



## FEBRUARY WORKSHOP

Interested in a landscape makeover? Join us in February and learn a variety of methods to effectively remove turf (lawn), plan an efficient irrigation system, convert to low-volume drip irrigation, use compost and mulch, select, group and space climate-appropriate plants and place plant emitters.

Call 791-2663  
to reserve your spot!

Saturday, February 27  
9:30 a.m.

San Juan Water District  
9935 Auburn-Folsom Rd., Granite Bay



Our Board of Directors approved a 15 percent retail rate increase effective January 1. The increase funds the ongoing costs of water conservation, lost income due to state conservation mandates, necessary water system improvements and general increases in operating costs. This is four percent less than San Juan's staff recommendation.

At our November 18 board meeting, the board heard from Dave Bolland, special project manager from the Association of California Water Agencies. He highlighted issues facing water agencies throughout the region and state.

## DRY JANUARY MAY MEAN CONSERVATION REQUIREMENT CONTINUES

In November, Governor Brown issued an executive order that calls for extended water conservation measures through the end of October if it stays dry. This means, if drought conditions continue through January, the statewide mandate will remain in place. If this happens, San Juan Retail will likely be required to maintain a 36 percent reduction compared to 2013.

San Juan staff is participating in the State Water Resource Control Board's workshops where they will discuss extending the mandatory drought regulations. We are collaborating with water agencies throughout the state to recommend a reevaluation of current statewide water reduction requirements.

## YOU ASKED. WE LISTENED. WE ANSWERED!

Looking for more information about San Juan? Our rates? Budget? Staffing? Operations? Salaries? We've got it all in one place! Please visit the Questions & Answers page of our website to learn more about San Juan Water District Retail and Wholesale. Plus, we've got a transparency hub where there's even more to share.



## NEW RATES REPLENISH COSTS CALCULATE YOUR NEW AVERAGE BILL

"Because of the drought and mandated reduction targets, we are likely to be forced into the conservation mode for quite some time," said Bolland. "Public and private water agencies across the state are struggling with the issue of increased costs and rates."

San Juan staff predicted a 20 percent water reduction when they developed the 2015-16 financial plan. They used a moderate water reduction year as their basis for projections. Since then, the Governor has issued a new executive order.

If we have another 36 percent reduction, we will face serious factors that impact the budget next year. We will begin our financial planning process in late spring and will keep you posted.

To learn how this affects you, visit the rate calculator on our website at [SJWD.org/RateCalculator.shtml](http://SJWD.org/RateCalculator.shtml).

# 4 WINTER WATER SAVING TIPS



- 1 Use a shower bucket.** Catch cold water in a bucket while you wait for it to heat up. Use the water to flush your toilet or water your plants. Practice this year-round, but it's especially helpful in the winter when your shower runs cold for a bit longer.
- 2 Install faucet aerators.** Faucet aerators restrict the flow rate of water from faucets and can save up to 1,500 gallons of water a month. They are really inexpensive and available at most home improvement stores.
- 3 Use a timer to keep yourself in check.** Use a cell phone or kitchen timer to limit showers in your household to five minutes or less. Shorter showers can save 13 gallons per shower or more.
- 4 Make sure washing machines are full.** Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they're full. This can save up to 1,000 gallons of water a month.

## SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS ESSENTIAL TO SAFE, RELIABLE WATER SUPPLY

Regular maintenance on our pipelines and facilities is essential to ensure delivery of a safe and reliable water supply in a cost-effective manner. Current improvement projects include upgrades to the 40-year-old water treatment plant and repairing or replacing pipelines and pump stations that deliver water to your homes and businesses.

Prudent planning calls for replacing one percent of our pipelines and facilities every year. It's an industry best practice to make sure all critical infrastructure is renewed or replaced during a 100-year service life. If projects are delayed for extended periods of time, it increases the risk of catastrophic failures. This can cause extended service interruptions, property damage, increased costs from additional maintenance and higher replacement costs.

Capital improvement projects are funded primarily from rate revenue collected from our wholesale and retail customers. We have also obtained state and federal grants to offset some project costs. We are constantly looking for ways to reduce costs and maintain quality service for you. This includes regular maintenance on the pipelines and other facilities in your water system.



## GET TIMELY SAN JUAN NEWS JOIN OUR E-BLAST SYSTEM TO STAY UP TO DATE ON WATER NEWS.

It's more important than ever to stay on top of news and updates from the state, San Juan, water supply conditions, drought restriction updates, workshop invitations and more. If you're not already on our list, sign up at [SJWD.org](http://SJWD.org). We won't send too many emails but what we have to say is important!

## TWO IMPORTANT DROUGHT PROJECTS COMPLETE

We completed two drought mitigation projects. The projects will increase water reliability for you as we face extreme drought or water shortage conditions.

The Antelope Pump-Back Booster Station Project is especially important for retail customers because until now you could not receive groundwater during critical drought emergencies. The project, a partnership with Sacramento Suburban Water District, can provide an additional 14 million gallons of groundwater a day to customers and agencies relying on San Juan Water District's wholesale water supply.

The Barton Road Intertie Project, in partnership with the Placer County Water Agency, connects the two treated surface water systems. It further increases water supply reliability for our customers. The project allows each agency to provide up to two million gallons a day of water – enough to service more than 2,000 households.

Both projects were completed on time and within budget. Want more information? Visit [SJWD.org/construction](http://SJWD.org/construction).

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