



## MAINTAINING OUR DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IS CRITICAL TO RELIABLE SERVICE

**Tony Barela, Operations Manager** >

San Juan Water District's water distribution system includes many assets not easily seen but are critical to proper functioning of the system. To continue providing reliable service well into the future, ongoing maintenance is required to ensure they remain operational.

Ongoing maintenance is critical to:

- properly operate the system
- extend the life of the water system
- reduce future repair costs
- ensure future water quality for our customers

Assets like pipeline valves, fire hydrants and air release valves need to be physically exercised to ensure they operate effectively when needed. Water pipelines need to be flushed clean to continue delivering high-quality water to your homes and businesses.

## 2019 MAINTENANCE BY THE NUMBERS

Last year, we flushed pipelines at 470 locations, a significant increase over prior year's efforts due in part to the revenue collected from your rates.

We also completed preventative maintenance functions on:



**660**  
pipeline  
valves



**300**  
fire  
hydrants



**170**  
air release  
valves

### CHECK OUT HELPFUL LINKS AND TOOLS!

Our website is your one-stop shop to learn about our District. At [sjwd.org](http://sjwd.org) you will find:

- water efficiency tips and videos
- how to pay your bill
- construction updates
- water efficiency workshops
- calendar of events
- capital programs

### SIGN UP FOR OUR WORKSHOPS

Our 2020 workshop series kicks off in April. Join us April 18th from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and learn how to diagnose and repair common irrigation problems. This will be an interactive workshop so bring your questions with you.

Reservations are required so call **916-791-2663** to reserve your spot.

## WATER CONSERVATION LEGISLATION UPDATE

News reports have provided inaccurate information about water use targets set by Senate Bill 606 (Hertzberg) and Assembly Bill 1668 (Friedman). Neither bill sets fines on water customers for taking a shower and doing laundry on the same day.

Here are the highlights from the long-term water efficiency legislation signed into effect May 2018:

- Water agencies are required to annually calculate a water efficiency standard for their entire service area based on indoor residential water use, outdoor water use, commercial irrigation and leak loss throughout its water system.
- The standard of 55 gallons per person per day for indoor residential water use is not intended as an enforceable standard for individuals. It is one of several elements used to calculate the overall water efficiency standard for a service area.
- Individual customers will not be responsible for State Water Resources Control Board fines. Instead, the State Water Board can fine water agencies up to \$10,000 per day if the agency does not meet its cumulative standard.
- There are no specific statewide laws that require individual households to meet any specific targets. The targets will be set for an entire service area and are scheduled to go into effect in 2023.
- The State Water Board is working with urban water suppliers to implement the new efficiency standards. In addition to the 55-gallon standard, they will determine targets for outdoor water use and water loss due to leaks. The standards will be used to represent overall water efficiency standards for each urban water provider. We will keep you informed as the targets are developed.

## WHAT ARE PFAS CONTAMINANTS?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals used since the 1940s. The primary source of PFAS is firefighting foams used on oil based fires and specific manufacturing facilities, although the compounds are used in consumer products like non-stick cookware and water repellent clothing.

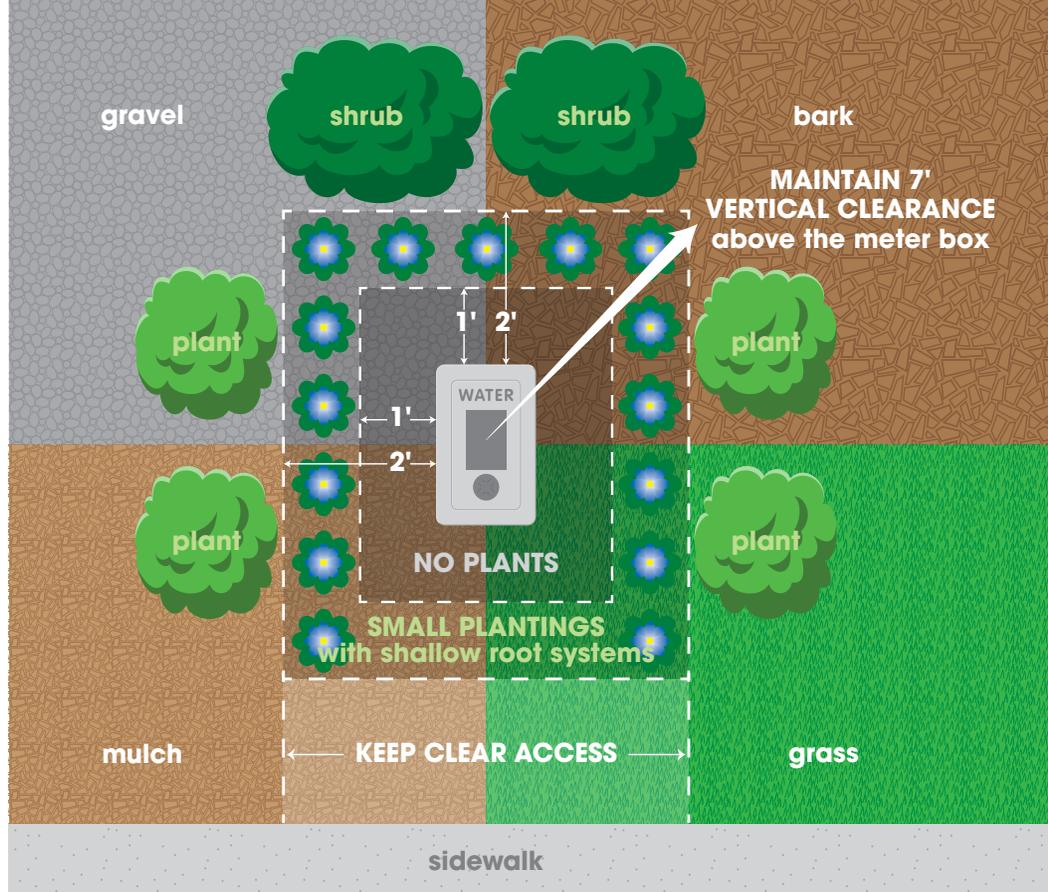
### Is San Juan's water free from PFAS?

Yes. Our watershed does not have any manufacturing facilities that use or produce PFAS chemicals, nor are these the types of retardants used in fighting wildfires. These chemicals are no longer produced in the United States.

San Juan has sampled our water supplies and have not found any detectable levels of PFAS. In addition, our water treatment and filtration are a multi-barrier approach that results in a higher level of water quality than all State and Federal regulatory standards.

### What will happen next?

We continue to track new PFAS data and regulations and will alert you to new developments.



## KEEP YOUR METER BOX ACCESSIBLE

Plants, shrubs and trees love spring and show their love by growing rapidly! When pruning them, please remember to keep your meter box clear and accessible. When plants and trees are too close to the meter box, root intrusion becomes a problem. They consistently press against water lines and ultimately break them.

Our staff needs access to your meter box for maintenance, meter reading and emergency repairs. They should be able to walk about and stand fully upright near the box.

## GET YOUR IRRIGATION SYSTEM READY FOR SPRING

As the temperatures warm and your lawn and garden begin to bloom, there's no better time than springtime to tune up your automatic sprinkler system. Just like any other appliance in your home, your irrigation system needs regular maintenance to make sure it is working properly. Follow these five steps to keep your lawn thriving while saving water.



**1**  
**Turn on your sprinkler system** one water zone (valve) at a time and walk each zone



**2**  
**Look for water-wasting problems** such as:

- sprinklers that water areas that shouldn't be watered
- "geysers"—water shooting out of a broken sprinkler head
- clogged spray nozzles with little or no water coming from sprinkler heads



**3**  
**Check for adequate water pressure**



**4**  
**Repair problems by:**

- adjusting misdirected and tilted sprinklers
- repairing or replacing damaged sprinkler heads and nozzles and clearing clogs
- dividing your watering cycle into multiple shorter periods to allow better absorption



**5**  
**Schedule your sprinkler timer** according to the weather

Learn more at [sjwd.org/water-efficiency](http://sjwd.org/water-efficiency).

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