

Water Ways

District Staff Shares Water Conservation Information At Carmichael Founder's Day Celebration



A youngster hopes to win a prize by answering questions about water conservation in SAWWA's "Be Water Smart" game.

At Carmichael's 91st Founder's Day celebration in September, district staff hosted a water conservation booth which offered water conservation tips and information, as well as an opportunity for kids and adults to brush up on their water conservation knowledge.

The booth included the "Be Water Smart" game which was developed by the Sacramento Area Water Works Association (SAWWA) of which Carmichael Water District is a member. The 42-year-old organization represents 35 regional water providers and promotes efficient water use throughout the region. The game is a fun way to learn about using water more efficiently. Participants were asked questions about indoor and outdoor water use, the water cycle and other information. The all-day event, held at Carmichael Park, attracted an estimated 5,000 people.

Tour Hosted at New Treatment Plant

Carmichael Water District's new microfiltration water treatment plant project was the site of a technical tour hosted by the first joint conference of the California Water Environment Association (CWEA) and the California-Nevada section of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) in September. A technical presentation was complemented by photos documenting construction progress. Visitors came from all over California and Nevada to hear about the benefits of the new plant. Among

the key facts shared:

- The project will provide a high level of public health protection as growth continues along the American River watershed.
- The microfiltration process will eliminate particulates and micro-biological contaminants.
- The plant will offer the dual benefits of providing high quality water to Carmichael Water District customers while retaining the biological, aesthetic and environmental qualities of the American River.



Visitors view the microfiltration units where water will be filtered by tiny hollow fibers. Each cylinder has 20,000 hollow fibers to filter out the smallest contaminants, ensuring the highest quality water for district customers.



Scott Boettcher of the engineering firm Montgomery Watson points out construction progress on the district's new water treatment plant.



Construction crews continue work on the pipeline that will carry treated water from the new water treatment plant to district customers.

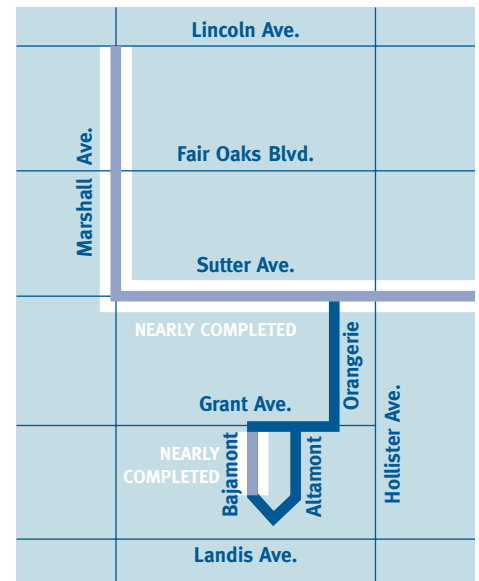
Pipeline Project On Track

Over 14,000 feet of new water lines are currently being installed within the district's boundaries to deliver treated water from the new treatment plant and increase water pressure in some areas. Pipeline

installation is nearly complete along Marshall Avenue, Sutter Avenue and Bajamont Way. Construction on the remaining segments will continue during the next several months. It is planned to be complete in early 2001.

Updated Construction Schedule

STREET SEGMENT	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
Marshall Avenue (Lincoln to Sutter) & Sutter Avenue (Marshall to east of Hollister)	November 2000
Bajamont	November 2000
Altamont Drive, Orangerie Way & Grant Avenue (Bajamont to Orangerie Way)	January 2001



The District's flushing program maintains system water quality and uses less than two percent of the water produced each year.

District Flushing Program

Carmichael Water District operates a routine flushing program as one of its water quality maintenance tools. District personnel open fire hydrants at specific locations within the service area to prevent the buildup of iron and manganese in the distribution system.

Iron and manganese are naturally occurring elements found in some of the district's groundwater wells. While they are not harmful, they can cause taste, odor and color complaints if hydrants in those areas are not flushed periodically.

Get Info Online

Carmichael Water District launched its web site in June. It is a great place to view construction updates on the water treatment plant, find out water conservation tips and other district news. Log on at www.carmichaelwd.org



Dewey Drive Pump Station Improvements

Improvements have been added at the Dewey Drive Pump Station including a new booster pump station; replacement of the on-site power supply, main control panels and telemetry system; rehabilitation of existing equipment; site grading and paving; and installation of a stand-by generator for power failures. These additions will improve system reliability and provide more consistent water pressures to customers in the higher elevations of the district.



A new pump station, among other improvements, will ensure high quality water gets delivered to Carmichael Water District customers, even during an emergency.

Water Conservation Tips

Rain and morning dew are just about all you need to keep your landscape healthy during winter months. Keep in mind these water conservation tips as the temperatures drop.

- Reprogram or deactivate automatic sprinkler systems at your home or business.
- When removing leaves and clutter, use a broom or rake instead of hosing down driveways or sidewalks.
- Repair leaks in toilets, pipes, hoses and bathroom fixtures.



The new water treatment plant will provide improved water quality through a treatment process that uses less chlorine and meets and exceeds all of the federal and state regulatory surface water requirements.

Microfiltration Water Treatment Plant

The water treatment plant is in the final phase of construction. The walls are up and much of the plant's operating system of filters, pipes and water reservoirs are in place. The treatment plant will provide Carmichael Water District customers with a year-round, safe and reliable water supply.

Treatment Plant Fun Facts

Q. How much concrete does it take to build a treatment plant?



A. Eight thousand cubic yards of concrete — enough concrete to pave a two-inch strip from Carmichael to New York City.

Q. How many glasses of water are in a two-million-gallon reservoir?



A. Twenty-one million, 12-ounce glasses of water.



Once an important feature of the district's water production process, the tower portions of the Ranney collectors will no longer be necessary once the new treatment plant is complete.



Carmichael Water District

P.O. Box 929
Carmichael, CA 95609

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Surface Water Treatment Rule #26

This is the twenty-sixth mandatory notice to inform customers that Carmichael Water District does not currently comply with the Surface Water Treatment Rule. The rule was issued by the federal Environmental Protection Agency and is enforced in California by the state Department of Health Services (DHS).

With approval of DHS, the Carmichael Water District has modified its water supply operations to ensure that customers continue to receive a safe drinking water supply. These interim measures include increased disinfection with chlorine, a higher reliance on well water and increased

water quality monitoring.

Since the last quarterly update, construction of the new membrane filtration water treatment plant has continued and is now entering its final phase. The above ground portion of the project and pipelines to bring water from the plant to district customers are currently under construction.

The following language is required to be included in quarterly mailings by agencies not in compliance with the SWTR:

The state of California Department of Health Services (DHS) sets drinking water standards and has determined the presence of microbiological contaminants in water that may cause disease. Disease symptoms may include diarrhea, cramps, nausea, and

possibly, jaundice, and any associated headaches and fatigue. These symptoms, however, are not just associated with disease-causing organisms in drinking water but may also be caused by a number of factors other than your drinking water. DHS has set forth enforceable requirements for treating drinking water to reduce the risk of these adverse health effects. Treatment such as filtering and disinfecting the water removes or destroys microbiological contaminants. Drinking water which is treated to meet DHS standards is associated with little to none of this risk and should be considered safe.

For further information, contact Carmichael Water District at (916) 483-2452.