



**Water Commission Meeting**  
**October 24, 2017**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
 City Hall  
 Community Meeting Room  
 501 Poli St., Ventura

On Oct. 24, 2017, Ventura Water staff will be presenting to the Water Commission an initial draft of proposed projects and preliminary estimates for future costs that will be used to determine new rates.

Stakeholders and community members are invited to participate and learn more about the process for rate adjustments and new rate structures for water and wastewater services!

For more information about the Water Commission meetings visit [www.venturawater.net](http://www.venturawater.net) and click on the Water Commission button or call Customer Care at 805-667-6500.

The Public is Invited!

**Meet Ventura Water's New General Manager**  
 Nov. 2, 2017  
 5:30- 6:30 p.m.  
 Community Meeting Room  
 at Ventura City Hall, 501 Poli St.



**Dear Valued Customer,**

It's hard to believe the holiday season is just around the corner. As your new General Manager and avid holiday cook, I would like to use my first article in the Pipeline to address the issue of taking it easy on what you put down your drains and into your pipes. As you gather with friends and family during the holidays, people tend to get rushed and want to clean up fast and get rid of that bacon fat from the morning or turkey fat by pouring it down the drain. I ask you to please tread lightly on your

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# Faces of Water




## Manuel Zapien, Laboratory Technician

The stories of the people who work to deliver and protect Ventura's water.

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## Describe your job.

Analyze both potable water and wastewater samples for various constituents to ensure all water quality meets or exceeds state requirements.

## What do you like best about your job?

It is very challenging and rewarding. With the wide variety of tasks I am responsible for I take great pride in my responsibilities that range from microbiology to metals analysis. At the end of the day all of my work must be defensible in a court of law, so accountability, precision and accuracy are words I must live by! I feel a great sense of reward and accomplishment once I have applied my knowledge and am able to help my coworkers learn the process as well.



## How did you get into the water industry?

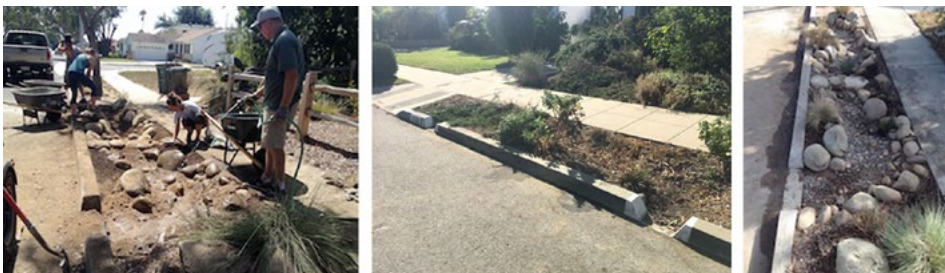
Many years ago, I was looking through the Ventura College class catalog and saw the water science classes and thought they would be interesting to take. One of my professors brought our class on a tour of the City's laboratory and I thought to myself, "It would be great to work in a place like this." A few years later, after working for Ventura County, I ended up getting a job with the City in the very laboratory I had previously toured with my class.

## What is something unique about yourself?

I am a very persistent person and refuse to give up. I feel like this quality has helped me succeed through not only my career in a water/wastewater laboratory, but also through many different seasons of my life.

## What is your favorite hobby?

I am very involved in sports. I enjoy running and playing soccer. I actively coach youth soccer year-round helping kids develop the fundamental skills for the sport.



# Residential Parkway Bioswale Project

## Free Curb Cut Permit for the First 20 Applicants

Are you passionate about preventing stormwater pollution from reaching our rivers and ocean? Do you want to upgrade your home's parkway (the planting strip between the sidewalk and street)? You can help prevent ocean pollution by doing a curb cut project and creating a bioswale in your parkway.

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pipes in preparation for the season ahead.

Below are some of the the do's and don'ts of Fats, Oils and Grease (F.O.G.) or in other words – cooking oils (i.e. turkey fryers), meat juices (i.e. gravy), shortening (i.e. pie crust), dressings, spreads (i.e. cheese), sauces and butter/margarine.

### Don'ts

- Do not pour F.O.G. down sink drains, garbage disposals or toilets.
- Never send food scraps down the garbage disposal.
- Never dispose of F.O.G. outside, on the ground, or down the storm drain.
- Never pour hot water and detergent down the drain with grease.

### Dos

- Pour grease into a non-recyclable container like an empty coffee can and let it harden before disposing in the trash.
- Before washing, scrape and dry-wipe pots, pans and dishes with paper towels and dispose of materials in the trash. Remember, pipes are made for liquid not solids!
- Use a sink strainer to catch food items and then empty the strainer into your compost bin or trash.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency shows that 65 percent of all sewer backups and spills are F.O.G. related. Nothing ruins the holiday festivities like a sewage backup in your home or on your street. By following these helpful tips, you are not only protecting the pipes at home from clogs, but also the City's pipes. Preventing blocked pipes means preventing backups of sewage into your homes, businesses or the environment.

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A curb cut allows water coming down the gutter to enter the bioswale, a long, planted depression in the parkway, which absorbs and filters the water. This prevents pollutants from reaching the storm drain system. A second curb cut is made at the downstream side of the bioswale so excess water flows back to the gutter during heavy rains.

The City of Ventura Environmental Sustainability Division will cover the cost of the permit for the first 20 residents who complete a curb cut project. This is a \$372 permit that you can get for free! Additionally, through Ventura Water's Water Wise Incentive Program, qualifying projects can receive \$2 per square foot.

For information on the permit requirements, step-by-step instructions, and to see if your house is eligible for a curb cut project, click [here](#).

# Water Saving Tip

of the Month

The yard is a huge area for potential water savings. By planting low-water use plants and California natives, you can save up to 60 gallons of water per 1,000 square feet every time you water. Save even more water by applying mulch, which helps with water retention and adds nutrients to the soil.



**Water Wise**  
INCENTIVE PROGRAM 2.0

**REPLACE YOUR  
LAWN WITH  
WATER WISE  
LANDSCAPING**

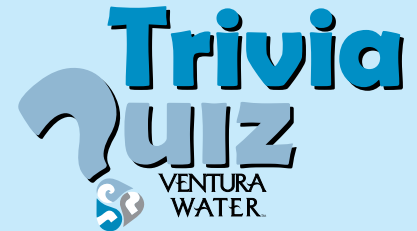
**RESIDENTIAL  
Recycled Water  
Mobile Reuse Program**

**USE RECYCLED  
WATER TO  
IRRIGATE YOUR  
LANDSCAPE**

Keep those pipes healthy and have a safe and wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely,

Kevin Brown,  
Ventura Water  
General Manager



**Test Your Local  
Ventura Water  
Knowledge &  
Win a Prize!**

## Question:

**What is the name of Ventura Water's new truck designed to minimize water waste while flushing and cleaning Ventura's pipelines?**

**(Hint: Visit [venturawater.net](http://venturawater.net))**

**To answer the quiz question, click [here](#).**

- The first Ventura Water customer to email in the correct answer wins. Winners will be notified by email. City of Ventura employees are not eligible for prizes.
- This month's prize: a rain barrel.
- By participating in this Quiz you agree that we may publish your name in the Pipeline e-newsletter or share on our social media. Ventura Water will not publish participants'

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**FREE**

**FREE HIGH EFFICIENCY SPRINKLER NOZZLES**

**WASH, RINSE, REBATE...**  
ON EPA WATER SENSE WASHERS

**\$75 REBATE**



**HIGH EFFICIENCY WASHING MACHINE \$75 REBATE**

addresses, email addresses or phone numbers.

- Winners have 30 days from publication to retrieve their prize at the City of Ventura's Maintenance Yard, 336 Sanjon Road, during regular business hours. The prize is otherwise forfeited.

- No player may win and claim a prize more than twice per calendar year.



Ventura Water



Ventura Water CA



YouTube Channel



Ventura Water Website



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