



**NORTH MARIN
WATER DISTRICT**

THE WATER LINE

NOVATO'S WATER CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER • VOLUME 11 ISSUE 23 SPRING 2010

Water Supply Update

Last summer, Novato customers were subject to emergency water conservation measures to comply with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) mandated reduction in Russian River water deliveries. Your efforts paid off as Lake Mendocino water supply was preserved until fall and then released to support over 1800 Chinook salmon returning to spawn in the upper Russian River.

This spring, rainfall has been just about average for our region and more water is now stored in Lake Mendocino. This supply should be sufficient to meet instream flow needs for the endangered salmon populations as well as the needs for our urban water users; and, at this



Even with adequate water supply this year, maintaining water use efficiency is most important.

time, mandatory summer water use restrictions are not contemplated.

Locally, Stafford Lake is full and water production at the Stafford Lake Treatment Plant began in early March. Additionally, the Deer Island Recycled Water Facility is delivering highly treated recycled water

to Stone Tree Golf Course for irrigation. NMWD will continue to utilize our local supplies to the fullest extent possible.

Even with adequate water supply this year, maintaining water use efficiency is most important. Over 50% of summer water use is for landscape irrigation and customers are urged to make sure that irrigation systems are running efficiently. Your personal water use graph on page 2 notes your actual 2009 water use (in gallons per day or gpd). The graph is divided into 6 bi-monthly billing periods. If you need assistance in becoming more water efficient, NMWD can help with a Water Smart Home Survey (see page 3) or a variety of other water efficiency programs listed on page 4.

Expanded Recycled Water is Coming!

NMWD is working with Novato Sanitary District and Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District to expand the use of recycled water in Novato. Recycled water is currently used to irrigate Stone Tree Golf Course and Novato Fire Station No. 2. The expanded Novato projects are part of the North Bay Water Reuse Authority (NBWRA). The NBWRA's Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was approved in November 2009. Check NMWD's website at www.nmwd.com for more details.



The Great Flapper Giveaway

Replace your leaking toilet flapper and receive up to \$5.00 of the purchase price as a credit on your next water bill!

NMWD will credit your account up to \$5 per flapper replaced, per household per two year period. Rebate amount based on purchase price, excluding tax and labor. Complete this form, clip and mail with **original sales receipt** by December 31, 2010 to:
North Marin Water District, PO Box 146, Novato, CA 94948.

Number of toilets in household _____ Number of flappers replaced _____
Total purchase price _____ Date _____
Customer Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____
Customer No. (from your water bill) _____

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YOUR PERSONAL WATER USE GRAPH



How to Read Your Water Use Graph

The shaded bars in the graph above depict your actual water use in 2009 compared to the typical water use for Novato single family homes (solid bars). The graph shows water use in gallons per day for each billing period. The District assumes that your indoor water use is the lowest shown above, which typically occurs in the winter when you are not using water outside. This assumed indoor water use helps you visualize water use indoors compared to outdoors, especially during the May through October period.

In the legend, your household annual water use “footprint” is noted and compared to the typical Novato household annual water use footprint. Please review the Water Smart Savings Program (page 4) or visit nmwd.com to learn about programs NMWD offers to assist your water conservation efforts and reduce your water use footprint.

Note: Customers with less than a full year of water use in 2009, and customers in multi-unit dwellings receive a graph and footprint showing only the typical Novato household water use.

Call 897-4133, ext. 8421

Did You Know that as a North Marin Water District customer, you're entitled to a complimentary Water Smart Home Survey?

This free service includes indoor and outdoor water efficiency checks, a landscape irrigation system efficiency test, and a leak detection test.

Our friendly, knowledgeable survey technicians can show you how you can easily become more water efficient and save money,

and we'll even give you money-saving rebate and incentive information to get you started. Best of all, your appointment can be scheduled at a time that is convenient for you.

The Water Smart Home Survey includes:

- Free outdoor and indoor water efficiency checks
- Free landscape irrigation schedule
- Free leak detection test
- Free low-flow showerheads
- Free aerators
- Free rebate and incentive information
- Easy, convenient scheduling



Outdoors, we will inspect:

- Flow and leaks
- Sprinklers and irrigation systems
- Hoses
- Faucets
- Landscaping
- Water meter

As part of this program, our survey technicians will teach you how to read your water meter so you can keep track of your own water usage. They will also create a free, custom irrigation schedule based on your particular landscape, designed to save you water and money! Additionally, they will relay rebate and incentive offers to further increase your outdoor water savings.



Indoors, we will inspect:

- Faucets
- Showerheads
- Toilets
- Dishwashers
- Clothes washers
- Other water-using devices in the home

Survey technicians will ask about current water usage within the home so they can advise you on ways in which you can easily save water and avoid water waste. You'll also get free low-flow showerheads and aerators as needed to achieve maximum water use efficiency.

Call today to schedule your
Free Water Smart Home Survey:

415-897-4133 ext. 8711

Mulch and save!

Get \$10 off mulch. NMWD and Marin Landscape Materials are partnering to help you save water and money on your landscape.

Add a new layer of mulch to your landscape to give it that fresh, newly planted look while helping the soil retain moisture during the hot, dry summer. Mulch helps shade the soil, keeping it cool and adds nutrients and organic matter to the soil as it breaks down. Visit www.nmwd.com for more details on the benefits of mulch.

Take advantage of this offer today!

Remember that Novato Fire District prohibits use of shredded mulch in Wildland Urban Interface areas. For more information, visit www.novatofire.org.

\$10 OFF
Your next purchase of
MULCH

at Marin Landscape Materials

7596 Redwood Boulevard, Novato

One yard minimum purchase. Good for one purchase only. Limit one coupon per NMWD customer.

Coupon valid until August 31, 2010

\$5 Courtesy of Marin Landscape Materials

\$5 Courtesy of North Marin Water District



999 Rush Creek Place
PO Box 146
Novato, CA 94948
(415) 897-4133

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**NORTH MARIN
WATER DISTRICT**

www.nmwd.com

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Water Smart Savings Program

More water saving programs at www.nmwd.com

North Marin Water District wants to help customers conserve water and reduce water waste. That's why we've put all of our water saving promotions under one umbrella. The *Water Smart Savings Program* encompasses all you need to get started on saving water and saving money.

Cash for Grass

Lawns require a tremendous amount of water to keep healthy. As part of the *Water Smart Savings Program*, you can get cash back when you remove your lawn and re-landscape with California native low water use plants or District approved synthetic turf. See web site or call NMWD at 897-4133 ext. 8421 for complete program details and requirements. Pre-inspection and re-landscaping plan approval required.

Rebate Amount: Up to \$1.00 per square foot of lawn removed depending on project scope, maximum rebate of \$1,000. Rebates available until funds are depleted. Dead or already removed lawns do not qualify.

Water Smart Home Survey

This free service includes indoor and outdoor water efficiency checks, a landscape irrigation system efficiency test, and a leak detection test.

See details on page 3

High-Efficiency Clothes Washer Rebate

High-efficiency clothes washers can save up to 50% of the water used and 65% of the energy used compared to conventional top-loading clothes washers. NMWD currently offers an outstanding rebate to customers when they purchase qualifying high-efficiency clothes washers.

Rebate Amount: Up to \$75 for qualifying washer purchased before December 31, 2010.

How to Participate: Applications should be available at the point of purchase or on the District website at www.nmwd.com.

Water Smart Landscape Efficiency Rebate

Water efficient landscapes can be achieved through a number of strategies including efficient irrigation devices and equipment, and soil maintenance. You may be eligible for rebates when you install District-qualified water-efficient landscape equipment including:

- Drip irrigation systems
- Water pressure-regulating device
- Check valves
- Multi-stream rotating sprinkler nozzles (for lawn areas only)
- Rain shut-off devices
- Mulch
- Soil conditioner/amendment

Rebate Amount: 50% of the actual cost of District-approved items, up to a maximum of \$200 for residential customers. Rebates available until funds are depleted. Additional rebates are available for qualified Smart Irrigation Controllers. Pre-inspection and project approval required.

High-Efficiency Toilet Rebate

Don't flush money away. Now you can get a rebate of up to \$150 per High-Efficiency Toilet (HET) when you replace your non-water-conserving toilets. HETs use 20% less water than standard ultra-low flush toilets, so not only will you save water, but you'll save money, too. HETs eligible for rebate must be on the District Approved List of Qualified Models. (www.nmwd.com)

Rebate Amount: Up to \$150 for each qualifying HET. Rebate amount for HET good through the end of calendar year (December 31), or until funds are depleted. Call for participation details.