Preparation Kept Service On During Power Shutoff

Months of preparation and planning were instrumental in ensuring our customers continued to have water service during the recent PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS). Even with the loss of power in parts of our service area, we were able to keep water service flowing for all of our customers.

Our water treatment plants and pump stations rely on electricity to power the system that produces our high-quality drinking water and moves water through our system of pumps, tanks and pipelines and into our customers’ taps. We prepared for the PSPS by installing backup generators at treatment plants, and readying a fleet of portable generators that were placed at pump stations throughout Marin to keep water tanks full so that we could meet all of our customers’ water needs.

While the power was off, we asked all of our customers not to use irrigation systems and to conserve water for the duration of the shutoff. By conserving water, we were able to ease the demand on generators and keep more water in our tanks for firefighting and other essential uses.

We appreciate all of our customers’ conservation efforts during the power shutoff.

Watershed Approach to Landscaping Handbook and Classes Available

If we want Marin County landscapes that are truly resilient to the effects of a changing climate, then we need to go beyond sustainable and water-wise principles to begin managing each property as though it were a mini-watershed.

Our “Watershed Approach to Landscaping” handbook provides examples of inspirational gardens that conserve our valuable natural resources and create a diverse habitat of plants and insects.

The handbook contains a list of more than 110 water-wise plants, landscape design tips, gardening how-to guides, local nurseries and other resources for our customers.

Download the handbook at MarinWater.org/wal or borrow a copy at your local library.

Starting this fall the College of Marin is offering a new series of weekend classes for home gardeners based on MMWD’s Watershed Approach to Landscaping handbook. The classes will be Saturday mornings, 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., October 26 - December 7, and can be taken individually or as a complete series. The Watershed Approach to Landscaping classes will also be offered in Spring 2020.

For more information, see the print or online version of the College of Marin’s Fall 2019 Community Education catalog, pages 13-14.
Discount Programs Available to Reduce Your Water Bill

Did you know there are several programs available to help lower your water bill? Our income-based program waives the service charge and watershed management fee for those with annual gross incomes at or below 80 percent of the median Marin County low-income level using federal Department of Housing and Urban Development guidelines.

We also offer a program for people with disabilities, which waives the service charge and watershed management fee, and includes additional water billed at the Tier 1 rate.

Our Board of Directors recently added a new Super Saver credit program designed to benefit the 3,000 customers with the lowest water consumption by offering a credit on their bills. Details on all of these programs are available at MarinWater.org/discounts or by calling our customer service team at 415-945-1400.

Do you have fire sprinklers inside your home? If so, you may qualify for a fee adjustment. Visit MarinWater.org/metersizing or call 415-945-1506 for more information and to apply.

Thank You Volunteers!

Volunteers play a critical role in preserving the scenic beauty and biological richness of the Mt. Tamalpais Watershed. Volunteers contribute to maintaining trails, restoring habitat, monitoring plants and wildlife, and serving as docents and ambassadors. Our volunteers love Mt. Tam!

Want to get involved? Visit MarinWater.org/volunteer to find out about upcoming volunteer opportunities.

Showcase Your Eco-Friendly Garden

In collaboration with Sonoma Water and the North Marin Water District, we are looking for a fresh crop of gardens to feature on the upcoming Eco-Friendly Garden Tour on Saturday, May 2, 2020.

We are looking for environmentally friendly gardens throughout our service area, both homegrown and professionally designed and maintained, that incorporate sustainable elements such as low-water-use or native plants, edibles, rain catchment, composting, lawn conversions, graywater systems and more for this self-guided tour.

This is an excellent opportunity for landscape architects, professionals and homeowners alike to showcase their gardening talents and successes.

For additional information or to nominate a garden, please visit: SavingWaterPartnership.org/eco-friendly-garden-tour.

Storage

% of total storage capacity as of Oct. 15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This Year</th>
<th>Last Year</th>
<th>Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>81.83%</td>
<td>75.51%</td>
<td>67.13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Usage

Total September water usage (MG = millions of gallons)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This Year</th>
<th>Last Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>905 MG</td>
<td>833 MG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rainfall

Total inches of rainfall, July 1 to Oct. 15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This Year</th>
<th>Last Year</th>
<th>Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.04 in</td>
<td>1.47 in</td>
<td>1.98 in</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>