

ON TAP

NEWSLETTER

A PENNY A GALLON FOR CLEAN, RELIABLE DRINKING WATER?

As a Trabuco Canyon Water District water customer, you know that clean, safe drinking water flows out every time you turn on your faucet. But where does your water come from, and what does it take to get it to your home?

WATER'S JOURNEY TO YOUR TAP

Your drinking water begins as rain and snow in the Rocky Mountains, carried by the Colorado River to Lake Havasu, where nine enormous pumps – each rated at 9,000 horsepower – draw up to one billion gallons per day. To get it to Southern California, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's (MWD) Colorado River Aqueduct crosses 242 miles of the Mojave Desert. Along the way, six additional pumping plants lift the water a total of 1,617 feet before it reaches Orange County. MWD spends over \$60 million annually on power for the aqueduct system, which has been operating for nearly 100 years.

Every year, TCWD purchases, on average, 650 million gallons of MWD's Colorado River water supply through the Municipal Water District of Orange County. Since the 1980s, TCWD has operated the Dimension Water Treatment Plant in Lake Forest to filter Colorado River water, which carries lots of silt from erosion on its journey through the southwest (think Grand Canyon!). TCWD's water-treatment and distribution certified operators perform hundreds of water quality tests monthly to ensure our drinking water meets or exceeds all standards set by state and federal regulators.

TCWD is one of only two Orange County water providers to run such a facility. Although, in years of plentiful local rainfall (like this year), TCWD is happy to pause the operation of its Dimension plant and pump groundwater for several months instead, saving water supply and operating costs.

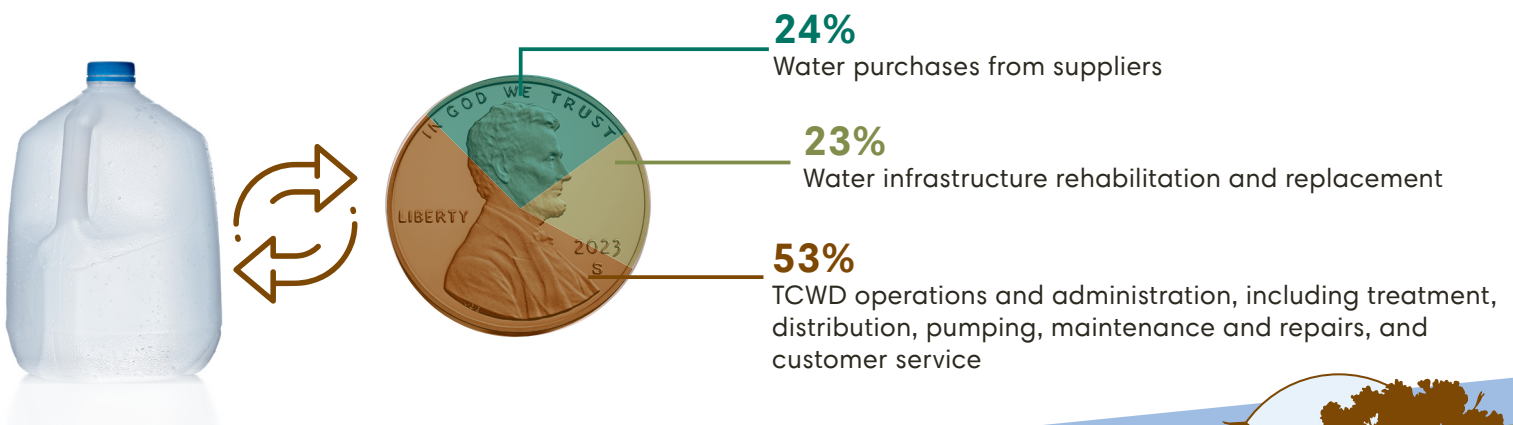
From the Dimension plant, drinking water is pumped up another 1,000 feet in elevation into TCWD's nine reservoirs before it is delivered through a network of 75 miles of water mains to your tap and a nearby fire hydrant – one of 625 hydrants throughout TCWD's service area. The majority of TCWD's water infrastructure has been in continuous operation for at least 30 years and in some cases, 60 years or more.

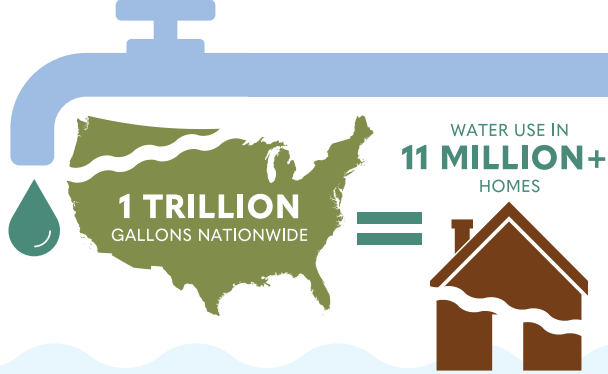
The surprise ending to this story of our drinking water supply is that TCWD can deliver it to your tap for only a penny per gallon or \$4 a day for a typical household – that's less than a Starbucks Frappuccino!

A PENNY PER GALLON

UNDERSTANDING THE COST BREAKDOWN OF TCWD DRINKING WATER

A penny buys a gallon of TCWD drinking water and represents the total bill that a typical customer pays for drinking water, divided as follows:





BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND GENERAL MANAGER

Stephen Dopudja, President
Edward Mandich, Vice President
Glenn Acosta, Director
Don Chadd, Director
Michael Safranski, Director
Fernando Paludi, General Manager

FIX A LEAK WEEK

Fix a Leak Week is March 18 – 24, but it's best to stay vigilant all year because leaks can spring up at any time. Sponsored by EPA's WaterSense program, Fix a Leak Week is an annual event that promotes water conservation by encouraging Americans to help put a stop to the nearly 1 trillion gallons of water wasted from household leaks each year.

Here's how you can help:

- Check for leaks, including dripping faucets, showerheads, sprinklers, toilets and other fixtures.
- Twist and tighten hose and pipe connections.
- Install WaterSense-labeled faucet aerators.
- Replace fixtures if necessary. Choose WaterSense labeled models, which use 20% less water and perform as well as or better than standard models.

DOWNLOAD DROPCOUNTR TO GET LEAK NOTIFICATIONS

TCWD's smart meters and free Dropcountr app empower customers to monitor for leaks and track water usage. Simply sign up using your TCWD account details at dropcountr.com. Have questions? Reach out to us at (949) 858-0277 or customerservice@tcwd.ca.gov.

MEET TCWD • EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

JIMMY MONTERO
CUSTOMER SERVICE FIELD TECHNICIAN

Key Responsibilities: Overseeing the TCWD's water meter and backflow infrastructure, resolving customer concerns regarding water usage and more.

Experience: Jimmy began his career in the world of water four years ago. He was inspired by friends in the industry who spoke highly of their jobs and the continuous opportunities for growth.

Best thing about working at TCWD: Jimmy says that what he likes most about his role is that he is always learning new things that help him help TCWD customers.

**"A GOOD IDEA IS WORTH NOTHING
WITHOUT GREAT EXECUTION."**

STAY IN TOUCH

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