



#### DSRSD's Residential Recycled Water Distribution Program

#### **Levi Fuller**

Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations Supervisor

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## **ABOUT DSRSD**



### **OUR DWINDLING WATER SUPPLY**



Lake Oroville July 2011

Lake Oroville January 2014

### **POTABLE WATER RESTRICTIONS**

- Passed Mandatory Water Restrictions Ordinance May 5, 2014
- Overall conservation goal of 25%
  - 5% inside
  - 50-60% outside
- Irrigation June Sept.
  - Two days per week
  - Apply only ½ inch per week

#### **Current Situation:** Drought Emergency

Declared by DSRSD, Zone 7 Water Agency, and the State of California

Current

REDUCTION

Goal:

Conservation

### **RESIDENTIAL USE OF RECYCLED WATER**

- It's the right water for the right use (irrigation)
- Enables home owners to save valuable trees and landscaping during the drought
- Relays the message using potable water for non-potable uses is a waste of a valuable resource that is in short supply
- Helps improve public perception and reassurance that recycled water can be used safely
- Paves the way for public acceptance of future recycled water projects

### **CDPH PROGRAM APPROVAL**

#### District's Operations Manager met with CDPH staff February 19, 2014

- Robert Brownwood, District Engineer & Vladimir Rakhamimov, Associate Sanitary Engineer
- Concerns noted during meeting:
  - Signage for containers
  - Cross-connections with domestic plumbing
- Obtained verbal approval to develop a public distribution program:
  - Submitted a procedures document and customer use agreement (license) form for review
  - CDPH had two minor corrections on the use agreement form
- May 2, 2014, received confirmation email from CDPH stating:
  - "The proposed program is acceptable to the Department."

### **RWQCB PROGRAM APPROVAL**

#### RWQCB was contacted May 21, 2014

- Contact: Blair Allen, Water Resources Control Engineer
- An email was sent requesting program acceptance
- Email included program description and CDPH's approval of program

#### RWQCB requesting the following items:

- Report describing the program
- Copies of CDPH communications
- Use Agreement Form

#### June 3, 2014, received RWQCB's approval

- Obtained approval for the Residential Use of Recycled Water Program under DSRSD's Order No. 96-011
- Requested an update status report within 30 days

### RESIDENTIAL RECYCLED WATER USE PROGRAM DETAILS

- Customer must complete & submit Use Agreement Form
- Obtains training from District staff
- After training customer receives:
  - A wallet card
  - Recycled water stickers to be placed on transport and storage containers
- Returning customers are to show wallet card for proof of use agreement form submittal and have received training





Large container stickers 4" X 8"

### **CONTAINER REQUIREMENTS**

- Minimum 1 gallon
  Why? see photo on right
- Maximum 300 gallons customers with larger containers are directed to commercial fill-station program
- Container must be water tight and secured for safe transport
- Customers are informed to consider carrying capacity of vehicles since water weighs 8.345 lbs/gallon





### RESIDENTIAL RECYCLED WATER FILL-STATION





### **RESIDENTIAL FILL-STATION STAFFING**

#### Hired four attendants:

- Staff the residential fill-station
- Hours expanding with customer demand
  - Monday-Friday 2-7pm
  - Thursday, Saturday, Sunday 8am to noon
- Attendants duties:
  - Setup & breakdown signs before and after opening & closing
  - Ensure use agreement forms are signed
  - Train new users
  - Issue wallet cards
  - Distribute and ensure containers have stickers
  - Control traffic
  - Ensure safety of the customers while at the fill station





### **PROGRAM RESULTS**

- 1.3 AF (0.434 MG) of recycled water has been distributed through this program
- 274 customers have submitted use agreement forms
- 70 to 100 customer trips each day
- Open Bay Area wide
  - Customers are coming from as far away as Fremont and El Sobrante

# PROMOTING THE USE OF RECYCLED WATER





#### **CUSTOMER COMMENTS**

"We haven't been watering our lawn, and it would be nice to have it a little green."

*"It's not just about avoiding the city's penalties, I want to conserve water in a drought...besides, the price is right: it's free."* 

"...I'm not squeamish about irrigating my plants with the recycled water. When I walk my dog by the creek, I'm going to find a lot more bacteria in the creek than in this recycled water."

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- Post your tips and photos

#### **PROGRAM INFORMATION**



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# **Questions?**



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MAINTENANO OFFICE SHOP DELIVERIES