

## Water Supply Update: Novato's Water – Use it Wisely

*Drew McIntyre, General Manager*

This year, rainfall in Novato is above 35-inches and 28% above our average of 27.3-inches. Stafford Lake began spilling on February 7, 2019 and production at Stafford Lake Water Treatment Plant started March 21, 2019. Since that time, ongoing spring rainfall has maintained Stafford Lake capacity above 100% resulting in continued spillway overflows well into the month of April. On the Russian River, Sonoma County Water Agency reservoirs supplying

Novato (i.e., Lake Sonoma and Lake Mendocino) were at or above 100% as of late April of this year. While there is currently adequate water supply, maintaining water use efficiency is important. Novato water customers continue to use less water when compared to the state's baseline of 2013. Thank you for your ongoing efforts to use water efficiently. NMWD is committed to using our local supplies to the fullest extent possible. In addition to surface water supply for Stafford Lake Treatment Plant production, NMWD, in cooperation with our local sanitary districts, completed a major expansion in drought proof, recycled water supply in 2018.

As reported in previous newsletters, the state is developing long-term water-use efficiency measures that are aimed at making conservation a way of life in California. The state will continue to require some "common sense" water use prohibitions and NMWD continues to report monthly water production statistics to the state for ongoing monitoring. Customers are urged to participate in the many water conservation programs offered by NMWD. See [www.nmwd.com](http://www.nmwd.com) for details.

*Stafford Lake*



## NMWD's AMI Project is Complete

*Julie Blue, Auditor/Controller*

**N**MWD is excited to announce that the Advanced Meter Information (AMI) system deployment program is complete. The deployment project began in March 2018 and over 21,000 meters have been upgraded. The District commenced deployment of an AMI system to improve water use efficiency as well as meter reading efficiency, accuracy, and customer service. The project included meter upgrades for customers throughout NMWD's Novato service territory. With the AMI system, digital meter data is sent securely via radio to NMWD headquarters for billing purposes. This technology provides early leak detection and enables customers to view water use information online, thereby gaining a better understanding of their water use patterns. As a part of the AMI system, a new online payment and WaterSmart Portal has been developed. We encourage you to "sign-in" on the portal to get acquainted with the system and learn more about your water use. Customers will now have access to hourly water use data and are able to set up alerts for high use and leak events on the WaterSmart Portal. Please visit [www.onlinebiller.com/nmwd](http://www.onlinebiller.com/nmwd) to register. If any customers have issues registering or logging-on to [www.onlinebiller.com/nmwd](http://www.onlinebiller.com/nmwd) or the WaterSmart Portal, please call 415-897-4133 and a staff member can guide you through the process.



### Transitioning to By-District (Division) Elections

The District has initiated the process to transition from at-large elections to by-district (zone) elections. Our new District Elections page contains up-to-date information regarding the process and can be found at [www.nmwd.com](http://www.nmwd.com)

### Transición a Elecciones por Distrito (División)

El Distrito ha iniciado el proceso de transición de elecciones generales a elecciones por distrito (zona). Nuestra nueva página de Elecciones de Distrito contiene información actualizada sobre el proceso y se puede encontrar aquí: [www.nmwd.com](http://www.nmwd.com)





**Cash for Grass**

NMWD offers a cash incentive for removing regularly maintained and automatically irrigated lawn areas and replacing them with District-approved low water use plantings on drip irrigation. The incentive will pay you up to \$50 per 100 square feet of lawn area (maximum \$400 per single family dwelling). Pre-qualification site visit and re-landscaping plan approval is required for participation.



**Lawn be Gone**

**OR**

This program is for “do-it-yourselfers” who want to replace lawn areas by covering and composting in place - a process known as “sheet-mulching”. NMWD offers delivery of free compost, cardboard and mulch for eligible sheet-mulching projects. Pre-qualification site visit and landscape plan approval required prior to participation. Delivery will be performed by NMWD’s designated contractor.



See [www.nmwd.com](http://www.nmwd.com) for rules and application forms, and then call 415-761-8944 to schedule an appointment.

**Water Smart Savings Program**

North Marin Water District wants to help customers use water efficiently. 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. Call (415) 761-8944 for program details or visit [www.nmwd.com](http://www.nmwd.com)

**Water Smart Home Survey:**

This free service includes thorough indoor and outdoor water efficiency checks.

**Water Conserving Fixtures:**

Free showerheads, faucet aerators and self-closing hose nozzles are available upon request from time to time.

**Rainwater Catchment Rebate:**

Rebate for collection and storage of rainwater.

**High Efficiency Clothes Washer Rebate:**

NMWD offers a rebate to customers when they purchase a qualifying high efficiency clothes washer.

**Cash for Grass Rebate:**

Get cash for removing irrigated and maintained lawn and replacing it with low water use plants. Pre-qualification required.

**Water Smart Landscape Rebate:**

Rebates available for water efficient landscape equipment, such as a new drip irrigation system replacing a spray system or a rain shut off device.

**Smart Controller Rebate:**

A Smart Controller uses weather data and site specific information to automatically adjust run times.

**High Efficiency Toilet Rebate:**

Customers who replace an old water-guzzling toilet with a high efficiency toilet may be eligible for a rebate.

**Greywater Rebate:**

Rebate for the reuse of water from washing machine, shower or bathroom sink to water landscape plants.

**Other Programs:**

Other programs include pool cover rebate, hot water recirculation system rebate and “Lawn Be Gone” sheet mulching program.



**NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT**

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[www.nmwd.com](http://www.nmwd.com)

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**See Special Notice  
Regarding NMWD’s  
Transition To  
By-District Elections**



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**Free Water Smart Home Survey Program**

The Water Smart Home Survey Program offers customers a chance to have a NMWD representative complete a FREE water use efficiency survey. Our friendly and knowledgeable survey technicians can show you how to easily become more water use efficient and we will help you understand how to program your irrigation controller. You’ll also get free low-flow showerheads and sink aerators as needed to achieve maximum water use efficiency.

**On the Survey we will inspect:**

- **Sprinklers & irrigation systems**
- **Landscaping**
- **Water meter**
- **Faucets**
- **Showerheads**
- **Toilets**
- **Clothes washers**
- **Other water-using devices in the home**



Call today to schedule your **Free Water Smart Home Survey: 415-761-8944**