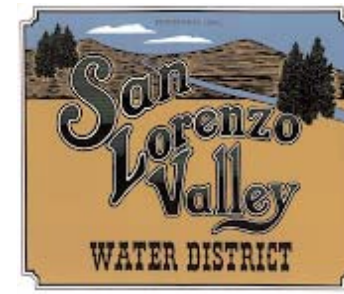


Este reporte contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.



# San Lorenzo Valley Water District Consumer Confidence Report Northern Distribution System

WATER QUALITY 2008

JUNE 2009

## Your Water Passes All Tests

Once again, the San Lorenzo Valley Water District is pleased to report that our water quality met or surpassed all State and Federal criteria for public health protection. For additional information regarding water quality, please contact the San Lorenzo Valley Water District's Director of Operations, Rick Rogers, at (831) 430-4624 or e-mail to rogers@slvwd.com.

During the summer months from June-November the District blends surface water with groundwater sources (wells) located in the Ben Lomond and Zayante areas. All wells conform to State construction standards. These wells, with the exception of Olympia 2 and 3 in the Zayante area, produce very soft water with quality similar to our surface sources.

Olympia Wells 2 and 3 have a higher mineral content, primarily iron, manganese and carbonate hardness. These minerals are harmless when consumed in water, but may affect the aesthetic qualities of the water such as taste, odor, and color. Dissolved gases present in groundwater may also affect taste.

Consumers in the Hihn Road and Zayante areas, from time to time, may experience periods of discolored water caused by iron and manganese. As water comes in contact with chlorine at the well head and with oxygen during the trip through the mainline distribution piping, the iron and manganese precipitate deposits in the water mains. The District adds a polyphosphate chemical to slow down this process. However, this is not totally effective and some deposition still occurs. Occasionally, during higher flows, the deposits become dislodged resulting in discolored water. During this time, water is safe to use; however, you may want to avoid washing laundry as staining may occur. If you experience periods of discolored water, please contact the District at (831) 338-2153.

## Sources of Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include: rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals including radioactive material, and other substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

## Where Does Your Water Come From?

All water comes in the form of precipitation. Surface water accumulates mainly as a result of direct runoff from precipitation in the form of streams. Part of the precipitation that falls infiltrates the soil. Water drains downward (percolates) below the soil surface reaching a level at which all of the openings or voids in the ground are filled with water. This zone of saturation is referred to as groundwater.

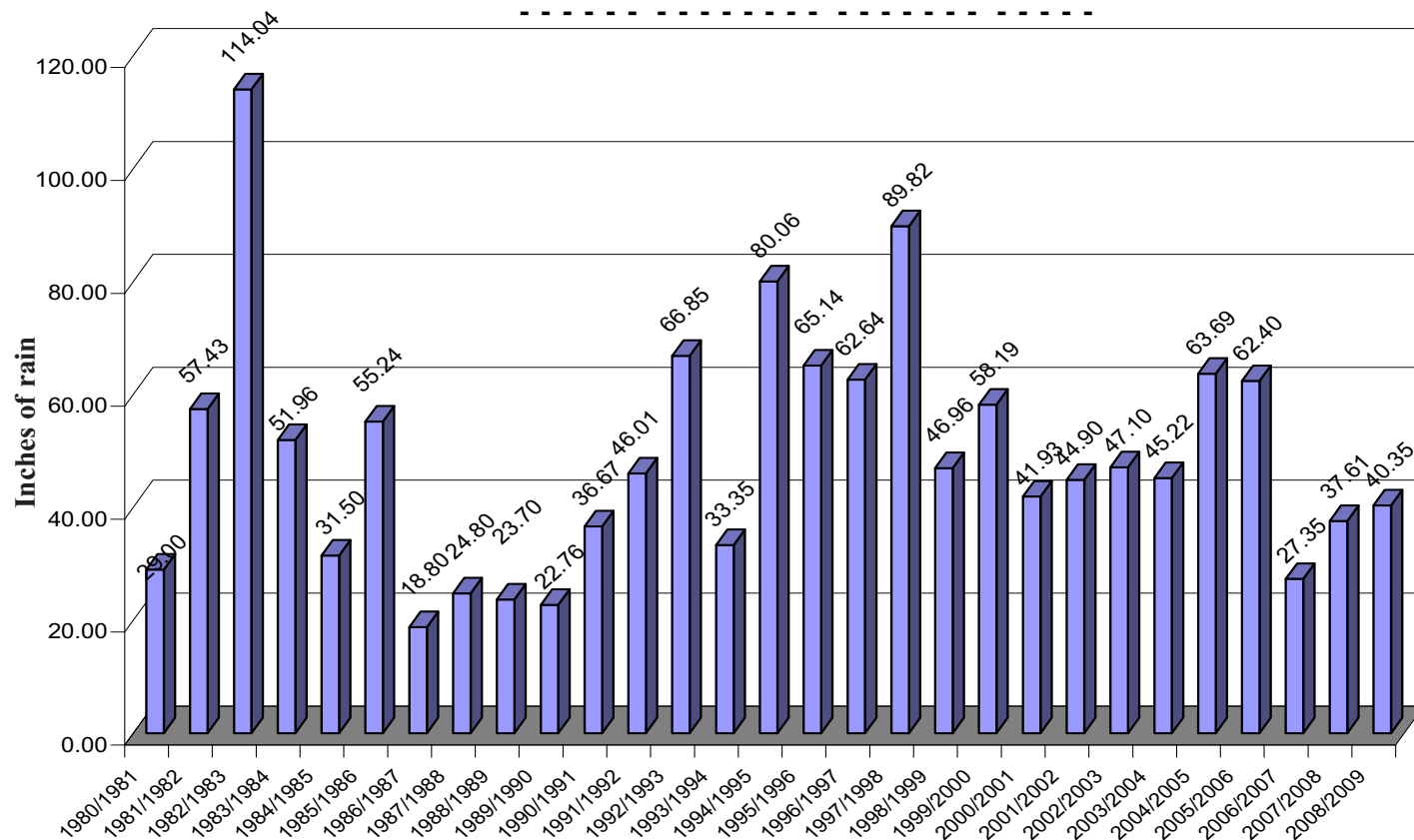
The District primarily uses surface water sources from November to May. During these months, surface water may provide up to 100% of all District water. Streams utilized by the District contain water from granite formations with very low mineral content. This results in very soft, pleasant tasting water. Collection points for these streams are in remote areas high within the District's protected watershed, away from human contamination.

## Public Involvement

The Board of Directors of the San Lorenzo Valley Water District invites you to attend its meetings to express your views and opinions. The Board meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. Meetings start at 7:30 p.m. at the District's Operations Building, 13057 Highway 9, Boulder Creek. Agenda information for the Board of Director's meetings can be obtained from the District at (831) 430-4636 or www.slvwd.com.

San Lorenzo Valley Water District  
13060 Highway 9  
Boulder Creek, CA. 95006-9119

Standard Rate U.S.  
Postage Paid  
Boulder Creek, CA  
95006  
Permit No. 55



## Is the Water Safe for Everyone to Drink?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA / Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791 or on the internet at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater>

"Our mission is to provide our customers and all future generations with reliable, safe and high quality water at an equitable price; to create and maintain outstanding customer service; to manage and protect the environmental health of the aquifers and watersheds; and, to ensure the fiscal vitality of the San Lorenzo Valley Water District."

## Water Quality

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and State Department of Public Health (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or on the web at [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater).

## Possible Contaminants

Contaminants that may be in the water prior to treatment may include:

**Microbial Contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic sys-

tems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

**Inorganic Contaminants**, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

**Pesticides and Herbicides**, that may come from a variety of sources such as agricultural, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

**Organic Chemical Contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.

## State Standards and Monitoring

Individual water suppliers do not arbitrarily decide what constitutes "safe" drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the California State Department of Public Health require all public water suppliers to meet stringent quality standards. Compliance is mandatory for public water utilities.

In California, drinking water standards (also called Maximum Contaminant Levels, or MCLs) are established for two categories. Primary Standards are set for the protection of public health. Secondary Standards are set only for aesthetic qualities such as taste, odor and color, but do not represent any threat to health.

The District maintains a monitoring program to sample and test all water sources in accordance with State and Federal standards. Should the District fail to monitor, or the District's water exceed the MCLs allowable in the Primary Standards, it is required by law to notify all customers of the nature of the problem and any possible health effects. Some contaminants that are routinely monitored by the District are bacteria, turbidity, inorganic chemicals, metals, general minerals, volatile organic chemicals (VOCs), disinfection by-products (THMs), and radiation.

The table in this report shows our test results for 2008. Once again, the San Lorenzo Valley Water District is pleased to report that our water quality met or surpassed all State and Federal criteria for public health protection. For additional information regarding water quality, please contact the San Lorenzo Valley Water District at (831) 338-2153.

In an effort to provide this report to everyone, the District encourages landlords to provide a copy of this report to their tenants.

## Protecting Our Watershed

Many common household products are hazardous if carelessly handled or stored. Chemicals poured on the ground or down the drain or toilet can pollute our drinking water. Of particular concern are volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) and synthetic organic chemicals (SOCs). VOCs are chemicals commonly found in paints, thinners, solvents, degreasers, and automotive products. SOCs are found in herbicides and pesticides. These products should never be poured down the sink, toilet or drain. The County of Santa Cruz receives household hazardous waste at the Ben Lomond Transfer Station. The District strongly encourages consumers to make use of this convenient program and to dispose of household hazardous waste in a proper and responsible manner. For more information on disposal and receiving times, you may call the County at (831) 454-2606. You can help protect our drinking water from sources of pollution.

The District is required to monitor for these chemicals at every water source on a periodic basis. Currently all District water sources are free from these contaminants. In the past, very small amounts of Trichloroethylene (TCE) had been occasionally detected in Quail well 5A. Amounts ranging from 0.60 to 1.0 parts per billion (ppb) had been intermittently found in water quality samples. However, detectable amounts of TCE have not been found in Quail well 5A since August of 2005. The District continues to collect water quality samples at this source with increased frequency in order to ensure that the source remains free of contamination.

The occasional detection of TCE at one of the District's facilities demonstrates the on-going vulnerability of our water sources and the need to exercise great care when using hazardous chemicals around the home. It is extremely important to help protect our drinking water from possible sources of pollution by exercising care with all household chemicals. A little pollution can go a long way!

## Source Water Assessments

In 2002 and 2004 the District completed source water assessments of its deep water well aquifers and surface water watershed in Ben Lomond, Zayante and Boulder Creek. A source water assessment lists possible contaminating activities and the susceptibility of identified contamination threats that might affect the quality of our drinking water supplies.

### Quail Hollow Well Field Aquifer

Factors contributing to the potential vulnerability of the District's Quail Hollow Wells include: the high percolation

capacity of the Santa Margarita Sandstone Aquifer and associated Zayante soils, the absence of a confining zone above the aquifer, residential septic tank systems, and unused production wells.

### Olympia Well Field Aquifer

Factors contributing to the potential water-quality vulnerability of the District's Olympia wells include: the high percolation capacity of the Santa Margarita Sandstone Aquifer, residential septic tank systems, and equestrian activities.

### Foreman, Peavine, Clear, and Sweetwater Creeks Watershed

Factors contributing to the potential vulnerability of the District's surface water include: managed forests, septic systems, recreational, government or institutional facilities. Copies of the Source Water Assessments for each water source are available at the District Office.

The District invites all of our customers to visit the District's web site. The web site provides a great deal of information regarding water quality, customer service, drought, historical rainfall, watershed management, fiscal budgets, and the District's Water Master Plan. Visit the web site at [www.slvwd.com](http://www.slvwd.com)

## Monitoring Requirement Violation; Bacteriological Monitoring

During the reporting period our water system failed to monitor as required for drinking water standards and therefore was in violation of the regulations. Even though this failure was not an emergency, our customers have a right to know what happened and that we corrected the situation.

During the month of September 2008 District Staff failed to collect one routine Total Coliform sample in the Big Basin Way area of Boulder Creek. This resulted in less than the required number of samples being collected for the month of September placing the District in violation. Health effects of this violation are unknown

All samples collected during the month of September 2008 met all State and Federal Water Quality Standards. Follow up sampling in the Big Basin Way area ensured all water quality standards had been met.

To ensure on going compliance with the required sampling frequency, the District has implemented corrective measures, and is committed to providing the community with a safe and wholesome water supply at all times.



SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

Drought Contingency Management Plan

PHASE TWO - MANDATORY WATER CONSERVATION RESTRICTIONS

Phase Two is a mandatory program with an overall goal to reduce customer water demand by twenty (20%) percent. District institutes mandatory water conservation restrictions which establish prohibitions on water use. Board of Directors adopts mandatory water conservation ordinance. Mandatory water conservation restrictions include, but may not be limited, to the following prohibitions:

- All outdoor landscape watering is prohibited between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- The washing of areas such as sidewalks, patios, decks, driveways, exterior building surfaces and other impervious surfaces is prohibited.
- Car washing is prohibited except with a bucket and hose with shut-off nozzle.
- Waste of water due to broken or defective plumbing, sprinklers and watering irrigation systems is prohibited.
- Water service in public restaurants by request only.
- Bulk water sales at the District office available only for domestic use . No construction water.

How To Read Your Water Meter

One of your best conservation tools is your water meter. It is normally located on the road shoulder in front of your home, housed in a concrete box. If you have trouble locating your water meter contact the District for a better location of your meter. Reading the meter is similar to reading a car odometer. The meter measures volume of water in cubic feet. The first digit on the right represents one cubic foot, the second from the right represents 10 cubic feet, the third from the right represents 100 cubic feet, and so forth. The sweep hand registers fractions of a cubic foot. One cubic foot is equal to 7.48 gallons of water.

Your water bill is based on how many hundred cubic feet you use over a one- or two-month billing period. One hundred cubic feet (also referred to as a billing "unit" or "ccf") equals 748 gallons.

Using Your Water Meter to Check for Leaks

1. It's good preventive maintenance to conduct a leak check of your house periodically.
2. Start by firmly turning off all water devices inside and outside the house.
3. Next, go outside to the meter and mark down the reading, including the red flow detection indicator.
4. Wait 15 minutes and then check the meter again.

If the meter has not moved, your house is leak free. If the meter has moved, you have a leak to hunt down. The most likely cause is a leaking toilet. Most meters also have a triangular low-flow indicator, which should not be spinning unless a leak is present.



To avoid receiving a surprisingly high water bill caused by an undetected leak, we suggest you check your meter regularly.

SA ORE OVA EY WATER DISTRICT WATER QUALITY ANALYSIS FOR 2008 North System - Boulder Creek, Brookdale, Benomond, ayante									
RO DWATER	PRIMARY STANDARDS	Meas.	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	SLVWD Range of Detection	SLVWD Water Average	Sample Date	Notes	Source
	Nitrate	ppm	45	45	3 - 11	2.3	2008		Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.
	Fluoride	ppb	2000	1000	170 - 320	230	2006	(1)	Erosion of natural deposits.
	Arsenic	ppb	10	N/A	1.0 - 2.6	2.2	2006	(1)	Erosion of natural deposits.
	<b>SECONDARY STANDARDS</b>								
	Color	CU	15	N/A	<3.0 - 4.0	4	2006	(1)	Natural occurring organic material
	Sulfate	ppm	500	N/A	8.4 - 230	92	2006	(1)	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.
	Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	1000	N/A	128 - 612	311	2006	(1)	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.
	Iron	ppb	300	N/A	<20 - 230	140	2006	(1)	Leaching from natural deposits.
	Manganese	ppb	50	N/A	80 - 200	120	2008	(3)	Leaching from natural deposits.
	Chloride	ppm	500	N/A	6.2 - 8.6	7.4	2006	(1)	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.
	<b>ADDITIONAL STATISTICS</b>								
	Sodium	ppm	N/A	N/A	9.9 - 15	11.5	2006	(1)	Generally naturally occurring.
	Total Hardness	ppm	N/A	N/A	47 - 410	192	2006	(1)	Hardness is the sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium.
	Total Phosphorous	ppm	N/A	N/A	0.93 - 2.7	2	2008	(3)	Treatment additive
	<b>SECONDARY STANDARDS</b>								
	Fluoride	ppb	2000	1000	< 100	< 100	2008		Erosion of natural deposits.
	Total Organic Carbon (TOC) Control of DBP precursors	ppb	Treatment requirement	N/A	N.D. - 1.5	0.8	2002	(1, 4)	Various natural manmade sources.
	<b>SECONDARY STANDARDS</b>								
	Sulfate	ppm	500	N/A	3.6 - 5.0	3.8	2008		Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.
	Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	1000	N/A	96 - 124	105	2008		Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.
	Chloride	ppm	500	N/A	4.8 - 5.7	5.2	2008		Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.
	<b>ADDITIONAL STATISTICS</b>								
	Sodium	ppm	N/A	N/A	8.4 - 10	9.4	2008		Generally naturally occurring.
	Total Hardness	ppm	N/A	N/A	56 - 83	69	2008		Hardness is the sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium.
	Turbidity	NTU	Less Than or Equal to 0.2 NTU, in 95% of samples each month. Never to exceed 1.0 NTU.	N/A	Less Than or Equal to 0.2 NTU in 99.4% of samples in one month.	Highest single measurement = 0.17 NTU	2008	(2)	Soil runoff.

SYSTEM WIDE - COMBINED WATER - Boulder Creek, Brookdale, Bennington, and Avante 2										
MICROBIOLOGICAL	COAGULATION	TAMING	TS	Meas.	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	SLVWD Range of Detection	SLVWD Water Average	Sample Date	Source
Total Coliform				P/A	No more than 5% of Samples Positive in any one month	0	N.D. - 3%	N.D.	2008	Naturally present in the environment
DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL	Meas.	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	SLVWD Range of Detection	SLVWD Water Average	Sample Date	Source			
Chlorine	ppm	4	4	0.25 - 1.2	0.58	2008	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment.			
DISINFECTANT BY-PRODUCTS	Meas.	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	SLVWD Range of Detection	SLVWD Water Average	Sample Date	Source			
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes)	ppb	80	N/A	N.D. - 42	20	2008	By-product of drinking water chlorination.			
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids)	ppb	60	N/A	N.D. - 39	14	2008	By-product of drinking water chlorination.			
ADDITIONAL TESTS	Meas.	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	SLVWD Range of Detection	SLVWD Water Average	Sample Date	Source			
Color	CU	15	N/A	N.D. - 5	< 1.0	2008	Natural occurring organic material			
Odor	TON	3	N/A	N.D. - 2	N.D.	2008	Natural occurring organic material			
PRIMARY STANDARDS RELEVANT AT TAP	Meas.	AL	PHG (MCLG)	Number of Samples Collected	Tap Water 90th Percentile Results	Sample Date	Source			
Lead	ppb	15	2	30	90th Percentile = 2.3 Number of sites above AL = 0	2008	Corrosion of household plumbing, discharges from industrial manufacturers, erosion of natural deposits.			
Copper	ppb	1300	170	30	90th Percentile = 580 Number of sites above AL = 0	2008	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives.			
<b>Notes, Definitions, Terms and Abbreviations used in table</b>										
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.										
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.										
Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCL's and MRDL's for contaminants that effect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.										
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCL's are set as close to the PHG's or (MCLG's) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCL's are set to protect the odor, taste and appearance of drinking water.										
Regulatory Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.										
Public Health Goal (PHG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHG's are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.										
Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.										
NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units.      ppb: Parts per billion or micrograms per liter      ppm: Parts per million or milligrams per liter.										
N.D.: Not Detectable at testing limit      P/A: Presence /Absence      CU: Color Units      TON: Threshold odor number										
<b>Notes</b> 1) The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old. 2) Surface Water Treatment Technique (Type of Approved Filtration Technology): Microfloc package plant with upflow clarification and gravity filtration. 3) District Olympia Wells 2 and 3 periodically exceed the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Manganese. Secondary MCL's are set for aesthetic reasons only, and do not cause adverse health effects. Manganese can cause discolored water and staining. To offset this effect, the District adds phosphate, which acts to keep the Manganese in solution and help prevent problems associated with this mineral. 4) Total Organic Carbon has no health effects. However, total organic carbon provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts.										

To All San Lorenzo Valley Water District Customers

June 2009

Re: Drought Contingency Management Plan 2009

Dear Customer:

In early May 2009, the District provided the Drought Contingency Management Plan for 2009. Because water conservation is imperative this summer we are again providing this information as a reminder. This summer we find that another dry year is upon us, with rainfall continuing below normal for the third straight year. To date this year, the rainfall total is 39 inches--85% of normal. Because our stream flows and aquifer levels are already impacted by two previous years of low rainfall, it is imperative that all District customers implement water conservation now to avoid shortfalls later.

To address the continuing need for water conservation, effective May 8, 2009 and until further notice, the District will enforce Phase Two of the Drought Contingency Management Plan (see back of page), which requires all customers to reduce their water demand by 20% of normal.

By far the most effective way to reduce your water use is by cutting back on landscape use and outdoor watering, especially during the warmer months. The enclosed flyer provides many tips for reducing landscape water use, as well as indoor use.

Please note, Phase Two prohibits the following uses of water:

- All outdoor watering between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- Washing of sidewalks, patios, decks, driveways, exterior building surfaces and other impervious surfaces.
- Car washing, except with a bucket and hose with shut-off nozzle.
- Waste of water due to broken or defective plumbing, sprinklers and watering / irrigation systems.
- Water service in public restaurants by request only.

We know that many of our customers have been practicing, or even exceeding Phase Two water conservation requirements, and we very much appreciate your continued cooperation. Some customers, however, need to substantially improve their efforts to reduce water demand.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the District at 831-338-2153, or visit the District web site at <http://www.slvwd.com> for more information about how to conserve water.

Very truly yours,

James A. Mueller  
District Manager