



## Residential Recycled Water Pick-Up Program Guidelines and Application Agreement

### **What is the Residential Recycled Water Pick-Up Program?**

North Marin Water District's (NMWD) Residential Recycled Water Pick-Up Program provides clean, safe, tertiary-treated recycled water to residential customers for hand-watering of outdoor plants. There is an annual application fee of \$75. See our website at [NMWD.com](http://NMWD.com) or call 415-897-4133 for fill station hours of operation.

### **Who can participate?**

NMWD Novato residential current customers can pick-up recycled water for the use of watering plants; thereby saving drinking water.

### **Things to Know About Recycled Water:**

#### *What is tertiary-treated recycled water and is it safe?*

Recycled water is wastewater that has been through an additional treatment process that includes sand filtration and extra disinfection. Recycled water treated to this high level meets the rigorous and protective standards set by the State of California, Division of Drinking Water, and Regional Water Quality Control Board and qualifies for unrestricted non-potable uses.

#### *What can I use recycled water for?*

Recycled water is safe to use for watering trees, gardens, lawns, and other outdoor plants.

#### *What is Recycled water is not suitable for?*

- Drinking
- Cooking
- Washing hands
- Bathing
- Filling swimming pools or spas
- Children's water toys
- Plumbing into the household's domestic plumbing system

#### *Why is recycled water not suitable for drinking? What if I accidentally drink it?*

If recycled water is consumed by humans or pets, there is no need to panic. Recycled water is highly treated and disinfected; just not to drinking water standards. Should any adverse symptoms or unwell feelings occur, please consult your doctor.

#### *Can I water my plants and garden with recycled water?*

Recycled water is a drought-proof source of water. By using recycled water, drinking water is saved for more important uses.

Recycled water naturally contains important nutrients that plants thrive on such as phosphorus and nitrogen. It is also important to note that recycled water is slightly saltier than drinking water and application to salt sensitive plants should be monitored and may need to be limited.

#### *How much recycled water can I pick-up?*

Recycled water may be picked-up in sealable containers from 35 to 300 gallon per pick-up load. More than one trip per day is allowed.

Water is heavy! A gallon of water weighs over 8.3 pounds. Plan accordingly when determining how much water to pick-up and keep in mind the size of your vehicle when selecting transport containers. A 275 – gallon tote of recycled water will weigh 2,294 pounds. **NMWD is not liable for any injuries or damage to your vehicle due to your participation in the Residential Recycled Water Pick-Up Program. Tie-down straps to secure the containers are recommended for your safety.**

#### *What are the Recycled Water Handling Guidelines?*

1. Recycled water picked-up under the Residential Recycled Water Pick-Up Program cannot be resold or used indoors.
2. Recycled water picked-up must be used at the property indicated on the application form.
3. NMWD's recycled water may only be used within NMWD's Novato service area.
4. Recycled water can only be picked-up in containers with a sealable lid in minimum amounts of 40-gallon containers to a maximum 300-gallons. Each resident can only receive up to a total of 300 gallons per trip. Residents interested in more than 300 gallons of recycled water during one pickup will be required to apply for NMWD's commercial truck water load program.
5. Access to recycled water is restricted to NMWD residential customers who have received the recycled water training and have been issued a wallet card.
6. Signage must be placed on all containers containing or used for storing recycled water. Once a container has held recycled water it cannot be used for holding drinking water.
7. Recycled water cannot be connected to the drinking water system and should be kept separate from all existing landscape irrigation systems. Customers interested in constructing a new separate plumbing system for recycled water are required to meet NMWD's recycled water program standards for recycled water systems and through a separate process, apply and obtain approval from NMWD to ensure requirements are met.
8. Recycled water is not for drinking, playing with, or for use in food preparation or clean-up.
9. After handling recycled water, users should apply hand sanitizer or wash their hands with soap and potable water, especially before eating or smoking.
10. Recycled water shall not be applied within 50 feet of any domestic water well.
11. Wash all fruits, vegetables, or other edible plants, that have been irrigated with recycled water with domestic drinking water prior to cooking or eating.
12. Recycled water shall not be discharged to the street gutter or storm drain system and must not be applied in such a way to create runoff or ponding. It must be disposed of into landscape area or into the sanitary sewer.
13. There must not be any nuisance odors/vectors due to the application of Recycled Water.
14. To ensure the proper use of recycled water, NMWD may visit the user's property where the recycled water is used.

**Pick-Up Program Procedures:**

1. Residents interested in picking-up recycled water, must fill out the Residential Recycled Water Pick-Up Program Permit Application Agreement located on the last page of the program guidelines and pay the annual application fee.
2. The Residential Recycled Water Pick-Up Program Permit Application Agreement and annual \$75 fee is required to be submitted in person at the NMWD office located at 999 Rush Creek Place, Novato, CA between the hours of 10 am – 2:00 pm, Monday through Thursday. A valid driver’s license must be presented when submitting the application.
3. Upon submitting the Residential Recycled Water Pick-Up Program Permit Application Agreement and paying the annual fee, residents will be required to complete training on the proper use of recycled water and procedures for using the fill station prior to receiving recycled water for the first time. After completion of the training, NMWD will issue applicants a wallet card and recycled water notice stickers to be placed on all containers used to transport and store recycled water. Recycled Water Notice stickers are to identify a container as containing recycled water and that the water is not suitable for consumption.
4. After training is complete and stickers have been installed on the containers, residents are allowed to receive recycled water during fill station operating hours.
5. Residents must present their wallet card to NMWD staff, and fill out the NMWD Residential Recycled Water Pick-Up Record upon filling their tank on each visit. Residents can return as often as needed to pick-up recycled water in their designated containers.
6. The residential recycled water pick-up fill station is located on Wood Hollow Rd. across the street from Meadow Crest Rd. Shown at the yellow and Red Star on the map below.





Fill station is on the South side of Wood Hollow Drive.

Approach from the West, do not block traffic.



- Be aware of other people and vehicles around you
- Complete log sheet prior to leaving with the recycled water
- Please have children and pets stay in vehicle while onsite
- Wait patiently in line if fill station is busy
- During recycled water pick-up, please turn off your vehicle engine and refrain from smoking.

## Residential Recycled Water Pick-Up Program Application Agreement

### Recycled water will be used for:

Irrigation of trees with hose/bucket

Irrigation of edible garden with hose/bucket

Irrigation of turf with hose/bucket

Irrigation of shrubs and flowers with hose/bucket

Irrigation through a plumbed system (Independent from domestic water service)

Disposal discharged to landscape or to the sanitary sewer

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicants may not distribute water on site unless permitted with a site recycled water permit from the District. Applicants may not provide water to others unless the others are also signed up for the Residential Recycled water pick-up program and may not charge these others a fee for the delivery.

**I have read, understand and agree to abide by the Residential Recycled Water Pick-Up Program Guidelines. I understand that failure to comply with the conditions of the guidelines can lead to revoking the privilege to recycled water for residential pick-up.**

*Gray Areas to be filled in by NMWD:*

Wallet Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
\$75 Fee Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Customer Information:

User Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Recycled water use site location: \_\_\_\_\_

Area to be irrigated (FT<sup>2</sup>): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (If different): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's License Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Training provided by: \_\_\_\_\_ Customer Water Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

DL Witnessed: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Stickers Provided: \_\_\_\_\_