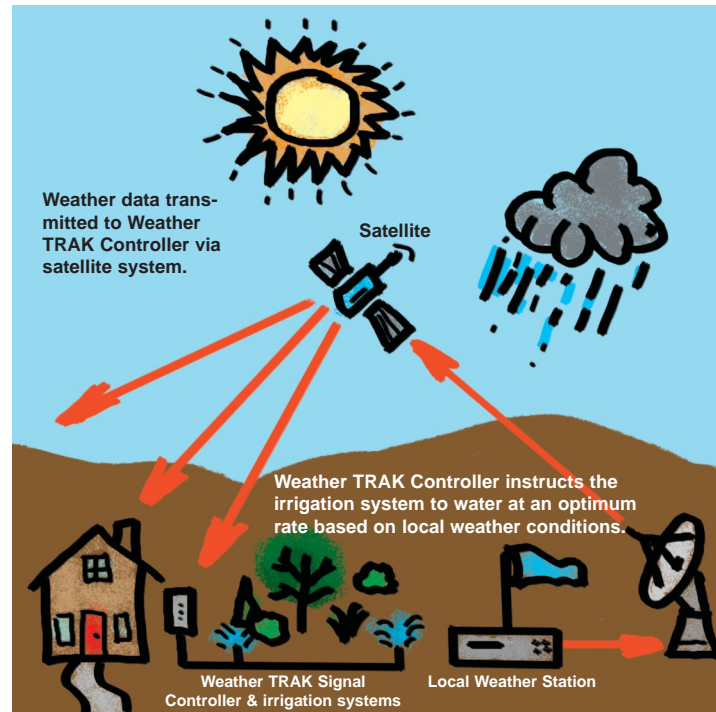


Landscape Water Efficiency Goes High-Tech

Goleta Water District is cooperating in a county-wide high-tech water conservation system. The system uses special weather stations to automatically transmit information about temperature and other factors to special sprinkler system controllers that adjust irrigation timing to match the actual needs of plants that day.

25% Water Savings Expected From High Water Users

A recent study showed that the Weather TRAK ET Controller saves about 25% on water use. Goleta Water District's Demonstration Garden at 4699 Hollister Ave. is one of two public sites where ET Controllers have been installed. We have begun installing the ET Controllers on properties of the residential water users with the highest water use.



Meet The Staff That Serves You

New Employees. (In left photo, from right to left) Linda Sumansky, Assistant Engineer; Mike Robles, Water Service Worker I; Dale Armstrong, Water Quality Specialist II.



Promotion. Sabrina Lopez has been promoted to Engineering Technician.



WATER NEWS

GOLETA WATER DISTRICT

Water District Evaluating Emergency Water Storage Options

Needed For Fires, Earthquake and Hot Days

There is a shortage of emergency water storage to serve the eastern portion of the Goleta Water District, where a single 1-million-gallon reservoir is now located.

Water storage needs for the western portion of the District were taken care of last year when the District built a major 6.4-million gallon reservoir.

The Next Challenge: How To Finance

The District is currently evaluating options on how to most cost-effectively construct the reservoir project and the other needed improvement projects described on the inside of this newsletter.

Although details are still being worked out, the process will involve drafting, engineering, financial and environmental studies for public review and comment before the final decisions are made.

While Goleta possesses adequate water supplies, almost all of its water comes from the other side of the mountains through a single tunnel and pipeline.

As a result, emergencies such as an earthquake or a pipeline break could seriously affect the flow of vital water supplies.

The answer: store more water in large, new reservoir tanks to meet emergency needs, as well as to provide water for fire fighting and to meet demands when water use soars on hot summer days.

"We have not been short of water for fighting fires, but there is a need for more emergency water storage.

The fire department is very supportive of building additional water storage, it is wise and farsighted."

County Deputy Fire Chief Steve Vittum



Increased water storage is needed to help fight fires and for other emergencies.

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Water Service So Reliable You Rarely Have To Think About It

Multi-Million Dollar Upgrades Needed To Maintain Top Quality Service

Water service is so reliable that you rarely have cause to think about it. You can turn on your tap anytime, day or night, and plenty of high-quality water flows out.

In order to provide that reliable service, Goleta Water District must continually maintain and upgrade its treatment plant, pipelines, pumps, reservoirs and other facilities.

Our engineering staff is guided by a long-range master plan that identifies priority projects, and helps us schedule, design and construct projects economically.



Well Upgrades To Improve Water Supply

Wells Help With Drought and Emergency Needs

During the winter months in wet years, Goleta Water District injects surplus Cachuma Water into the local groundwater basin. The stored water is then available for use during dry years and during emergencies, providing an additional backup supply. The groundwater basin functions like an underground reservoir

After 26 years of service, the District's wells have become worn and are in need of upgrades. Phase 1 of the well-rehabilitation program will cost about \$3.6 million for design and construction and will involve three of the District's 11 wells.

Half Of Cost From State Grant

The three wells will get new disinfection systems, motors, electrical and control systems, and casings will be replaced. Half the cost will be paid by a grant that has already been approved by the state.

Design work will be completed during the current fiscal year, and construction is scheduled to start in late spring of 2003, with the work to be completed in the fall of 2004.

State certified treatment plant operator checking computer control panels



Treatment Plant Upgrades Required

\$14 Million To Meet New Quality Standards

The District recently invested \$5 million during Phase 1 of the modernization of the Corona del Mar Treatment Plant. The District may have to invest as much as another \$12 to \$14 million in the next several years to further improve its ability to maintain consistently high water quality, even during difficult circumstances.

Besides a newer, more modern lab and more working space throughout the plant, the upgrades will include replacement of flocculators, major rehabbing of clarifiers, replacement of some pumping equipment and other improvements or replacements of operating equipment.

Ongoing Pipeline Replacements

Scheduled Maintenance Saves Customers Money

The District maintains a priority list of pipeline replacement projects: these are being undertaken in priority order. The list includes the oldest, most outdated, and most deteriorated waterline sections.

The District typically must invest up to \$500,000 each year on the on-going pipeline replacements. Each investment reduces costly maintenance and prevents unexpected breaks and wasteful leaks.



Our Commitment To You

Goleta Water District is committed to producing a safe, dependable, high-quality water supply at the lowest reasonable cost. We welcome comments and suggestions from our customers, and strive to provide the best possible customer service.

Keeping our customers informed is an important part of our job. If you have any questions about our capital improvement projects, please contact our engineering dept at 879-4625.

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