



Rosamond Community Services District

Official Newsletter of Rosamond Community Services District - March 2022

Drought Returns to California

While winter storms brought cautious optimism about the end of the drought in California, that optimism is evaporating. January 2022 was California's driest since 1984 and was followed by the second driest February in over 100 years. So far, 2022 has been the driest year since record-keeping began in 1895. By the second week of March, 87% of California was back to a state of severe drought, including all of Kern county.

What does this mean for RCSD and our customers? We need to stay the course of previous conservation efforts while looking for new ways to water more efficiently.

RCSD will continue to seek new and innovative ways to acquire water to shore up our community's water security.

Easy Efficiency Tip: Fix Leaky Threads

Threaded water connections, the kind that you screw on, are all over our homes. Some of the most common that we have are water spigots and hoses. The good news is that these threaded connections are among the easiest and most inexpensive to fix.

Two things that can help you treat leaky threaded connections are thread-sealing tape and washers.

Many threaded connections rely on the threads themselves to seal up tight and stop water leaks. Thread sealing tape is easy to install, fills up the tiny gaps between the threads, and makes disconnecting the threads easy in the future. Thread sealing tape is easy to find at our local hardware

stores, and there are plenty of DIY guides and videos online on how to use it properly.

The seal between your hose and spigot, or hose and sprayer, is sealed with a rubber washer that can break down over time. If these connections are leaking, try replacing that washer with a new one purchased from our local hardware store.

What's Going on at RCSD?

For many, their only interaction with RCSD is the safe and healthy water that comes out of their tap and monthly billing statements. It's easy to forget just how much work goes on behind the scenes to provide safe water and sanitary sewer service.

To this end, the RCSD board asked our General Manager, Steve Perez, to report the projects currently underway by RCSD. Here's what he reported:

Fence replacement at the Rosamond Water Reclamation Plant was completed in March. This fence replacement was started in early January and enhances both the RWRP's security and appearance. After completing the RWRP's fence, the contractor began installing fencing along the west end of RCSD's property on Diamond Street. This fencing will help stop illegal parking and trespassing in that area.

New mainline valves are being installed to enable RCSD to respond more effectively to emergencies. Two valves were installed on Poplar Street in the first phase. The second phase is in planning and will have valves installed near 15th Street West and Rosamond Boulevard.

Kern County is constructing new pedestrian paths in Rosamond. Like all utilities, RCSD is relocating and adjusting existing infrastructure, like fire hydrants and meter boxes, to accommodate this construction.

The RCSD team is working on the state-mandated Urban Water Management Plan. This plan will assess the reliability of water sources over a 20-year planning time frame, describe demand management measures and water shortage contingency plans, and report progress toward meeting a targeted 20 percent reduction in per-capita urban water consumption by the year 2020.

RCSD is working on a new FOG (Fats, Oils, and Grease) program and industrial waste process designed to protect the RCSD water treatment plant. This project is on track with a six-month implementation timeline.

After 15 years of planning, RCSD is nearly ready to begin constructing the Arsenic Consolidation project that will improve the safety of Rosamond's already healthy water safety. The RCSD team is currently working on getting easements required for the project. RCSD was slated to fund the project back in 2016; however, it is now looking like the state will fund the project in its entirety.

RCSD was awarded a \$1.1 million Prop 1 funding grant to offset the cost of the RWRP construction. RCSD is currently awaiting payment approval.

RCSD is also in various stages of receiving grant funding to help recover funds lost from delinquent sewer bills of customers who faced financial hardship during COVID.

As part of annual preventative maintenance, RCSD has inspections and repairs done on some of our five water tanks each year. In

April, repairs will be performed on tanks three and four, and tank two will be inspected and repaired.

The RCSD team is hard at work building Rosamond's water security through water purchases. We currently have over 1,300 acre-feet in escrow, with additional purchases in negotiation.

The RWRP solar project is on track for a July 2022 buildout after delays from So Cal Edison. This project will help power the RWRP and save customers money by offsetting ever-increasing power costs.

As you can see, a lot is going on at RCSD behind the scenes. The money our customers pay towards water and sewer service is being carefully and prudently invested in ensuring Rosamond has safe water and healthy sewers today and in our future.

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off

Rosamond residents looking to get rid of household hazardous waste will again have the opportunity to do so for free this month. Kern County is holding a household hazardous waste drop-off event on Saturday, April 2nd and 30th, in Tehachapi.

2 April 2022, 9am - 1pm
Tehachapi Sanitary Landfill
12001 E Tehachapi Blvd, Tehachapi

30 April 2022, 9am - 1pm
Tehachapi Sanitary Landfill
12001 E Tehachapi Blvd, Tehachapi

Leaking containers will not be accepted. Remember to label each container and to NEVER MIX CHEMICALS.

