



**NORTH MARIN  
WATER DISTRICT**

# THE WATER LINE



NOVATO'S WATER CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER • VOLUME 14 ISSUE 29 SPRING 2013

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

**Current Water Supply:** This year rainfall in Novato has been well below average and water stored in Lake Mendocino is projected to fall to very low levels. That water is needed to meet in-stream flow needs for the endangered salmon populations on the Russian River as well as the needs for agriculture and urban users.

Locally, Stafford Lake is at 77% capacity. Production at the Stafford Lake Treatment Plant began in January. Recycled water facilities at both Novato Sanitary District and Las Gallinas are operating and delivering highly treated recycled water to StoneTree Golf Course and other irrigation users. NMWD will continue to utilize our local supplies to the fullest extent possible. While there are currently no mandatory water use restrictions in the Novato service area this summer, the situation on the Upper Russian River is more serious than 2009 when Russian River diversions were curtailed by 25%. Do your part and sign up for the **20 Gallon Challenge** this summer.

**Future Water Supply:** Construction will continue this summer to enhance fish habitat on one mile of Dry Creek downstream of Lake Sonoma, tributary to the Russian River, at a cost of \$7 Million.

### Expanded Recycled Water is Here!

NMWD is working with the Novato Sanitary District (NSD) and Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District (LGVSD) to expand the use of recycled water in Novato. This past year you have likely observed recycled water pipeline construction work in both North and South Novato. The Novato North Area pipeline construction is complete and to date, eight sites are now receiving recycled water from NSD, with another five to be connected this summer. Recycled water pipeline construction in the South Novato (Hamilton) is complete and NMWD is serving recycled water from LGVSD to six sites with another twenty seven sites to be connected this summer.

*For more information on the Recycled Water Expansion Project, please visit [www.nmwd.com](http://www.nmwd.com).*

An additional 2 to 5 miles of habitat enhancement will be needed over the next ten years. NMWD and other retailers receiving Russian River supplies are obligated to pay for necessary fishery enhancements on the Russian River system to protect coho and Chinook salmon and steelhead trout.

Reliance on our existing available supplies from the Russian River and Stafford Lake, expanded use of recycled water to offset potable supplies now used for outside irrigation and continued emphasis on water use efficiency are vitally important this summer.

The cost of stretching our existing supplies along with the costs to meet fisheries obligations noted in this message means

that water rates are increasing. The current cost of water service for a typical Novato customer will remain a good value when compared to other urban area retail water agencies (see NMWD website).

**Water Use Efficiency:** To see a graph of your historical water use or determine the rate increase impact on your water bill, visit <http://www.nmwd.com/accountbalance.php> (follow the directions to log on). If you need assistance in becoming more water efficient, NMWD can help with a Water Smart Home Survey or a variety of other water efficiency programs (see page 2). Act now to replace your toilet, washing machine, and turf lawn areas.

It's a dry year, together we can make a difference



# 20 GALLON CHALLENGE

Take the **20-Gallon Challenge** and help **SAVE OUR WATER** during the **HOT** summer months. **Reduce water use by 20 gallons per person per DAY.**

Simple changes make a big difference. Visit our website for a full menu of water saving tips.

[www.20gallons.org](http://www.20gallons.org)





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## Water Smart Savings Program

More water saving programs at [www.nmwd.com](http://www.nmwd.com)



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) 897-4133 ext. 8711 for program details or visit [www.nmwd.com](http://www.nmwd.com).

### Cash for Grass



As part of the Water Smart Savings Program, you can get cash back when you remove your regularly mowed and irrigated lawn and re-landscape with District approved low-water use plants or District approved synthetic turf. Pre-inspection and re-landscaping plan approval required. Call for rebate values and complete program participation details or visit [www.nmwd.com](http://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 (call for rebate amounts and participation details or visit [www.nmwd.com](http://www.nmwd.com)) when you install District-qualified water-efficient landscape equipment.



### High-Efficiency Toilet Rebate

Don't flush money away. Now you can get a rebate when you replace your non-water-conserving toilets with a High-Efficiency Toilet (HET). 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 EPA WaterSense approved models. Call for rebate values and participation details or visit [www.nmwd.com](http://www.nmwd.com).



### High-Efficiency Clothes Washer Rebate Program

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 a rebate to customers when they purchase qualifying high-efficiency clothes washer. Call for rebate value and participation details, or visit [www.nmwd.com](http://www.nmwd.com).

## Free Water Smart Home Survey Program

This Spring and Summer NMWD will focus the Water Smart Home Survey on outdoor water use. We will still perform the indoor portions of the survey upon request. The survey has also been expanded to include commercial, irrigation and other non-residential customers.

Our friendly, knowledgeable survey technicians can show you how to easily become more water use efficient and save money, and we'll even help you program your irrigation controller. You'll also get free low-flow showerheads and aerators as needed to achieve maximum water use efficiency.

### On the Survey we will inspect:

- Sprinklers & irrigation systems
- Flow and leaks
- 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:** 707-547-1909