

July 2003

EMWD reports...

Published every other month by Eastern Municipal Water District 2270 Trumble Rd., P.O. Box 8300, Perris, CA 92572-8300

EMWD reports...is designed to keep EMWD's customers and the public informed of matters affecting them.

Forward your comments to the EMWD Community Involvement Department at the mailing address above.

EMWD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Division 1: Rodger D. Siems
- Division 2: Richard R. Hall, President
- Division 3: Randy A. Record, Vice President and Director of the Metropolitan Water District
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EMWD Main Number (909) 928-3777

Billing Inquiries in Perris and Sun City call main number

Elsewhere (toll free) 1-800-426-3693

Automated Billing Information

Call main number, then press 8

Job Inquiries

Call main number, follow recorded instructions

Conservation Information

Call main number, then press 3

Community Involvement, Education

Call main number, then ext. 4226

Water Quality

Call main number, then ext. 6337

System Outages, Trouble Calls

Call main number, then ext. 6265 or 1-800-698-0400

Commercial and industrial rebates available

Restaurants, hotels, supermarkets, laundromats, medical facilities, and other businesses are encouraged to take advantage of a wide array of water efficiency rebates for:

- Ultra Low Flush Toilets and Urinals (ULFT) Up to \$180 rebate**  
ULFT fixtures use 20,000 gallons less water annually than older models. Save more than \$75 per year per fixture.
- the pressurized Waterbroom \$100 rebate**  
Use a high-velocity Waterbroom instead of a hose to wash down sidewalks, pool side, and work areas. Save up to 35,000 gallons of water per year.
- cooling tower conductivity controllers \$500 rebate**  
Cut your water costs up to 40 percent when you install a new, more efficient cooling tower conductivity controller.
- pre-rinse kitchen sprayers \$50 rebate**  
Replace your kitchen sprayer and save an average of 300 gallons of water per day and more than \$500 per year in water and energy costs.
- guest towel and bed linen placards FREE!**  
Save water, energy, detergent, and labor costs by asking your guests to help save. We'll provide printed placards, as well as bilingual pamphlets to help train your staff. Increase your profit per room!
- high efficiency clothes washers \$400 rebate**  
If your washing machines are over five years old, you're paying too much on utility bills. High efficiency washers reduce energy costs by about 50 percent, lower water and sewer costs by 35 – 50 percent, and require 50 percent less laundry detergent. In addition, drying time is minimized by extracting more water from the clothes in the spin cycle than traditional machines.
- an x-ray film processor recycling system \$2,000 rebate**  
Install a recycling system on your x-ray film processing machines and save up to \$600 per year on your water and sewer bills for each system installed. Reduce water usage up to 98 percent!

It's easy to participate. Call **1-877-728-2282.**



REPORTS...

High school teams shine in solar-powered boat competition

Two local high school teams competed in the first annual Solar Splash boat competition at Lake Skinner over a three-day span, beginning May 30. This was no ordinary boat race, though.

In late 2002, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) asked each of its 26 member water agencies to sponsor a high school team to build a solar-powered boat and participate in a competition, increasing awareness of renewable energy and zero-emission water recreation. Six member agencies, including Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) agreed to sponsor a total of eight high school teams. EMWD committed to sponsoring two of these teams – Valley View High School in Moreno Valley and Paloma Valley High School in Menifee.



The Paloma Valley High School team, of Menifee, captured the Solar Splash Teamwork Award.

MWD supplied materials for the hull and two workshops; EMWD supplied funding for the remaining materials, including the motor, batteries, solar panels, and steering wheel. Over six months, team members applied their math, physics, and design skills to the project. David Susuras, Valley View's team leader and science teacher, said "These kids have spent at least 200 hours working on their boat." Charles Murphy, Paloma Valley High School's team advisor and physics teacher gave the program high marks for providing students with a valuable lesson in teamwork.

Newspaper and television reporters followed the teams as they competed in speed and endurance races. Valley View placed third overall and Paloma Valley walked away with the Teamwork Award. Canyon (Anaheim) High School took first place and Long Beach Polytechnic High placed second. Susuras and Murphy both expressed an interest in competing again next year.



Moreno Valley's Valley View High School captured third place at Solar Splash.

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Visit us on the Internet at [www.emwd.org](http://www.emwd.org)

## Two new facilities augment local water supplies

Faced with burgeoning growth and threatened water supplies, water districts strive to develop new means of augmenting local water supplies. The Menifee Desalination Plant and Perris Water Filtration Plant are two new EMWD facilities that do just that.

The Menifee Desalination Plant converts salty, non-consumable groundwater into fresh drinking water. Removing the salty water serves a dual purpose of protecting nearby higher quality groundwater by keeping the brackish water from intruding. The reverse osmosis process recovers about 70 percent of the water and removes 24 tons of salt per day. The desalination plant produces three million gallons of high quality water per day. The water is blended with other fresh water and distributed to customers in Sun City and Perris. The waste brine solution is sent out of the area through a brine line that eventually flows to the ocean.

In spring of 2003, EMWD began operating the Perris Water Filtration Plant. This project taps MWD's Colorado River Aqueduct for untreated fresh water and then filters it to high quality drinking water for use in Perris and Moreno Valley. It produces 10 million gallons per day, or enough for 11,500 homes. As demands warrant, it will be expanded to process 50 million gallons per day. EMWD plans to build a similar plant in the Hemet/San Jacinto area.

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### 24/7 customer service

In May 2002, EMWD began offering an automated account information phone line in English and Spanish to provide customers with much-needed services 24 hours a day. Today, the system handles approximately 3,000 calls a month.

Simply call **928-3777 and press 8**; then enter your account number. You can hear your current account balance and payment history; find the nearest pay station; get directions to our offices; and more. The system is also able to fax you the information within minutes. In 2004, EMWD plans to expand the system, enabling you to pay your water bill over the phone, using a credit card.

If you'd prefer to talk with a customer service representative, call the main number on a weekday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.



### Did you know?

A leaky toilet can waste up to 300 gallons per hour.

## Sign-up for our Water Wise Landscaping Workshops

Learn how to design, install, and maintain a beautiful water wise landscape. Plan to attend one or more of the following free Water Wise Landscaping Workshops, to be taught by landscape experts every other Saturday in September and October at EMWD's headquarters in Perris. Light refreshments will be provided, as well as handouts and a chance to win a gardening-related door prize.

### Workshops:

- September 13 Landscape Plants – Native and Drought Tolerant
- September 27 Landscape Sprinkler Systems – Design, Drip, and Maintenance
- October 11 Landscape Watering and Fertilizing – Scheduling, Sprinkler Clock Scheduling, and Soils
- October 25 Composting & Green Waste Recycling

### Day/Time:

Every other Saturday  
8:30 a.m. – noon

### Location:

EMWD headquarters  
2270 Trumble Road, Perris

### Directions:

Take I-215 to Highway 74 south of Perris, and go to Trumble Road. Turn north on Trumble and look for the workshop directional signs. If you are coming from Hemet or San Jacinto, take Florida Avenue west to Trumble Road.

### To sign-up (reservations are required):

Please call **928-3777 x4531** and leave your name, phone number, workshop(s) you wish to attend, and number of people in your party; or sign-up by logging onto [www.emwd.org](http://www.emwd.org).

