

Organization

Incorporated: October 16, 1950

MWD Member Agency: Joined The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) in 1951. Today, there are 26 MWD member agencies in 6 counties, and EMWD is the easternmost member.

Governance: 5-member Board of Directors. Each represents comparably sized populations and is elected to four-year terms. Regular public meetings of the EMWD Board of Directors are generally held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

Service Area: 555 square miles in western Riverside County – about 75 miles east of Los Angeles.

Population Served: Over 630,000 people reside in the service area. The District is located in one of the fastest growing regions in the United States. The population is expected to double over the next 25 years.

Water Demand by Market Segment: 76% residential; 11% commercial/industrial; 4% wholesale; 1% agriculture; 8% landscape.

Employees: Over 600.



Water Resources

Major sources: 80% imported water and 20% local groundwater. EMWD purchases water from MWD, which imports it from the Colorado River Aqueduct and from Northern California via the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) State Water Project. Unlike most other Southern California agencies, both Colorado River Aqueduct and State Water Project facilities cross the service area. In addition, Diamond Valley Lake, Southern California's largest reservoir, lies within EMWD's service area. These give EMWD greater operational alternatives.

EMWD Water Supply Projects

Microfiltration: EMWD's newest project, the Perris Water Filtration Plant, taps unfiltered Colorado River water from MWD and uses the latest microfiltration technology to produce potable water. This facility is under expansion to double its capacity. A second plant is under construction in Hemet.

Groundwater: EMWD was among the first in the state to have a comprehensive groundwater management plan under AB3030. The plan addresses issues and resolutions for such issues as managing overdraft and salinity.

Conjunctive Use: Groundwater basins are supplemented with imported water where it will be stored until needed. 8,000 AF were stored in 2005. The basins are managed by a regional water management partnership of the major well operators.

Desalination: The Menifee and Perris I Desalination Plants convert salty, non-consumable groundwater into potable water, using a reverse osmosis process. More importantly, desalination protects higher quality groundwater nearby by keeping brackish water from intruding. The desaliners are also used to remove waste brine from the commercial and industrial community.

Wastewater and Recycling: EMWD recycles effluent from four wastewater treatment plants, which produce tertiary quality water. The Department of Fish and Game, agriculture, golf courses, and schools purchase recycled water, thereby reducing the consumption of potable water. What is not reused is used for groundwater recharge or storage. EMWD is the state's fourth largest producer of recycled water for beneficial use.

Wetlands: As a steward of the environment, EMWD converted nearly 60 acres of property into wetlands adjacent to one of its water reclamation facilities, providing additional treatment to secondary treated water. This project creates a lush habitat for over 120 species of birds. Hundreds of students visit the wetlands education center each year.

Biosolids: EMWD uses a patented pasteurization process at one reclamation facility to convert the semisolid waste product to an exceptional quality Class A sludge, which can be land applied as a soil amendment. Sub class A biosolids are removed for further processing and composting or to be land filled. This service costs approximately \$3 million a year.

Water Harvesting: Construction has been completed to utilize an old MWD reservoir to capture water from Riverside County Flood Control and the Water Conservation District storm drains. Plans are underway to deepen the reservoir to capture more storm water for percolation.

Conservation: EMWD is a charter signatory agency of the California Urban Water Conservation Council, which coordinates "Best Management Water Conservation Practices." Ongoing residential water conservation programs, such as free home water surveys, high-efficiency toilets, high-efficiency clothes washers, and low-flow showerheads help ratepayers save water and money. In addition, the District offers rebates to commercial, industrial, and institutional customers as well as assistance in developing their water budgets.

Education: Reaching over 65,000 students a year, the water education program instills a conservation mindset among youth. This award-winning program offers facilities tours, a theatre production, teacher in-services, free water education materials, and a poster contest to name a few of the opportunities provided to schools.