Eastern Municipal Water District is committed to doing its part to bring a sewer system to Quail Valley, which will protect local ground and surface water supplies and public health in the region. EMWD is actively seeking funding and have partnered with many local and state agencies to find a solution to this problem.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:
For many years, failing septic tanks in Quail Valley have resulted in groundwater pollution in the community and downstream in Canyon Lake. There is inadequate land and leaching surface in Quail Valley to accommodate the volume of wastewater produced. Therefore, septic wastewater migrates down-gradient through yards and along streets toward Canyon Lake, which is under the control of Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD). Canyon Lake serves as a drinking water source for the City of Canyon Lake.

THE MORATORIUM:
In 2006, the Regional Water Quality Control Board and the County of Riverside enacted separate moratoriums on septic tanks in Quail Valley. These moratoriums are active and will not be lifted until sewer service is provided to, at a minimum, Subareas 4 and 9.

PROJECT FUNDING:
Eastern Municipal Water District is aggressively pursuing the funding necessary to design and construct a sewer system that will serve portions of Subarea 9. In 2013, EMWD secured a $500,000 planning grant from the State Water Resources Control Board. In addition, a $1.93 million funding agreement is anticipated from the Department of Water Resources’ Integrated Regional Water Management program in the fall of 2014. Funding will cover the design and portions of the construction of the sewer system in Subarea 9. EMWD is aggressively pursuing an additional $6 million to fund the balance of construction costs for Phase 1 of Subarea 9. Funding must be secured prior to the start of construction. Once funding is awarded, Phase 1 of Subarea 9 will be the first component of the project.

THE NEXT STEPS:
EMWD is working collaboratively with the cities of Menifee and Canyon Lake, the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, EVMWD and state agencies to secure additional funding and ensure the region’s groundwater quality is protected.