



WELCOME “2015 - Q2 SC Small Water Systems Forum”

- ▶ Drought; Water Conservation Requirements for Small Water Systems
- ▶ Proposal for Metering & Reporting
- ▶ Annual LPA Meeting Themes
- ▶ Water Quality
- ▶ Treatment Technologies
- ▶ Assistance and Funding
- ▶ Electronic Annual Reports
- ▶ Legislation Update
- ▶ General discussion



County of Santa Cruz
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Water Conservation Regulations for Small Water Systems

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Background

The background features a white space on the left and a complex geometric pattern on the right. The pattern consists of overlapping, semi-transparent triangles in various shades of blue, ranging from light sky blue to deep navy blue. The triangles are arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and movement, with some shapes pointing towards the center and others towards the right edge.

Drought in Santa Cruz

- California is in its 4th year of extreme drought
- There was very little, if any, additional recharge of groundwater basins this past winter
- Local groundwater levels continuing to decline
- There have been anecdotal reports of individual wells drying up
- More properties than usual are contracting with water haulers for supplemental supply much earlier in the year
- The number of well permit applications for replacement or supplemental wells has increased by 40% from 2013
- Lompico County Water District has had to make use of the emergency inter-tie with San Lorenzo Valley Water District
- The county-wide decline in groundwater levels and streamflow is indicative of the continuing **need to reduce any non-essential water use throughout the county** by small and large water systems, private wells, and stream diversions

State Response

- On January 17, 2014, Governor Jerry Brown issued a proclamation declaring a state of emergency in California due to severe drought conditions
- On April 1, 2015, the Governor issued the Executive Orders on actions necessary to address these severe drought conditions
- The April 1 Executive Order requires, for the first time in the State's history, mandatory restrictions to reduce urban/residential water use by 25%
- These restrictions fall on individuals, small water systems, commercial, industrial and institutional systems with their own water supply, and water districts
- State requiring cuts for water districts (>2999 connections) of up to 36%
- Range from 8%-20% for the local water districts. Most districts have self-imposed targets far beyond the State

What does this mean to me?

Potable water restrictions for all users

- Any wasteful use of water
- Using potable water to wash sidewalks and driveways;
- Allowing runoff when irrigating with potable water;
- Using hoses with no shutoff nozzles to wash cars;
- Using potable water in decorative water features that do not recirculate the water;
- Irrigating outdoors during and within 48 hours following measureable rainfall;
- Irrigation with potable water of ornamental turf on public street medians;
- Irrigation with potable water outside of newly constructed homes and buildings inconsistent with standards
- Restaurants serving water to their customers unless the customer requests it.

Potable water restrictions for systems >14 connections

EITHER

Reduce overall water consumption by 25%

OR

Limit irrigation to 2 days per week

- Went into effect on June 1, 2015
- You will be required to provide a report to the state in December outlining what you did.

Potable water restrictions for Commercial, Industrial and Institutional

EITHER

Reduce overall water consumption by 25%

OR

Limit irrigation to 2 days per week

- Went into effect on June 1, 2015

What do the restrictions look like?

- ▶ Watering Days
 - ▶ Some water agencies have specific days (ie even # houses: M, Sa)
- ▶ Watering times
 - ▶ Not during 10am-5pm in the County
 - ▶ Limited to 15 minutes
- ▶ Water Reductions
 - ▶ If usage data is available, compare cumulative usage to 2013 levels
- ▶ Verification
 - ▶ Must be able to explain how mandate was achieved (letters, inspections, metering, fines for violation)
 - ▶ The Board can issue fines and Cease and Desist Orders to non-compliant water systems

How should we proceed?

- ▶ Decide which option, decision must be final
 - ▶ Reduced irrigation days
 - ▶ 25% reduction in use
- ▶ Inform all users immediately
- ▶ Enforcement
 - ▶ Key to success, displays fairness
 - ▶ Start with information
 - ▶ Infractions may be punishable, authority varies but may be changing
 - ▶ Can reach out to the County for help

Where can I learn more?

SWRCB Water Conservation Portal

- ▶ http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/conservation_portal/emergency_regulation.shtml

The screenshot shows the California State Water Resources Control Board's Water Conservation Portal. The page features a navigation menu with options like Home, About Us, Public Notices, Board Info, Board Decisions, Water Issues, Publications/Forms, and Press Room. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main content area is titled "Water Conservation Portal - Emergency Conservation Regulation" and includes a "QUICK LINKS" section with links to "What's New", "Emergency Regulation", "Fact Sheets", "FAQ", "Conservation Reporting", "Resources", "Contact Us", and "Rulemaking Archive". Below this, there is a section for "Emergency Conservation Regulation" with a paragraph of text and a "Supporting Documents" section listing various documents such as "Updated Urban Water Supplier Conservation Tiers (Excel) (6/5/15)", "Information on the Conservation Initiatives Outlined in the Governor's April 1st Executive Order", and "Four Percent Reserve Tier Requirements (5/21/15)".

CA.GOV CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

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Felicia Marcus
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Water Quality

Performance Report

CONSERVATION PORTAL RESOURCES

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→ Emergency Regulation
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→ Rulemaking Archive
→ Drought Home

Home → Water Issues → Programs → Conservation Portal

Water Conservation Portal - Emergency Conservation Regulation

WATER CONSERVATION PORTAL

QUICK LINKS

[What's New](#) | [Emergency Regulation](#) | [Fact Sheets](#) | [FAQ](#) | [Conservation Reporting](#) | [Resources](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Rulemaking Archive](#)

Emergency Conservation Regulation

On April 1, 2015, Governor Brown issued the fourth in a series of Executive Orders on actions necessary to address California's severe drought conditions, which directed the State Water Board to implement mandatory water reductions in urban areas to reduce potable urban water usage by 25 percent statewide. On May 5, 2015, the State Water Board adopted an emergency conservation regulation in accordance with the Governor's directive. The provisions of the emergency regulation went into effect on May 18, 2015.

Supporting Documents

- [Updated Urban Water Supplier Conservation Tiers \(Excel\) \(6/5/15\)](#)
- [Information on the Conservation Initiatives Outlined in the Governor's April 1st Executive Order](#)
- [Four Percent Reserve Tier Requirements \(5/21/15\)](#)
- [Requesting an Alternate Compliance Assessment \(5/21/15\)](#)
- [Subtracting Commercial Agricultural Water from Total Potable Water Production \(5/21/15\)](#)
- [Conservation Water Pricing \(5/19/15\)](#)
- [Office of Administrative Law Approved Update of Emergency Water Conservation Regulation \(5/18/15\)](#)
- [Adopted Emergency Conservation Resolution and Regulation \(5/5/15\)](#)
- [Media Release: State Water Board Adopts 25 Percent Mandatory Water Conservation Regulation \(5/5/15\)](#)
- [Fact Sheet: Emergency Regulation \(4/28/15\)](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions: Emergency Conservation Regulation \(4/28/15\)](#)
- [Proposed Urban Water Supplier Usage Tiers \(4/28/15\) | \(Excel spreadsheet of data\)](#)
- [Governor's Executive Order B-29-15 \(4/1/15\)](#)
- Past documents and comments on the emergency regulation are available at the [Rulemaking Archive \(5/15/15\)](#)

www.watersavingtips.org



www.watersavingtips.org/act/indoor-water-tips/

WaterSavingTips.org

Water Conservation Coalition of Santa Cruz County

LEARN

ACT

PARTICIPATE



Looking for ways to save water?

Here's our suggestions for indoor water saving tips.

In the Bathroom

- Install a low flow or trickle valve shower head.*
- Take a five minute (or less) shower.
- Turn off water while lathering your hands in the sink.
- In the shower, turn water on to get wet; turn off to lather up; then turn back on to rinse off.
- Place a large bucket in the shower to catch excess water and use this to water plants.
- Don't let the used bathtub water go down the drain! Reuse bath water outdoors on your landscape.
- Turn water off while brushing teeth or shaving.
- Plug the sink instead of running water to rinse your razor
- Check for and repair leaks in the tub diverter valve.

Questions??

Sierra Ryan

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Why Water Metering & Reporting

John Ricker - Water Resources

Why water metering and reporting?

- ▶ Drought tracking, problem identification, effectiveness assessment
- ▶ Long term water supply planning and efficiency
- ▶ Sustainable Groundwater Management Act requires measurement of use greater than 2 af/yr (equivalent to 4 connections)
- ▶ Waterworks Standards requires metering
- ▶ Individual metering provides accountability and allocation of costs
- ▶ Metering is eligible for State funding assistance
- ▶ 60% of systems have source metering and 40% have individual meters

Proposed Amendment of Chapter 7.71

- ▶ Production Metering required by October 1, 2015
- ▶ Initial reporting of monthly production required by January 15, 2016, including monthly production since July 1, 2013, if available.
- ▶ Annual reporting of monthly production on January 15 each year
- ▶ Forms and methods of reporting to be provided by County
- ▶ Individual meters required by October 1, 2017, plan for installation of meters to be submitted by January 15, 2016
- ▶ County staff to assist with obtaining funding assistance, if needed.
- ▶ Public Hearing on June 23, with final adoption August 4



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Annual LPA Meeting Themes

- Drought
- Water Board
- US EPA
- Enforcement
- Environmental Justice

Troy Boone and Nathan Salazar

Water Quality

- Hex Chrom VI - SB 385
- Revised Total Coliform Rule -
- NPDES Permits- systems with treatment/discharge
- Recycled Water & Greywater
- WQI Website

Troy Boone and Nathan Salazar

SB 385 (Hueso):

- Does- 5 yr variance, work toward compliance, Compliance Plan, & must inform customers and provide them w/ info re other sources of DW.
- Does Not- Delay compliance efforts, exempt from compliance w/ MCL, or modify MCL of 10 ppb.

Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR)

- Sampling should mirror usage: TNCs may need to monitor more frequently for seasonal use (mostly already doing this) - will need to evaluate.
- Investigative Report form to be used as a tool to ID problem vs. just taking samples
- Changes Coming: Find and Fix Rule - beginning April 2016 - NO more TCR MCL PUBLIC NOTIFICATION - Extensive work on CA reg underway,
- Goal - Keep most bacti regs that are more stringent in place,
 - Needed sections- Seasonal System Requirements, New Self Assessment Requirements (forms being drafted)
 - Clamping down on repeat offenders,
 - 1st TCR MCL = Self Assessment by PWS (US EPA Level 1 Trigger)
 - 2nd TCR MCL w/in 12 months or an E. Coli hit = LPA to assess (US EPA Level 2 Trigger)
 - details on reducing monitoring & reporting of violations, record keeping, good suggestions so far from workgroup

NPDES Permits?

- SDWA vs. CWA
- For surface water systems that discharge backwash water, we will need these.
- Need to be renewed every 5 years
- May need to file Notice of Intent (general permit), Reviewed types, uses, standards and limitations
- NPDES permits are OPTIONAL for CWS (not needed for NTNC & TNC), if desired then a “Low Threat” permit would be filed. (systems NOT treating)
- Surface Water treatment or Primary contaminant treatment with a backwash filtration set-up MAY require a separate permit unless discharging to GW = no NPDES permit. If surface discarding, the OTHER PERMITS APPLY if discharging to US waters
- Need to review SW and Treatment Plants

[Home](#)[Urban Water](#)[Supplier Reporting](#)[Tool](#) ...[Urban Water Usage](#)
[during California's](#)[Drought](#)[Electronic Annual](#)[Report](#) ...[Drinking Water](#)[Systems Geographic](#)
[Reporting Tool](#) ...

Hello and Welcome...

This site is operated by the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water, as a service center for California public water systems, environmental health laboratories, state agencies, the federal EPA, and other public health partners. The applications and information contained on this site are restricted.

Click on the link below to file an Annual Report.

[Electronic Annual Report System](#)

If you are a Drought Reporter and wish to enter a Monitoring Report, click below:

[Urban Water Supplier Reporting Tool](#)

For information, please email the [DRINC Portal Administrator](#).

For Urban Water Suppliers, request forms for an alternate method for conservation compliance and for consideration to be placed in the 4% Reserve Tier for Conservation are available for use. Simply navigate from the **Applications** -> **Public Water Systems** tab above.

A new tool presenting charts showing residential gallons-per-capita-day (R-GPCD) water usage and monthly reductions is now available. Data comes directly from records submitted by urban water suppliers in response to State Water Resources Control Board emergency regulations. [read more...](#)

The [Manufacturer/Certifier Document Upload Tool](#) is now available on the DRINC Portal. Reporters are required to register on this site allowing for the upload of product data sheets and other documents pertaining to registration of their water treatment device. Click on [Register](#) to begin the upload process.

The [Urban Water Supplier Reporting Tool](#) is available on the DRINC Portal the week of August 12th. Reporters will be required to register on this site

Home

Applications

Public Water Systems

Monitoring Report

Water supplier monthly production reporting to SWRCB
Emergency Regulations

Water Treatment Device Performance Information

View water treatment performance and certification information

Electronic Annual Reporting System

Redirects to EAR System for making a public water system Annual Report.

Water Quality Inquiry

Water quality test results by water system, source, and analyte

Click "Water Quality Inquiry"

Drinking Water Watch

Re-directs to the Drinking Water Watch landing page.

Urban Water R-GPCD

Urban water suppliers monthly water conservation results compared with regional and statewide averages

[Drinking water](#)

[Systems Geographic](#)

[Reporting Tool](#) ...



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Applications > [Water Quality Inquiry](#)

Water Quality Inquiry (WQI)

Sample results from the **Water Quality Master** (WQM) are available for viewing by first selecting the public water system (PWS) using the **Search** box below. Enter a partial system number, name, or county then make your selection. (Examples: CA3410004, 3410004, Carmichael, Sacramento). Sorting of results can be done by clicking headers. MCL exceedances are shown in **BOLD**. Since the source is over 12 million records, please be patient until the data load (up to two minutes).

 SEARCH

Here we entered Davenport's State ID, the the links below were created.

PWS ID	PWS Name	Status	County	WQI
CA4400571	DAVENPORT COUNTY SANITATION	ACTIVE	SANTA CRUZ	- ← Click this one to get data.

Applications > [Water Quality Inquiry](#)

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Now you can review the source data monitoring that you lab/s have sent to the State.

Sample results for: **CA4400571 - DAVENPORT COUNTY SANITATION**

Last record entry: 2014/10/28

	<u>Source</u>	<u>Sampled</u>	<u>Analyzed</u>		<u>Analyte</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>MCL</u>
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--31	01032	Chromium, Hexavalent	0	UG/L	10
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--31	00095	Specific Conductance	180	US	1600
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--31	A-031	Perchlorate	0	UG/L	6
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	00620	Nitrite (As N)	< 100	UG/L	1000
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	00951	Fluoride (F) (Natural-Source)	< 0.1	MG/L	2
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	01002	Arsenic	0.74	UG/L	10
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	01007	Barium	31	UG/L	1000
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	01012	Beryllium	< 1	UG/L	4
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	01020	Boron	< 100	UG/L	
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	01027	Cadmium	< 0.2	UG/L	5
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	01034	Chromium (Total)	< 0.5	UG/L	50
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	01042	Copper	< 50	UG/L	1000
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	01051	Lead	0.23	UG/L	
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	01059	Thallium	0.74	UG/L	2
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	01067	Nickel	< 10	UG/L	100
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	01077	Silver	< 0.2	UG/L	100
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	01092	Zinc	< 10	UG/L	5000
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	01097	Antimony	< 0.5	UG/L	6
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	01105	Aluminum	< 25	UG/L	1000
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	01147	Selenium	< 1	UG/L	50
002	SAN VINCENTE CREEK	2014--10--28	2014--10--30	01284	Cyanide	< 50	UG/L	100

Treatment Technologies

- **Harmsco Filters** - Viable alternative for some low cost filters and bag filters that have been discontinued
- **Chrom VI** - (see slide)
- **Point of Use Devices** - Reg. Expired but in Statutes
- **Aeration for TTHM Removal** - Promising

Hex Chrom VI

- ▶ New Source
- ▶ Blending
- ▶ Ionex SG Ion Exchange Treatment - not feasible for small systems yet, trying to scale down, can be used for Nitrate removal as well (BAT for NO₃'s) - POU may be more of a realistic alt treatment (RO ✓, Ion Exchange ?)
- ▶ Co-contaminant - Nitrate ✓ , Iron/Manganese ?
- ▶ Biological Treatment - still experimental, cost and space restrictions

Assistance & Funding

- ▶ State TMF - http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/TMF.shtml
 - ▶ FFAST Application
- ▶ RCAC - <http://www.rcac.org/home>
- ▶ CRWA - <http://www.calruralwater.org/>
- ▶ FB Page?
- ▶ EHS Webpage: Fortis & SWS Forum



Technical Assistance and Capacity Development

Last Updated: December 17, 2014

The [Safe Drinking Water Act of 1996 \(SDWA\)](#) requires states to incorporate technical, managerial, and financial (TMF) capacity into public water system operations. This requirement helps ensure that public water systems have long-term sustainability and are able to maintain compliance with all applicable drinking water laws and regulations.

The [State Water Resources Control Board \(State Water Board\)](#) provides free technical assistance through contracts with [Rural Community Assistance Corporation \(RCAC\)](#), [California Rural Water Association \(CRWA\)](#) and [Self Help Enterprises \(SHE\)](#). If you need information or technical assistance related to an application for funding through the [Drinking Water State Revolving Fund \(DWSRF\) Program](#), contact the [Division of Financial Assistance](#). If you need general help with TMF issues contact your local [Division of Drinking Water \(DDW\)](#) district office or your [Local Primary Agency \(LPA\)](#) to see if you qualify.

- [Program History](#)
- [TMF Assessment](#)
- [Resources and Links](#)
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Program History

The federal SDWA Amendments were signed into law in part because of the significant problems that small public water systems (SWS) had in providing safe, reliable drinking water to their customers. It included mandates to the states to prevent new non-viable systems. It also mandated the development and implementation of a comprehensive capacity development strategy to assist public water systems in obtaining adequate capacity.

In 1997 [Senate Bill \(SB\) 1307](#) became law, enabling California to implement the provisions of the federal SDWA. This statute established a financial assistance program, entitled the DWSRF, which included a comprehensive technical assistance program for small systems. In order to help ensure the provision of safe, reliable drinking water to customers on a long term basis, this legislation was designed to prevent the formation of a new public water system or the approval of a public water system change of ownership unless that system is determined by the State to have adequate TMF capacity.

TMF Assessment

In California, the TMF Assessment must be completed by public water systems that are applicants for funding through the DWSRF, formation of new water systems, and changes of water system ownership. Use the [TMF Instructions document](#) as a reference when completing the TMF Assessment.

Before completing the TMF Assessment, consider the following four questions:

1. Is the system's source of untreated groundwater from a well or enclosed spring, located on property that the system owns?
2. Does the system have a single owner or sole proprietor?
3. Is the owner responsible for all aspects of the water system?
4. Does the system have an "expense only" budget? (You do not charge for the water that you provide).

If the answer to any of the questions is "No" and the water system in question serves less than 10,000 people, please complete the standard [TMF Assessment form](#). If the water system serves more than 10,000 people, please complete the [alternative TMF Assessment form](#). If the answer to all of the the above questions is "Yes", please complete the [TMF Capacity Assessment "E-Z" form](#).

Resources and Links

For assistance in completing certain TMF elements, please see the following resources:

- [Sample Operations Plan](#)
- [Templates for Public Notification](#)
- [Typical Equipment Life Expectancy](#)
- [Sample 5-Year Budget Projection/Capital Improvement Plan \(CIP\)](#)

- [Cal/EPA](#)
- [State and Regional Water Boards' Map](#)
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Loans

- ▶ State Water Resources Control Board: Workshops -
 - ▶ Proposition 1 Water Recycling Funding Program (WRFP) Workshop
 - ▶ RUS Loans: emailed out info on March 11, 2015 - 3 different loan rate levels - based on community \$\$\$ and type of project:
 - ▶ Poverty Line - 2.25%
 - ▶ Intermediate - 3.00% &
 - ▶ Market - 3.75%
 - ▶ Administered thru Rural Development Utilities Services (RDUS) - for specifics - www.rurdev.usda.gov/recd_map.html
 - ▶ SRF: CA State Revolving Fund - http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/
 - ▶ Drinking Water Loan & Grant Program - http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/

Electronic Annual Reports (eARs)

- ▶ 2014 Reports are due June 30, 2015

Legislation Update

- ▶ *SB 385,*
- ▶ *Affordable Safe Drinking Water & the*
- ▶ *CA Human Right To Water*

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General Information

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- [EHS Staff Phone Book with E-mail addresses](#)
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- **[State of Drought: Reduce water use by 20%](#)**
- [2014-15 Fees](#)
- [Current Water Quality Data](#)
- [Septic System Evaluation Service](#)
- [California Environmental Reporting \(CERS\) Information](#)
- [California Department of Public Health-Environmental Management Branch **Radon** information](#)

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Drinking Water webpage



Water Resources

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- [Watershed and Stream Habitat Protection](#)
- [Groundwater Management](#)
- [Stormwater Management](#)

[State of Drought: Reduce water use by 20%](#)

[To see results of the most recent water quality sampling, click here](#)

Santa Cruz County waters provide drinking water for residents and visitors, critical habitat to numerous threatened and endangered species and opportunities for recreational and commercial activities. The overwhelming majority of Santa Cruz County's water supply is locally derived from surface and groundwater sources – a unique situation in a state supported by large federal and state water projects. However, like many other areas of California, the County faces water resource challenges including impaired water quality, inadequate water supply, overdrafted groundwater basins, depleted streams, and degraded riparian habitat. Balancing water supply with environmental needs and other uses is a challenge that requires a collaborative effort among all stakeholders. Since our domestic supply is local, we have both the opportunity and responsibility to find solutions to these challenges ourselves.

Santa Cruz County's Water Resources Program is organized within Environmental Health Services under the Health Services Agency. The Water Resources Program is not a water supply agency, but rather works in collaboration with other County departments, agencies, special districts and non-governmental organizations to solve water resources and environmental issues through long-range water supply planning , water quality protection and watershed management.

The County's Water Resources Program focuses on four main elements with input and oversight from two advisory commissions. The links provided on this page will take you to more detail about the various tasks undertaken by program staff under each of the four program elements.

- **Water Advisory Commission**

[Fish and Game Advisory Commission](#)

This program regulates the quality and quantity of drinking water for systems ranging from 5 to 199 connections. Systems with 1-4 connections are regulated solely by [County Code](#) through the EHS Land Use Section's [Individual Water System Ordinance](#).

The first quarterly Santa Cruz, Small Water Systems Forum will be held on - Tuesday, March 24th – in the Large Conference Room, at the Santa Cruz Community Foundation from 7 pm – 9 pm. The SC Community Foundation is located at 7807 Soquel Drive, Aptos, CA 95003 (ph. 831-662-2000).

Discussion topics will include Water Quality, new Hex Chrom VI reg.s, Loans, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, Metering/Submittal of Water Use Data, and Setting Rates. These topics will be the main focus of our discussion however, we will be open to answering questions regarding other topics as well. Please spread the word, we look forward to meeting you all.

Santa Cruz County drinking water supplies are generally of excellent quality. However water from ground or surface sources is never "pure". It may accumulate whatever it comes in contact with; naturally occurring minerals, microorganisms, silt, organic matter, radionuclides, and at times agricultural runoff. Some of these substances may even pose a health risk. In order to reduce or eliminate these risks and protect public health, the Drinking Water Program works with local small water systems to implement federal and state regulations. Adhering to these guidelines will help every water system to provide the cleanest, safest, and most reliable drinking water possible.

- Those with 5-14 connections are regulated under both [County](#) and [State](#) regulations through the EHS Drinking Water Program as State Small Water Systems.
- Public Water Systems located within communities serving 15-199 connections and those that serve non-community or transient uses (businesses, schools, restaurants, camps, etc.) are regulated by the EHS Drinking Water Program acting for the [State Department of Health Services](#) through a Local Primacy Agency agreement. As a Local Primacy Agency, the County is responsible for implementing and enforcing the State and Federal Safe Drinking Water Acts to ensure small public water supply systems deliver a reliable and adequate supply of water that is pure, wholesome, and potable to the users at all times. For more information on Public Water Systems, please see: [Public Water System Types](#)

Please check this website frequently for updates and additional information.

Quick Links

SWS Forum documents here

[Documents & Forms Library](#)

[Small Water Systems Forum](#)

[Well Construction](#)

[Bacterial Monitoring](#)

[Agencies and Organizations](#)

[Training](#)

Thank You!

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of blue, ranging from light sky blue to deep navy blue. These shapes are primarily located on the right side of the frame, creating a modern, layered effect against the white background.