch owners. District project costs will be funded by proceeds from the January 2000 sale of Certificates of Participation (COPs) if grants or a loan from the State of California are not obtained.

## Ortega Reservoir Cover

The first phase of this \$17 million project, planned for the same reasons as the Carpinteria Reservoir project, has begun. Located in Summerland in an area that is now served by the Montecito Water District, the federally owned Ortega Reservoir serves the Carpinteria Valley as well as the Summerland area. Montecito Water District is the lead agency for this project and is paying for half of the \$17 million cost. Carpinteria Valley Water District will utilize low interest loan funds from the California Department of Health Services to pay most of its \$8.5 million share of the Project, if no grant funds are obtained.

## New Headquarters Well

This \$1.8 million well and iron and manganese filtration plant project is now almost completed. The well is a big producer, capable of up to 1,500 gallons per minute. The well project has been expanded to include injection capabilities with the assistance of a \$125,000 grant from the Department of Water Resources. This new well replaces the loss of groundwater supply associated with a failed well on the same District headquarters site nearby. A low interest loan from the Department of Health Services is funding this project.

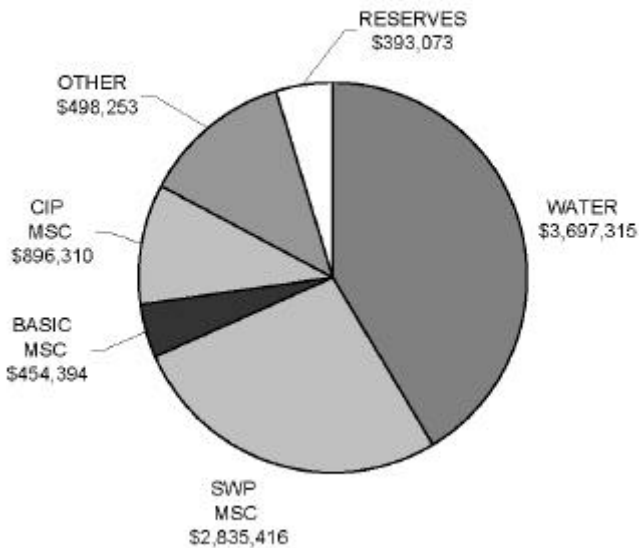


Views of the Carpinteria Reservoir cover.



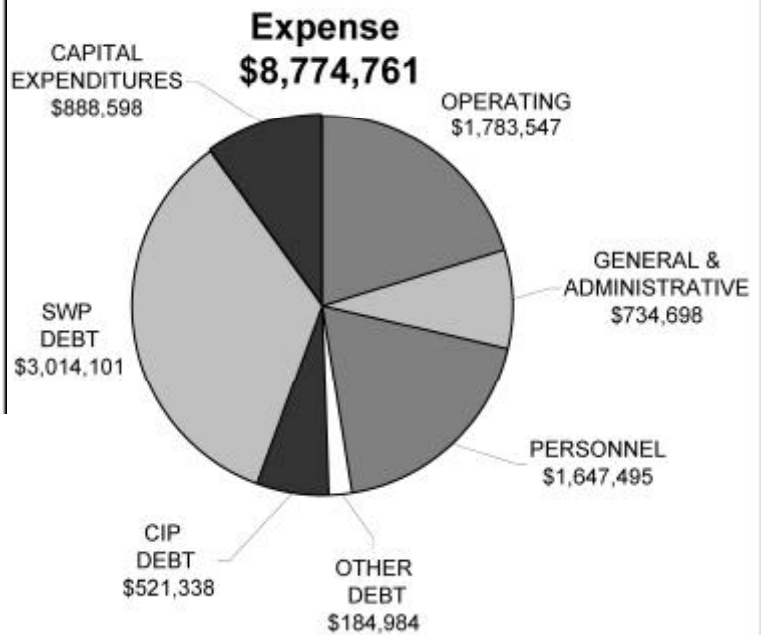
## 2004-2005 Budget

### Revenue \$8,774,761



MSC - Monthly Service Charge  
 CIP - Capital Improvement Program  
 SWP - State Water Project

The CVWD Board of Directors unanimously approved its \$8.77 million FY 2004/2005 budget in July, including an operating budget of \$4.2 million, a debt service budget of \$3.72 million and capital expenditures of \$888,598.



The District's goal in preparing its annual budget is to ensure public participation so that concerns and priorities of customers are reflected in the Board's decisions. The Board, District staff and our customers are all concerned with keeping rates as low as possible. Following are important rate and budget meetings scheduled for this year:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
February 16, 2005	Community Meeting	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
March 16, 2005	Community Meeting	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
<u>Adopt Budget</u> June 15, 2005	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	District

District Board meetings are typically the third and fourth Wednesdays of the month. Please see District website, [www.cvwd.net](http://www.cvwd.net), or call the District office for current information and dates.

*El Distrito es bilingue.  
Favor de llamar con  
cualquier pregunta sobre su  
cuenta o el uso de agua,  
estamos aqua para asistirlos.*



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## New Employees



Daniel Rodriguez



Jon Paola



Esperanza Lopez

The District has hired three new employees; they are Daniel Rodriguez, Jon Paola and Esperanza Lopez.

Daniel, our new Serviceperson Helper, is a long time resident of Carpinteria and brings a strong work ethic and devotion to give the best quality customer service. Prior to his employment with the District, Daniel was working in the construction industry.

Jon Paola, our new District Water Treatment Operator/Distribution Operator, is also a long time resident of Carpinteria. Jon has an extensive background in the electrical industry and has worked on several water treatment projects prior to his commencement with the Carpinteria Valley Water District. Jon's attention to detail has enabled him to adapt very quickly to technical equipment and procedures.

Esperanza Lopez is the District's new Account Clerk II. A resident of Carpinteria, Esperanza has an extensive background in customer service. Esperanza's English/Spanish bilingual abilities help the District serve its Spanish speaking customers. Esperanza's great attitude & willingness to assist with all aspects of customer service have enabled her to quickly adjust to the District.

We welcome all three of these employees to our team and look forward to their future as part of the District team.