

## THE GOOD NEWS

# San Diego <sup>is</sup> Drought Safe #staywatersmart



Even though drought conditions cover most of California means, the San Diego region's strategic planning over the past three decades means we have reliable water supplies for this year and multiple dry years. The result of all our efforts is that the San Diego region's water planning approach is seen as a statewide model.

### WATER SUPPLY INVESTMENTS

Your rates don't just pay for your water, we've built the pumps, plants, pipes and other facilities to ensure clean and reliable water supplies for our economy and quality of life.

### RESERVOIRS

We've invested in strategic infrastructure to improve water reliability for our 24 member agencies, including a major new reservoir in North County and the nation's largest dam raise project in East County. The result is a major expansion of our emergency and dry-year water reserves.

### DIVERSIFICATION

Our region has added new locally controlled water sources, including groundwater, water reuse and recycling facilities and low-cost conserved water from the Imperial Valley.

### DESALINATION

We've developed and deployed the nation's largest seawater desalination plant, which produces 50 million gallons per day of high-quality drinking water – an especially valuable asset in dry years.

### EFFICIENCY

San Diegans have embraced water-saving programs and efficient water habits such as fixing leaks, using hoses with automatic shut-off nozzles, and replacing thirsty turf yards with beautiful low-water landscapes. Put simply, we live water smart.

### RATEPAYER PROTECTIONS

#### DELIVERING REFUNDS

We stood up for ratepayers by securing a \$44.4 million refund for overcharges by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

#### SECURING SUPPLY

We've secured high-priority, low-cost Colorado River water that gives San Diego County businesses and homeowners confidence that we have long-term access to a reliable water supply.

#### FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

We saved ratepayers more than \$278 million in bond refundings in just over a decade. This has helped to lower the cost of borrowing for major capital projects that help to ensure water supply reliability, particularly during dry years.

#### ADVOCATING

We work tirelessly to control the cost of water by pursuing state and federal grants to improve water infrastructure and provide relief for ratepayers impacted by the COVID pandemic.

**AND ALL OF THAT IS GOOD NEWS FOR SAN DIEGANS.**