

H2! IN THE KNOW



SAN BERNARDINO MUNICIPAL WATER DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

PHOTO: SBMWD RAPID INFILTRATION AND EXTRACTION FACILITY

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Greetings and Happy New Year from the City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department (SBMWD). We are excited to share recent news and updates with our customers and community.

SBMWD believes in being an active member in the community we serve and is always looking for new ways to better serve you while staying connected. As such, SBMWD offers informational presentations to local community groups, in addition to participating in many community events throughout the year.

Some of the recent community events SBMWD has participated in, or sponsored include:

- Childhood Cancer Foundation of Southern California Kid's Walk
- SBMWD Fall 2018 Water-Saving Garden Workshops
- SBD Fest at San Bernardino International Airport
- San Bernardino Turkey Trot
- Childhood Cancer Foundation of Southern California Holiday Craft Party
- San Bernardino City Winter Wonderland
- Wildwood Neighborhood Association Christmas in the Park
- Community Ho Ho Parade

To request a presentation or SBMWD participation in an upcoming event, please contact us at (909) 384-5141.

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SBMWD staff making community connections at SBD Fest 2018



SBMWD staff making crafts at the Childhood Cancer Foundation of Southern California's holiday party



City of San Bernardino Mayor-Elect, John Valdivia, stops by SBMWD's annual Employee Recognition Breakfast

TRUSTED, QUALITY SERVICE SINCE 1905

WHAT'S NEW AT SBMWD

We are pleased to introduce newly appointed Management team members.



MIGUEL J. GUERRERO, P.E. GENERAL MANAGER

The Department and our Water Board are pleased to announce the appointment of Miguel Guerrero as General Manager of The City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department. Congratulations, Miguel!



Each year we showcase the artistic talents of local students and their commitment to conservation

Our 2019 Water Conservation Calendar has arrived! This free calendar highlights the winners of our 2018 Water Conservation Poster Contest and offers information on how you can become more water efficient.

Calendars are available only while supplies last. Contact Customer Service at (909) 384-5141 to request your copy today.

STEVE MILLER, DIRECTOR OF WATER UTILITY

Congratulations to Steve Miller, newly appointed Director of Water Utility. Steve was Construction Manager in Engineering and brings a wealth of experience to the Water Utility division.

CYNTHIA MOUSER, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Congratulations to Cindy Mouser, our new Director of Finance. Cindy brings over 15 years of financial and accounting experience to the Department. Welcome, Cindy!

SBMWD Ridgeline Water Reservoir



Did you know?

SBMWD has over 126 million gallons of water storage capacity in 38 active storage reservoirs and tanks throughout the city.

FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



- Received California Society of Municipal Finance Officers Meritorious Budget Award for fiscal year 2017-2018.
- Implemented changes in banking services that increased Departmental interest revenue by \$282,000 and decreased bank charges by 50%, or \$37,000.



- Installed/replaced over 16,000 feet of water supply pipeline with over 5,000 feet of water main replacements related to developer projects.
- Pepper Linden Transmission Main completed - 1,300 feet of new 12-inch ductile iron pipe installed by Department staff.
- 13th Street Main completed - 1,200 feet of new 8-inch ductile iron pipe installed by Department staff.



- Field and Meter Services completed over 24,000 service work orders.
- Cleaned an average of 85,000 feet of wastewater collections pipelines per month.



Suzie Earp in her Spanish style courtyard garden



This *Caesalpinia pulcherrima*, or Red Bird of Paradise plant, is low water use and well adapted to hot and dry Inland Empire climates.

CONSERVATION IN OUR COMMUNITY: A GARDEN SIDE CHAT WITH WATER HISTORIAN SUZIE EARP

Suzie Earp, water historian and self-professed plant lover, is the current director of the Water Resources Institute at the California State University of San Bernardino. We recently had the opportunity to visit Suzie at her home and chat with her about her garden full of California native plants. We also discussed the importance of looking after our local water resources.

Tell us a bit about yourself and your involvement in water conservation in San Bernardino.

Both my husband and I grew up here. I was born here at Saint Bernardine's hospital, and we have lived here for more than 60 years overall. I am the director of The Water Resources Institute, and I managed the water conservation garden at Cal State. Being in the water field means I'm familiar with the ebb and flow of droughts, and floods; we're always dealing with one or the other.

Why is Water conservation important to you?

The Bunker Hill groundwater basin serves the population and it's well worth saving. We need to do whatever we have to do to preserve it because it is the most precious thing that we have.

We only have a certain amount of water. There is no more water coming into the water cycle. This means we need to be very careful with the supplies we do have available. In my opinion, we have the states most beautiful aquifer. Without it, none of us would be living here. However, the aquifer is not an endless supply and we need to be careful with how we manage it.

Why did you choose to convert your lawn to a drought tolerant landscape?

When we moved to this house we had this big grass lawn, but we were unhappy with it because it was very water intensive. Slowly but surely we began to replace our grass with native and drought tolerant plants. Actually, I think the drought tolerant varieties are prettier. Most of all, I enjoy the flowers and wildlife. With native and drought tolerant plants you get a lot more butterflies, hummingbirds, and bees.

If you do it right, your landscape looks pretty, and it smells great every time it rains. Our landscaping just absorbs all that water and smells so good. The reward is that it looks beautiful, it flowers, and it smells like Christmas! I am always out here on a rainy day.

Thank you for sharing your lovely garden with us, Suzie!



Drought-tolerant and California Native landscaping requires less water and needs less maintenance than grass.



Did you know?

SBMWD residential customers are eligible for up to \$2,000 in water conservation rebates. Commercial rebates are also available. Call (909) 384-5141 for more information.



Joseph Carrillo, Engineering Technician



Joseph performs frequent onsite progress checks for SBMWD repairs and capital improvement projects.

HARD WORK IN EVERY DROP: SBMWD EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHT

We value our employees who work hard every day to provide the San Bernardino community with trusted, quality service. As your water provider and neighbor, we want you to get to know us better and hope to share more about the great people who work at the City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department.

Meet Joseph! Joseph is an Engineering Technician in our Water Utility Division and has been employed with our Department since June of 2016. His day to day duties include assisting contractors and customers with requests for water installation, updating standard technical drawings, assisting with capital improvement projects, and onsite installation inspections. Working alongside many other sections of the Department, part of Joseph's job is to ensure that new installations are up to proper safety and health standards.

What Joseph enjoys most about his job is the ability to learn in the field and also the interactions he has with employees and the public.

"I feel like I'm helping the community. Being out in the field, I interact with residents to let them know what project the Department is working on. Everyone is usually welcoming and appreciates the information. Our engineering group and everyone at SBMWD has also been very welcoming and helpful since I came here."

When he is not in the field or office, Joseph enjoys spending his free time with his wife, playing soccer, hiking, and taking walks with his two dogs.

Joseph, thank you for your dedication, enthusiasm, and for sharing your thoughts on why SBMWD is a great place to work!

We want to help you
save water and money!



It is our goal to help you on your way to water efficiency. To encourage our customers to use water wisely, SBMWD offers many water conservation programs and services making it easier than ever to be water efficient. Residential customers are eligible for up to \$2,000 in water conservation rebates.

NO-COST conservation service programs are now available. Learn how you can get a FREE weather-based irrigation controller or an onsite home consultation on efficient outdoor water use by calling us at (909) 384-5141.



We want to connect with you!
Follow us at @SBCityWater



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909.384.5141

SBCityWater.org
OFFICE HOURS:

MON - THURS 7:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.
FRI 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.