

ON TAP

NEWSLETTER

INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT UPDATE: BOARD OF DIRECTORS AWARDS \$1.9 MILLION CONTRACT TO REFURBISH SEWER LIFT STATION

At its Dec. 21 meeting, the TCWD Board of Directors awarded a construction contract to Pacific Hydrotech Corp. to refurbish one of the District's most critical facilities, the Golf Club Sewer Lift Station within the Dove Canyon community. The Golf Club SLS has been in continuous 24/7 operation for over 30 years, pumping wastewater flows received from more than half of the homes in Dove Canyon through a sewer force main over one mile in length to Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant, a lift of over 300 feet in elevation. The \$1.9 million construction contract represents the final phase of improvements to the Golf Club SLS, totaling over \$3 million and paid almost entirely with ratepayer funding.

INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

Check the On Tap newsletter in the coming months for updates on this and other important capital improvement projects.

TCWD HOSTS HOME FIRE-HARDENING WORKSHOP

On Jan. 9, Trabuco Canyon Water District hosted a residential fire-hardening workshop for homeowners association representatives organized by Community Associations of Rancho (CAR) in partnership with O.C. Fire Authority, O.C. Sheriff and the City of Rancho Santa Margarita. Home fire-hardening refers to managing vegetation and using fire-resistant building materials and practices to reduce the risk of a home catching fire. Residents face challenges maintaining and affording fire insurance coverage because much of TCWD lies in a high fire risk zone. Implementing fire-hardening practices can potentially reduce insurance premiums and help retain coverage.

The event featured presentations by OCFA and several residents who have implemented home hardening, followed by exhibits and demonstrations by several fire protection vendors. TCWD is a proud supporter of CAR and its mission to have all the master associations in the city of Rancho Santa Margarita work cooperatively to address community-wide issues like wildfire prevention and protection.



Previous phase of improvements at Golf Club SLS



TCWD Board Member Mike Safranski presents on home fire hardening



Vendor demonstrates flame resistant vent product



Below ground "dry pit" at Golf Club SLS



TCWD-LED WASTEWATER PLANT IMPROVEMENTS SAVE MONEY AND ENERGY

The Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant produces an average of 400,000 gallons of valuable recycled water daily from all the wastewater collected from the southeast portion of the District's service area. Two Sequential Batch Reactors (SBRs) are at the heart of the treatment process. The SBRs facilitate the biological treatment of wastewater through aeration and mixing in large basins, separating cleaner water from solids.

In December, TCWD's Operations staff completed the overhaul of the East SBR, which included draining and cleaning the deep basin, then rebuilding the air diffuser systems and installing a floating mixer. The West SBR was overhauled earlier in 2023.

PROJECT BENEFITS

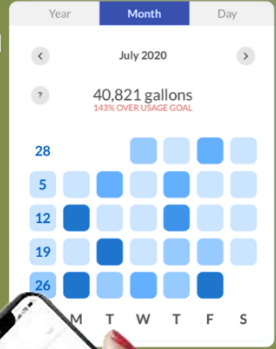
- The SBRs will now mix and treat wastewater much more efficiently and require significantly less energy – and cost – to operate.
- TCWD staff performed the work in-house, delivering a 65% cost savings compared to hiring outside contractors.
- The aeration system refurbishment provides a more durable and reliable system that will prevent downtime and ensure compliance with all state regulations.

DOWNLOAD DROPCOUNTR ON YOUR MOBILE DEVICE OR DESKTOP TODAY

The Dropcountr app translates data from new smart water meters recently installed by TCWD into actionable information regarding your household's water consumption. Many TCWD customers already using Dropcountr have reported leaks they were previously not aware of, saving water and money.

Dropcountr is now available to all active District customers. Sign up today using your account information from your mobile device, or log in using your online browser at dropcountr.com.

If you have any questions about Dropcountr, please contact customer service at (949) 858-0277 or via email at customerservice@tcwd.ca.gov



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