

## Coordinating Construction Projects with Placer County Saves Time & Money



**S**AN JUAN WATER DISTRICT IS COORDINATING WITH Placer County to install a 24-inch water transmission pipeline along Auburn Folsom Road concurrently with the County's project to widen the road. Coordinating the two projects will reduce costs and limit the number of traffic impacts compared with two individual projects.

Installing the transmission pipeline will be a major improvement in the district's overall system reliability and significantly improve water delivery and fire-fighting capability. Installation of the water transmission pipeline is planned to start next summer. Placer County anticipates the road widening to be done in phases over the next several years.

The district also is coordinating with Placer County on its Barton Road Bridge Project over Miner's Ravine in Granite Bay. The district will place a new water main on the bridge and remove the old one from the river channel, where it was exposed to river currents. The district also will resume the replacement of an old steel water main on Golden Gate Avenue in Orangevale during summer 2008.

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## Rate Change Effective Jan. 1, 2008

**A**LTHOUGH OUR WATER distribution system is continually maintained, an independent engineering evaluation found that many of San Juan Water District's facilities are approaching the end of their useful lives. To fund the necessary improvements scheduled for the upcoming year and continue to provide reliable service and high-quality water, a rate increase was approved at a public hearing held August 8 and will take effect January 1.

Over the next several years, the district will continue to make improvements and repairs to the system, replacing facilities in an order of priority as recommended by the engineering study while at the same time striving to keep rates as low as possible.

We would like to thank the customers who took the time to attend the public hearing and provide us with important feedback. If you would like additional information, please visit [www.sjwd.org](http://www.sjwd.org) or call (916) 791-0115.



## Winter Landscaping and Watering Tips

**A**S THE SEASONS CHANGE, SO should your watering routine. If you haven't already, shut off your irrigation system or reduce your watering to once a week. Winter's cool temperatures, fog and rain provide nearly all the water your lawn and outdoor landscaping need.

With the rainy season upon us, remember to check your gutters, storm drains and other areas of your landscape that are prone to flooding. To prevent localized flooding this winter, clear leaves and other debris from gutters and storm drains.

## DID YOU KNOW?

**W**ITH OUTDOOR WATERING AT A minimum this time of year, think about ways to save water inside:

- Installing a low-flow showerhead saves up to 800 gallons a month. Low-flow showerheads are available upon request for homes built before 1992.\*
- Installing a low-flow faucet aerator saves more than 140 gallons a month.\*
- Turning off the tap while brushing your teeth saves up to 10 gallons a day.
- Using a high-efficiency washing machine saves more than 16 gallons a load.\*
- Repairing a leaky faucet saves up to 400 gallons a month.
- Fixing toilet leaks saves up to 500 gallons of water a day.

\*Visit [www.sjwd.org](http://www.sjwd.org) or call (916) 791-2663 for more information on free water-saving equipment and rebates offered by SJWD.

## Comments/Questions?

**S**AN JUAN WATER DISTRICT ALWAYS appreciates and welcomes feedback from its customers. So that we can respond promptly to your email and voicemail, please be sure to include your name, address and a telephone number where we can reach you for proper follow up. Thank you and keep the feedback coming!



## Hydrant Flushing

**P**ERIODICALLY, YOU MAY BE SURPRISED to see San Juan Water District distribution operators flushing water from local fire hydrants. This is part of our annual program to remove sediments that accumulate in pipelines. This routine maintenance is essential for sustaining optimal water quality, pressure and flow rates.

Although you may temporarily experience a slight change in water taste, color or odor and a temporary increase or decrease in water pressure, the changes are not permanent or harmful. The water is guaranteed to meet quality standards set forth by the California Department of Health Services at all times. If a change is noticed in your household, turn your water faucets on and run them briefly until the water returns to normal.

## Planning A Move?

**P**LEASE REMEMBER to notify SJWD prior to moving. With advance notification, a district staff member can obtain a final meter reading for your closing bill to ensure proper billing. Please call (916) 791-0115 to let district staff know in advance!



## Earn Money For Saving Water!

**A**T SJWD, HELPING CUSTOMERS find simple ways to use water efficiently is a priority. That's why we have several rebates available to customers who install water efficient equipment and appliances in and around their homes. Some of the rebates we offer include:

- Irrigation improvement reimbursement program\*
- Hot water re-circulation system rebate\*
- Washing machine rebate\*
- Toilet rebate

Remember: Call to make sure the equipment you plan to purchase qualifies for a rebate before you purchase! For more information, visit [www.sjwd.org/ProgramsAndResources.htm](http://www.sjwd.org/ProgramsAndResources.htm) or call (916) 791-2663.

\* Rebates are made available through funding from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

**Note:** To qualify for rebates (other than the toilet replacement rebate), customers must agree to a free indoor water audit or a free landscape irrigation review by certified SJWD staff before any improvements are made. Call (916) 791-2663 to schedule a water audit. Toilet rebates do not require an indoor water audit.



## Customer Opinion Survey Conducted

**H**AVE YOU RECEIVED A CALL recently asking your opinion about the San Juan Water District? To better serve you, the district recently completed a customer opinion survey to get customer feedback on water issues, perceptions and preferred communication methods. If you were a participant in one of the survey calls, we would like to thank you for your time and constructive feedback. Results of the telephone survey are being tabulated and will be included in an upcoming edition of the *Water Gram*.



## Is Your Water Heater Ready For Winter?

**T**IRED OF WAITING FOR HOT WATER to come out of your tap? A relatively easy, do-it-yourself solution can help relieve the problem: just wrap your hot water pipes with foam or another insulating material. This helps reduce the time it takes for hot water to reach the tap, which saves water, and prevents pipes from freezing during cold winter nights.

During cold weather, follow these tips to save water and energy:

- Insulate your water heater with a fire-proof blanket, available at your local hardware store. This helps reduce the energy used to keep the water warm, saving you money on your energy bill.
- Wrap pipes in foam insulation (also available at your hardware store).
- If your pipes freeze, thaw them by wrapping them with rags and pouring warm water over the rags. Then, remove the rags and rewrap the pipes with foam to prevent further freezing.
- Locate and learn how to use your water shutoff valve in case your pipes burst.

### San Juan Water District

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