

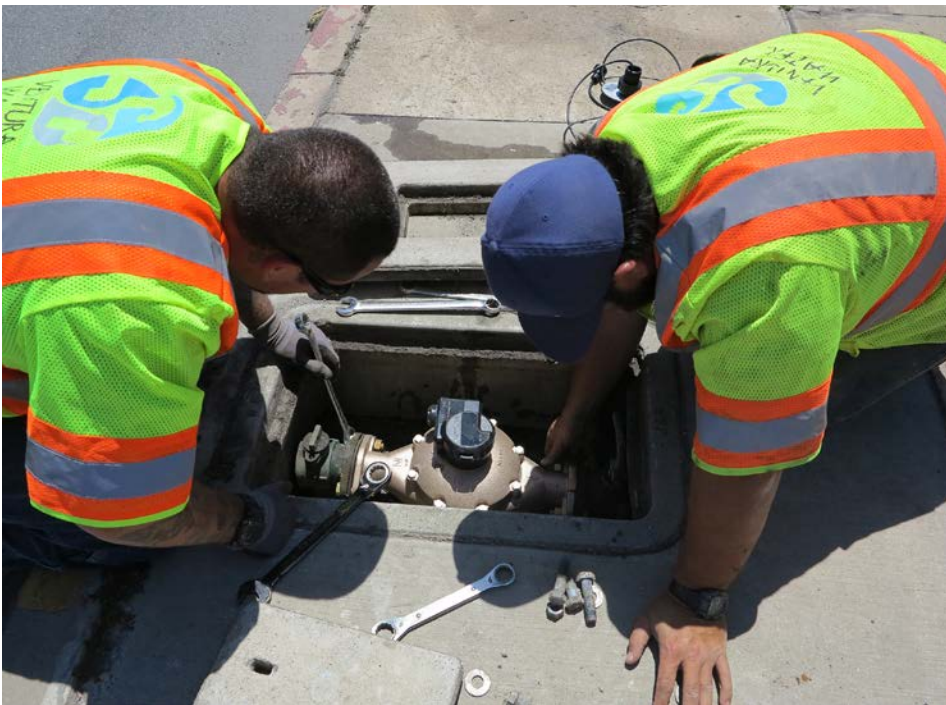


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Ventura Water | Pipeline

Vol. 8, No. 9 | September 2018



Ventura Water Implements Meter Upgrade Project

Beginning October 1, 2018, Ventura Water will begin replacing manually-read meters with Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI), also known as smart meters. The project will upgrade water meters for approximately 32,000 Ventura Water customers over a three-year period (2018-2021). The new meters automatically relay customers' water usage data to the City's billing system through a secured network, resulting in improved accuracy and customer service. Project benefits include:

- **Enhanced customer service:** The upgraded meters will allow customers to view and track daily water usage, detect leaks faster, and provide consistent billing dates.
- **Improved water savings:** Home Connect, a new online water use tracker, will identify water-saving opportunities with customizable tracking options and notifications.
- **Near real-time water usage data:** Provides critical data to water staff responsible for assessing infrastructure replacement needs for water mains, pipes, and meters.
- **Reduced greenhouse gas emissions:** The capability to transmit water use data wirelessly eliminates the need for vehicular travel to manually read water meters.

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Dear Valued Customer -

As you know, the challenges we Ventura Water is moving forward on water supply projects that will provide drought resiliency, improve water quality, and diversify our 100 percent local water supply portfolio. One project that the City is currently working on is the State Water Interconnection Project.

The California State Water Project (SWP) is a water storage and delivery system of reservoirs, aqueducts, power plants and pumping plants extending more than 700 miles—two-thirds the length of California. The City has established rights to imported water from the SWP but cannot take direct delivery due to a lack of infrastructure to deliver that water. The nearest SWP wholesaler to the City is Calleguas Municipal Water District (Calleguas). The joint agencies, which include the City, Casitas Municipal Water District, and United Water Conservation District, are currently working with Calleguas to develop an

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Water meter upgrades will take place from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Customers will receive a notification in the mail one-two weeks prior to their scheduled upgrade. The City's contractor, Professional Meters Inc. (PMI), will be installing the new water meters. Prior to installation, PMI will knock on the door to notify residents of an interruption in service for up to 30 minutes while the new meter is being replaced. Customers do not have to be at home for the replacement to occur. Once the exchange is complete, customers will receive a door hanger detailing the work performed and additional contact information.

All installers will be carrying a photo identification badge from PMI. In addition, PMI installers will have easily identifiable uniforms and their white vans will have magnets with an identifying logo. If an installer cannot show you an identification badge, or if you have a concern about that person's identification, please call the PMI call center at 1-866-965-0657 or call Ventura Water Customer Care at 805-667-6500.

For more information about the AMI project or frequently asked questions, click [here](#).



Emergency Preparedness Month

In honor of National Preparedness Month, all residents are encouraged to take action by developing an emergency response plan. Water is an essential resource for survival and a necessary part of every emergency supply kit.

Following a disaster, clean drinking water may not be available. Prepare yourself by building a supply of water that will meet your family's needs during an emergency. Make sure to stock enough tap or bottled water to last three to seven days. Anticipate each family member will need one to two gallons of water per day. Additionally, customers should be prepared to disinfect available water by boiling water or using regular unscented chlorine bleach products that are suitable for disinfection and sanitation as indicated on the label. To learn more about how to safely disinfect drinking water during an emergency please visit www.venturawater.net.

Remember, water disaster preparedness involves four easy steps: 1. Store water, 2. Build an emergency kit, 3. Make a plan and 4. Stay informed. Residents and businesses are encouraged to register online at VCalert.org to receive emergency updates and critical messages like evacuation notices. Be sure to visit www.readyventuracounty.org/ or www.ready.gov for more information about how to prepare for the unexpected.

interconnection to allow for direct delivery of the City's SWP allocation. The Interconnection Project would include a pipeline of approximately seven miles in length that would transport water between Calleguas and the City's water distribution systems to improve regional water supply reliability.

An Alignment Study for the State Water Interconnection Project was recently completed and a preferred pipeline alignment was selected. The City is currently preparing a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the Interconnection Project. Upon completion of the environmental review process, the next steps will include agency agreements, right-of-way agreements, permitting, final design, and bidding for construction, which is tentatively slated to begin around 2021-2023. To learn more about the State Water Interconnection Project visit www.venturawater.net.

Sincerely,

Kevin Brown,
Ventura Water General
Manager



Upcoming FREE Gardening Classes

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Before



After



Water Wise 2.0 Incentive Program Celebrates Two Years!

September 2018 marks the two-year milestone of Ventura Water’s turf replacement rebate program. The program offers \$2 a square foot to commercial and residential customers who replace their lawns with water wise landscapes. In total, Ventura Water has rebated over 500 projects resulting in approximately 28-45 acre feet of water savings per year. The program is supported by grant funds from both the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the State of California Department of Water Resources. Help spread the word that rebates are still available! Customers can apply at www.removeyourturf.com or call 866-983-9232.

Ventura Water is offering free yard signs to participants of the Water Wise Incentive Program. Call 805-652-4501 or visit the City of Ventura Maintenance Yard location at 336 Sanjon Road in Ventura.

Your feedback is appreciated! If you have participated in the Water Wise 2.0 Incentive Program, please take a moment to complete the program satisfaction survey below.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/waterwiserebate>

October 20:

Getting Your Water Wise Garden Ready for Fall

Location: Green Thumb Nursery at 1899 South Victoria Ave.

Time: 10-11:30 a.m.

RSVP [HERE](#)

Fall is cleanup season for native and low-water gardens. Plant experts will show you proper maintenance techniques for various types of plants in young and mature landscapes.

Come ready to put these techniques into practice! Following the workshop, volunteers are invited to meet at Loma Vista Elementary School at 1 p.m. for hands-on maintenance of their native plant garden. Volunteers are encouraged to bring gardening clippers, pruners, shears, rakes or digging shovels.





Visit Ventura Water's Outreach Team

Ventura Water's Outreach Team is composed of a diverse set of staff members dedicated to public education and community engagement. Come visit us to learn about employment opportunities, new rebates/incentives, upcoming public meetings, and free water conservation giveaways.

12th Annual StoryFest

Date: Saturday, October 13

Time: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Location: Education Service Center, 255 W. Stanley Ave., Ventura

More information [here](#).

Chamber of Commerce Fall Business Expo

Date: Thursday, October 18

Time: 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Location: Four Points by Sheraton Ventura Harbor Resort, 1050 Schooner Dr., Ventura

More information [here](#).

Channel Islands National Park- Native Plant Sale

Date: Saturday, Nov. 10

Time: 9 a.m.- 1 p.m.

Location: 1901 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura

More information [here](#).



Ventura Water



Ventura Water CA



YouTube Channel



Ventura Water Website



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www.venturawater.net

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FREE HIGH EFFICIENCY SPRINKLER NOZZLES

FREE SMART SPRINKLER CONTROLLER