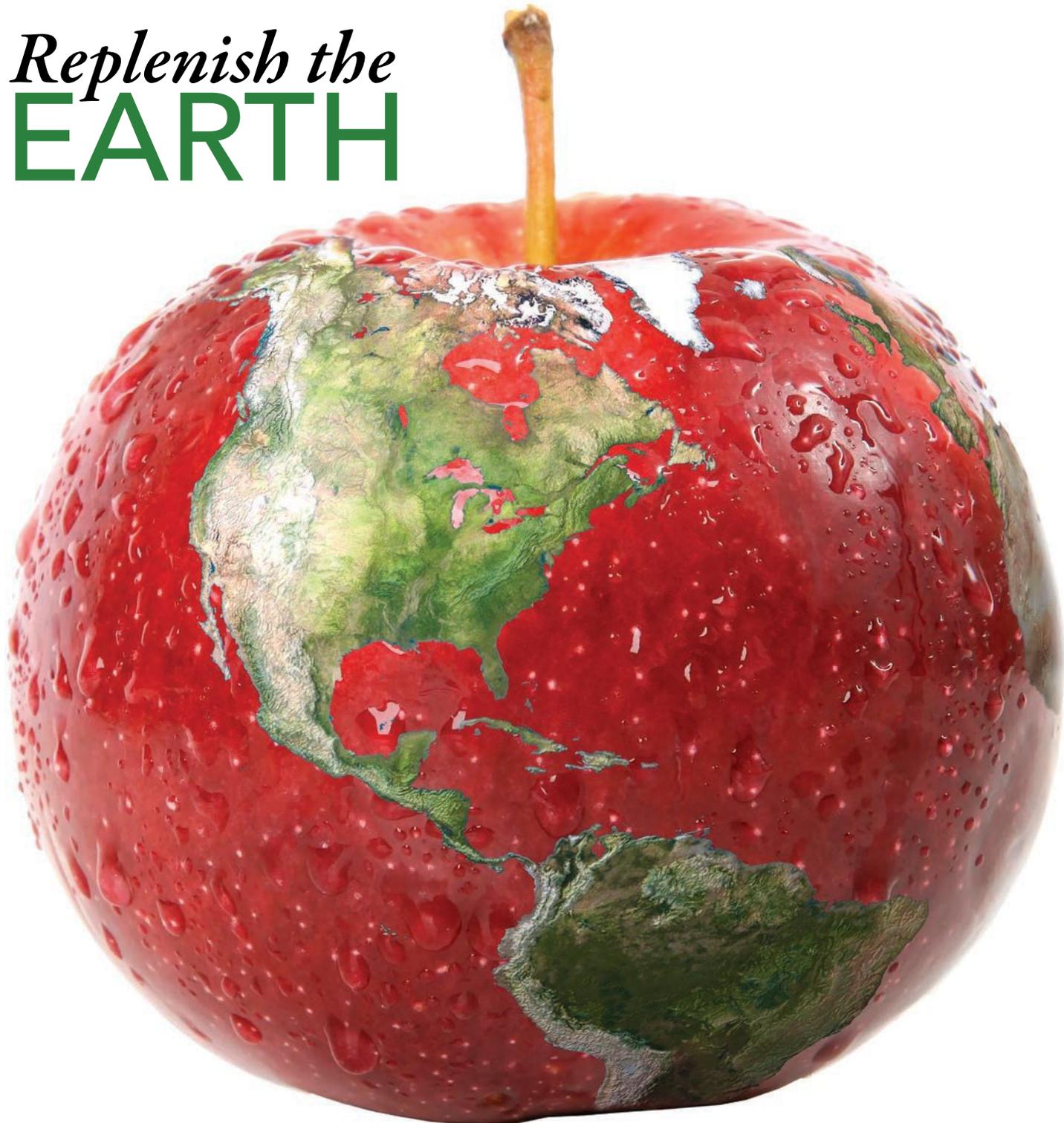


SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
SUSTAINABLE LIVING

Winter 2022

Replenish the
EARTH



SCAN FOR
DIGITAL EDITION

ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT TO THE LOS ANGELES TIMES AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA NEWSPAPER GROUP
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TOO EXPENSIVE?

Have I gone crazy or has the whole world “gone nuts”? I know, those ideas are not mutually exclusive. Even Nature and the planet seem to have lost their collective temper with us.



Joe Haworth

We are supposed to be trying to find a sustainable balance in our human endeavors; to find ways to run our lives so that we don't permanently damage the Earth's operating systems. This could get tricky and expensive.

We are now sharing the planet with 8 billion people. Can we all survive without killing each other, the other creatures and plants and without poisoning the air, water and land? The livable part of that air and water is only a mile or two thick and, when viewed from space, is just a delicate thin blue line on the horizon. You've seen the pictures. There is not a lot of room for error there.

Remember when your parents told you to clean up your room. Now your planet needs you to think bigger. Let's just call it “Planetary Manners”:

Lesson 1: If you make a mess, fix it. Especially if it's going into the neighbors' yard. That goes for governments and corporations, too. The Earth is not a trash dumpster.

Lesson 2: We can't waste our natural resources like there's no tomorrow. Moderation and conservation can create sustainability and resilience for our world.

Do we have the will and the skills to work our way out of this increasing Climate Chaos? Who wants to live where it's getting too hot, too cold, too windy, too flooded or downright on fire? We have to fix this for our kids!

One of my favorite quotes is from the 1960s: *Wouldn't it be ironic if the epitaph to our times was that man simply found it too expensive to survive.* ■

Joe Haworth
Chair, ThinkEarth.org and Think Earth Environmental Education Foundation

www.ThinkEarth.org



Turning Food Waste into Valuable Resources

New Organics Recycling Regulations Under Senate Bill 1383 Start this Year

By Elizabeth Smilor
Special Sections Writer

The start of the new year marked the beginning of another new normal. This one pertaining to how Californians dispose of food waste.

Effective Jan. 1, Senate Bill (SB) 1383 requires cities, counties and special districts to provide organic waste collection services to all residents and businesses. To cut climate super pollutants, Californians will start separating their food waste, just as most already separate their yard waste and recyclables. This is the biggest adjustment to trash collection in more than 30 years, according to CalRecycle, the state agency overseeing the change.

A few cities such as San Francisco and Costa Mesa implemented residential organic waste collection prior to this year. However, many will be launching the change in the coming months. Residents, who might be wondering how to change their waste

“I don't think the state wants to come down with penalties. The plan is to educate the public.”

Chris Perez
Manager,
Valley Vista Services

Publisher Chris Lancaster
Editor Elizabeth Smilor
Art Director Christie Robinson
Contributors Elizabeth Smilor
Grace Washburn

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For comments or questions, email Chris Lancaster at chris.lancaster@civicpub.com

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Effective Jan. 1, California Senate Bill 1383 requires cities, counties and special districts to provide organic waste collection services to all residents and businesses. The state goal is to reduce by 75 percent the amount of methane-producing organic waste in landfills by 2025. The regulation also aims to recover more edible food to distribute to those in need.



Chris Perez

disposal habits, should look to their city or other jurisdiction for guidance. SB 1383 puts the burden of implementation and outreach on them. The cities and counties will work with their contracted waste haulers to meet the new requirements.

“We’re here to be a great community partner and resource for our government and community clients,” said Chris Perez, manager of Valley Vista Services, a waste disposal company based in the City of Industry.

“We know that what might work for one community’s residents, might not work for another. We pride ourselves in knowing our communities well and want to meet their needs.”

The goals set by SB 1383, which was signed by Gov. Brown in September 2016, are to reduce organic waste landfill disposal by 50 percent by 2020 and 75 percent by 2025; and to recover 20 percent of currently disposed edible food by 2025. The 2020 goal was not met.

The regulation addresses two issues: climate change and food insecurity. Organics like food scraps, yard trimmings, paper, and cardboard make up half of what is dumped in landfills, which are the third largest source of methane in California. Organic waste emits 20 percent of the state’s methane; a climate super pollutant up to 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide. Furthermore, Californians send 11.2 billion pounds of food to landfills each year, some of which could have been recovered to feed people in need. One in eight Californians are considered food insecure.

Elizabeth Lozano, Valley Vista Services social media and outreach coordinator, is working with the Valley Vista organics team to provide

educational tools and materials to all the communities they serve. Valley Vista provides waste disposal services and recycling for the cities of Diamond Bar, El Monte, City of Industry, La Puente, Walnut, Cypress, Pomona, Pasadena, and Claremont, as well as the unincorporated county areas of Hacienda Heights, Bassett, South San Jose Hills and Valinda.

“It’s challenging for some people to make a behavioral change, similar to when basic recycling of paper and plastic was pushed back in the 1990s. That’s why we’re really trying to make it seamless,” she said. “Each city has a different launch date. In addition to posting educational content on social media, we’re providing them with customized educational materials, such as newsletters, videos and brochures.”

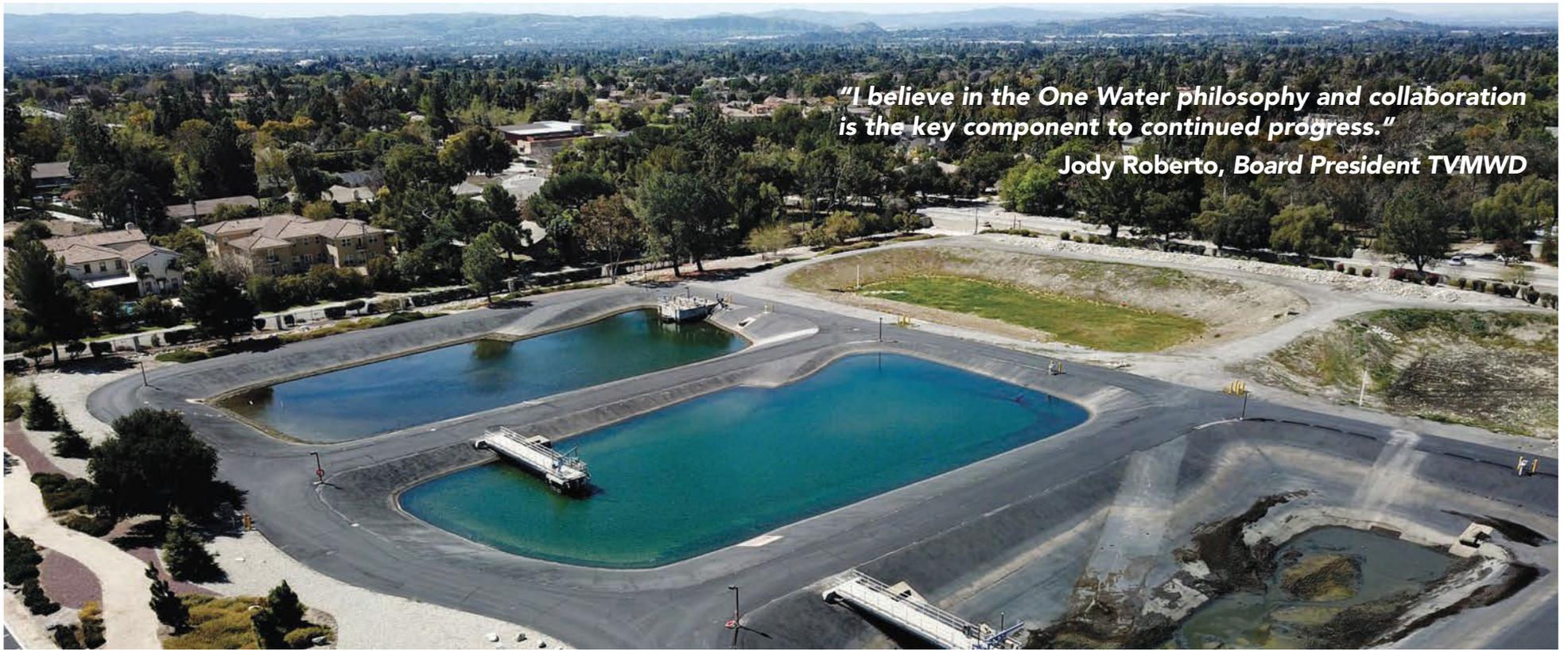


Elizabeth Lozano

In fact, the video features Lozano inviting residents into her own kitchen to learn how she utilizes a small compost pail to collect her food scraps and then dump them into her green waste bin for pick up. The Valley Vista Services two-gallon lidded compost pails, one option for their service areas, are imprinted with a list of what to include (all food scraps from produce to meat and dairy) and what not to include (plastic, metal, glass, rubber, stickers, pet waste, diapers and Styrofoam) as well as a QR code link to her video.



[See **SB 1383**, Page 15]



"I believe in the One Water philosophy and collaboration is the key component to continued progress."

Jody Roberto, Board President TVMWD

Three Valleys Municipal Water District, a Metropolitan Water District of Southern California member agency, supplements the local water supply for 13 retail agencies serving the Pomona, Walnut and eastern San Gabriel valleys. Stormwater capture and groundwater treatment helps to lessen the area's dependence on imported water from the State Water Project and the Colorado River. Three Valleys also helps its retail member agencies tap into water conservation resources and funding for the benefit of their customers.

A Singular Vision for Sustainability

Three Valleys New Board Leadership Sees Collaboration as the Key to Success

By Elizabeth Smilor
Special Sections Writer

"I look forward to working with the new leadership on the board. We have a lot of challenges ahead of us."

Matt Litchfield, P.E.
*General Manager and Chief Engineer
Three Valleys MWD*

Three Valleys Municipal Water District's new board leadership is laser-focused on collaborative efforts to enhance water sustainability in the region.

"Collaboration is needed among all water districts to work together because water doesn't know boundaries. We have to look at the bigger picture," said new TVMWD Board President Jody Roberto. "I believe in the One Water philosophy and collaboration is the key component to continued progress."

Three Valleys is a wholesale water agency with 13 member agencies serving 133 square miles in Pomona, Walnut and eastern San Gabriel valleys. As a Metropolitan Water District of Southern California member agency, TVMWD supplements local water supplies in a reliable and cost-effective manner.



Matt Litchfield

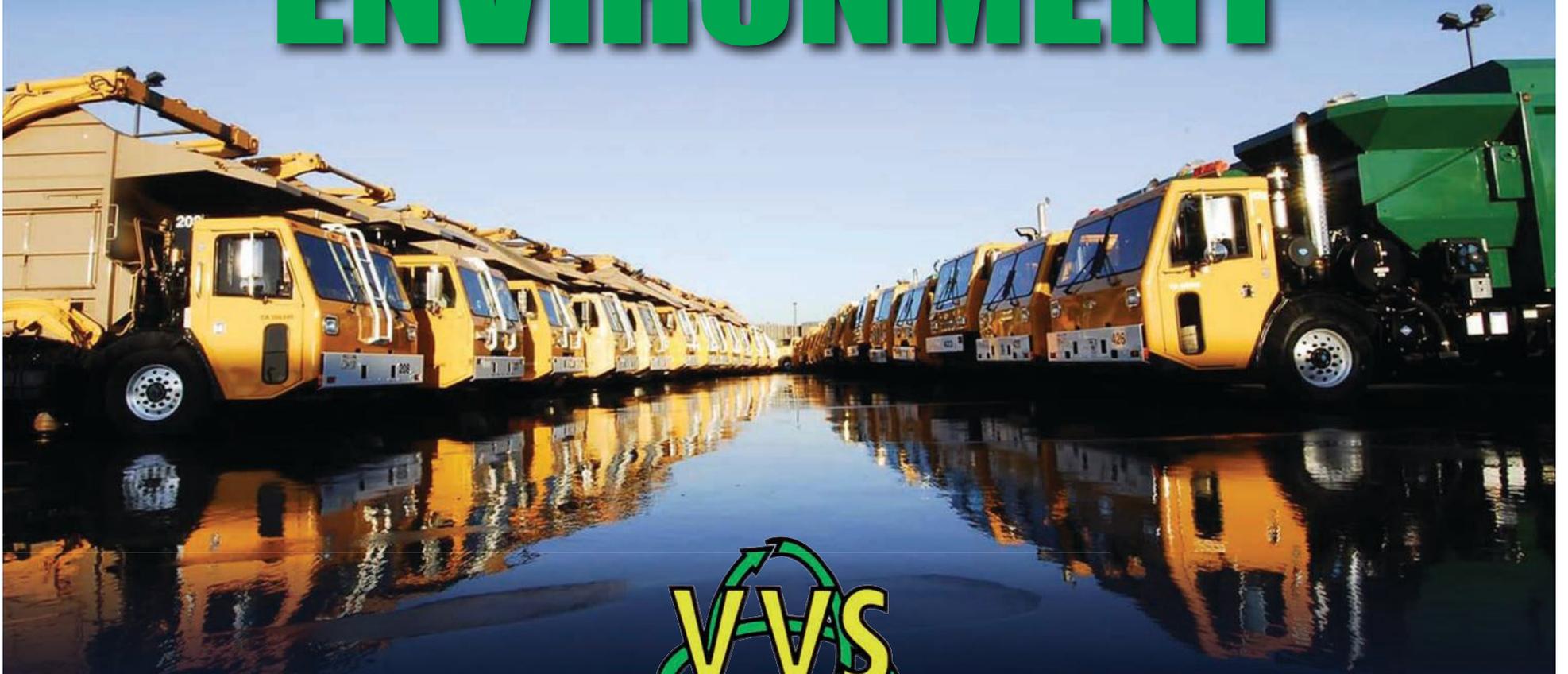
"We want to enhance our assets and local resources we have. We want to continue as an industry leader on the cutting edge," said TVMWD Board Vice President Brian Bowcock. "We want to also make sure our staff has the resources and updated technologies they need, so Three Valleys can continue to provide the excellent service it is known for as a regional wholesale water agency."

[See **SINGULAR VISION**, Page 6]



**VALLEY VISTA IS PROUD TO PARTNER
WITH COMMUNITIES WHO ARE DEDICATED TO A**

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Waste Disposal and Recycling Division

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ALSO SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF BASSETT, HACIENDA HEIGHTS, SOUTH SAN JOSE HILLS, VALINDA



[SINGULAR VISION, Page 4]

The Three Valleys board was reorganized at the start of the year. Director Bob Kuhn led the board for 19 years. The board unanimously selected Roberto and the rest of the board leadership, including Bowcock, Secretary Carlos Goytia and Treasurer Mike Ti. Roberto was appointed to the board in January 2020 following the death of former board member Joseph T. Ruzicka. Prior to joining the Three Valleys board, Roberto served as the water representative for former California State Senator Bob Huff.

“We want to also make sure ... Three Valleys can continue to provide the excellent service it is known for as a regional wholesale water agency.”

Brian Bowcock
Board Vice President
Three Valleys MWD

“I look forward to working with the new leadership on the board. We have a lot of challenges ahead of us,” said TVMWD General Manager and Chief Engineer Matt Litchfield, P.E. “With their leadership and support we can continue to push the mission of Three Valleys forward and address issues of sustainability and infrastructure deficiencies.”

Three Valleys staff and board members agree collaboration with its member agencies and Metropolitan as well as state and federal officials is necessary to advance projects and agreements to effectively manage water distribution.

“As we move forward, we need to develop adaptation strategies to create climate-resilient communities. This approach is far more complex than traditional water resource planning. The programs that work involve partnerships and collaboration at every level,” said new TVMWD



Sylvie Lee

Chief Water Resources Officer Sylvie Lee. “We have to move beyond what works for just one agency to what works the best for the region as a whole.”

To enhance local water resources, Three Valleys has invested in the development of water storage and recovery programs in three of the five groundwater basins it overlies. The District proactively seeks opportunities to identify, acquire and develop properties that will enhance the local water supply resources. The District supports Metropolitan’s leadership in the development of its Regional Recycled Water Program, One Water approach, and efforts to improve the State Water Project reliability in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

“Water supply reliability and sustainability are dependent upon shoring up our current sources of supply from vulnerabilities by efforts such as the Delta Conveyance Project, development of more local storage and supply projects, as well as creating resilience through interconnections and building system flexibility within the distribution system,” said Litchfield.

Lee added that Three Valleys is working in partnership with Metropolitan to identify funding sources for the local resource projects that will enhance the local water supply portfolio and distribution network integration to provide more operational flexibility.

“Climate change has a deep impact on our water sources all the way from the Sierras where precipitation will fall as rain rather than snow in a few large storms into the local groundwater basins, which are challenged with water quality and infrequent natural replenishment,”



To supplement the local water supply for its member agencies, Three Valleys Municipal Water District has built three wells and has a fourth under construction. The wells allow them to pump groundwater and treat it for use. Three Valleys is one of several agencies that help to replenish the San Gabriel Basin from both imported and regional sources. This water percolates into the groundwater and into Three Valleys treatment facilities in Claremont, where it is treated to potable standards. The stored water is especially important during times of drought when imported water is scarce.

she said. "This means we need to adapt strategies that will capture every drop of water from the small sprinkles to the big storms in a short amount of time either in the local groundwater basins or in surface reservoirs. These initiatives take a lot of strategic partnerships. I'm really pleased and impressed with how well the agencies in the region work together."

Bowcock, who has more than 60 years of experience in the water industry, said historically agencies didn't join forces. He is thankful, especially given drought conditions, that water managers are assisting one another.

"I am very firm in my commitment that the managers work together to provide the best water we can at the cheapest price that we can and that Three Valleys can utilize the supply in the best way we can," he said.

Litchfield agreed, saying: "It's very important that as managers of agencies we don't have institutional barriers between us. It's important that we work together in a collaborative way to address regional water

"We have to move beyond what works for just one agency to what works the best for the region as a whole."

Sylvie Lee
Chief Water
Resources Officer
Three Valleys MWD

supply challenges. In the recent years, Metropolitan has started planning for the various uncertainties and is developing more collaborative projects and programs for the region."

Roberto is looking forward to working with and learning from all the board members and staff, especially those with decades of experience and knowledge in the industry.

"Bob (Kuhn) has been an amazing leader and I am so grateful to have such a great and respected general manager in Matt (Litchfield)," she said. "TVMWD is a standout agency in which I am very proud to serve along with my board colleagues." ■

Board Members



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Division III
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Claremont, CA 91711
www.threevalleys.com



State Grants Contribute to a Sustainable Groundwater Basin

San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority Utilizing State Funding to Further its Mission

By Grace Washburn
Special Sections Writer

"We want to make the basin clean enough so it is a sustainable local source in the long term and helps to make us less reliant on imported water."

Randy Schoellerman, P.E.
*Executive Director
San Gabriel Basin
Water Quality Authority*

The ongoing drought and limited supply of imported water reemphasizes the importance of a clean and safe local groundwater basin in the San Gabriel Valley. With additional California Proposition 1 funding, the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority (WQA) is expanding its efforts to identify contaminants in the basin.

"This is important work as there are hundreds of areas where the source of the contamination is yet to be determined," said WQA Executive Director Randy Schoellerman, P.E. "We want to make the basin clean enough so it is a sustainable local source in the long term and helps to make us less reliant on imported water."



Randy Schoellerman

The WQA was established by the State Legislature in 1993 to develop, finance, and implement groundwater treatment programs in the San Gabriel Basin. The San Gabriel Basin is the primary source of drinking water for more than 1.4 million people in the 25 cities that overlie the San Gabriel Basin.

To date, WQA-sponsored projects have removed nearly 100 tons of contaminants from the San Gabriel Valley groundwater basin. WQA has facilitated construction and continued maintenance of 33 treatment plants to contain and remove industrial byproducts. Cleanup so far has cost about \$994 million, which came from public funds and the parties responsible for the contamination.



WQA has facilitated the construction and maintenance of 33 treatment plants to remove contaminants from the Basin. At left, is the Valley County Water District Maine Treatment Facility. Above, the installation of a monitoring well in South El Monte and, at right, the City of Alhambra’s Groundwater Treatment Facility.

Assistant Executive Director and Senior Project Manager Dan Colby explained the ongoing site investigations and their importance.

“WQA was approached by Regional Water Quality Control Board in partnering with them to investigate high priority sites utilizing state grant funds. The investigation aligns with our mission to prevent the spread of contamination,” he said.

Prop. 1 funds supported the completion last fiscal year of the Whitmore Street Groundwater Remediation Facility Expanded Site Investigation Planning Project. The project involved using Hydropunch and monitoring wells to characterize a known area of contamination. The data collected helped define the plume of contamination so WQA can pursue additional state funds to enhance WQA’s existing groundwater treatment facility.

Another Prop. 1 grant is helping to fund the investigation of 12 high priority sites with known releases of contamination near small businesses in the South El Monte Operable Unit, which addresses about 2 ½ square miles of contaminated groundwater underlying portions of the cities of South El Monte, El Monte, and Rosemead. WQA is working closely with the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board to gain access

to the sites and conduct detailed soil, soil gas, and groundwater testing to determine if the site has sources of contaminants that continue to threaten the groundwater.

To date, WQA has received \$2.3 million in Prop. 1 funds. In addition, WQA secured a \$35 million grant through California Prop. 68 in September 2020. This money goes to local cities and water producers to fund treatment and remediation costs of 21 existing groundwater treatment facilities including: Alhambra, Arcadia, El Monte, Monterey Park, Monrovia, and South Pasadena; and Valley County Water District, San Gabriel Valley Water Company, Golden State Water Company, and the WQA. This grant was the largest ever received by WQA from the state. WQA continues to seek state and federal funding to minimize the impact on local ratepayers.

“The drought makes this groundwater basin even more important because there is less reliable imported water. By cleaning the basin, we’re making it possible for additional water to be stored for future use,” Colby said. “If we have a clean basin, it’s the perfect place to store water as you’re not going to have any loss to evaporation. Clean water goes in, clean water comes out.” ■

Board Members



Valerie Muñoz
Chairwoman



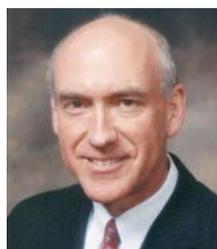
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Vice Chairman



Bob Kuhn
Secretary



Lynda Noriega
Treasurer



Michael Whitehead
Board Member



Ed Chavez
Board Member



Robert Gonzales
Board Member



Water Quality Authority
www.wqa.com

“December rainfall was very helpful, unfortunately January was bone dry. Going forward, we’re going to have to hope for a wet spring to boost the allocation.”

Darin Kasamoto

General Manager

San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

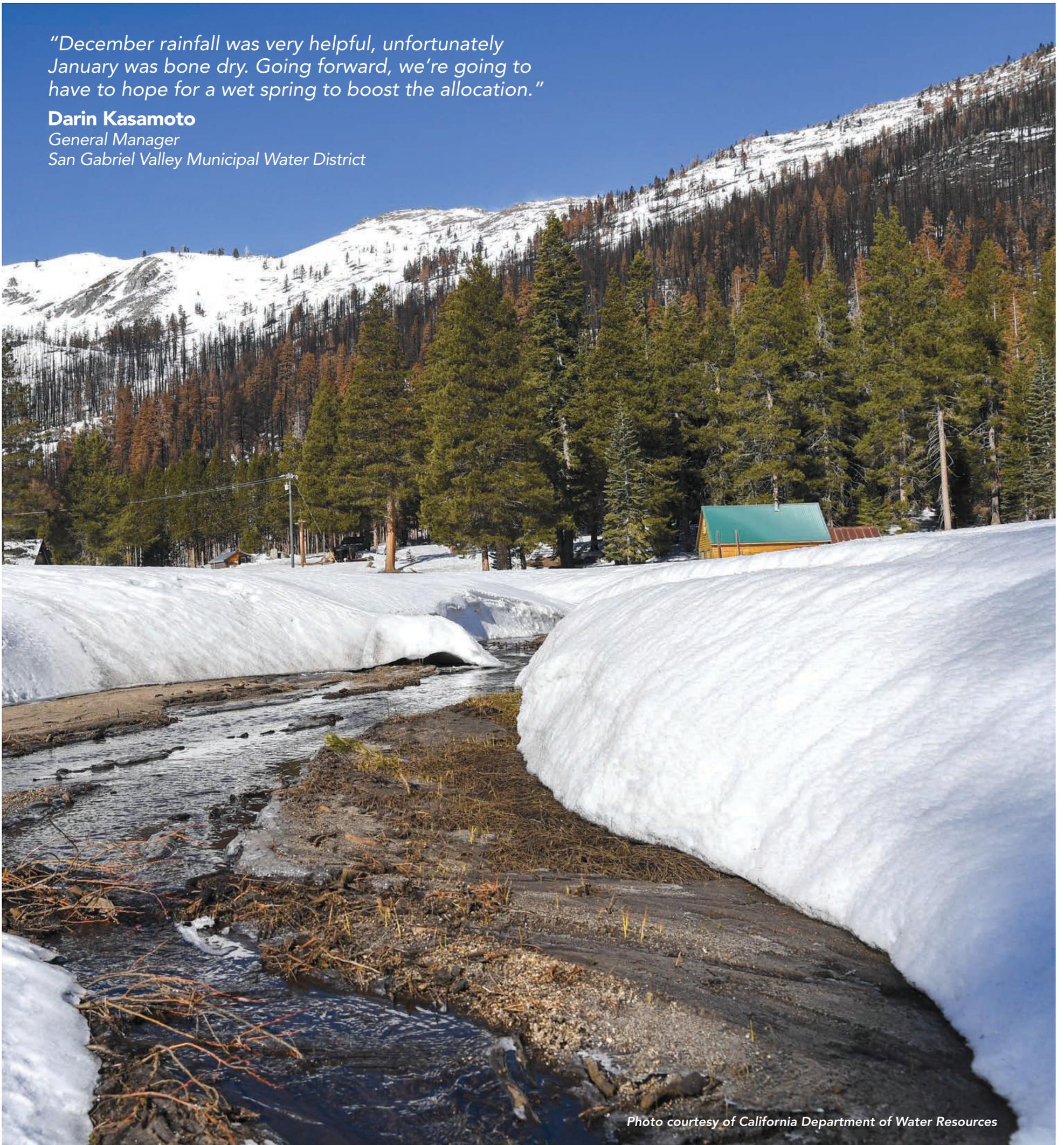
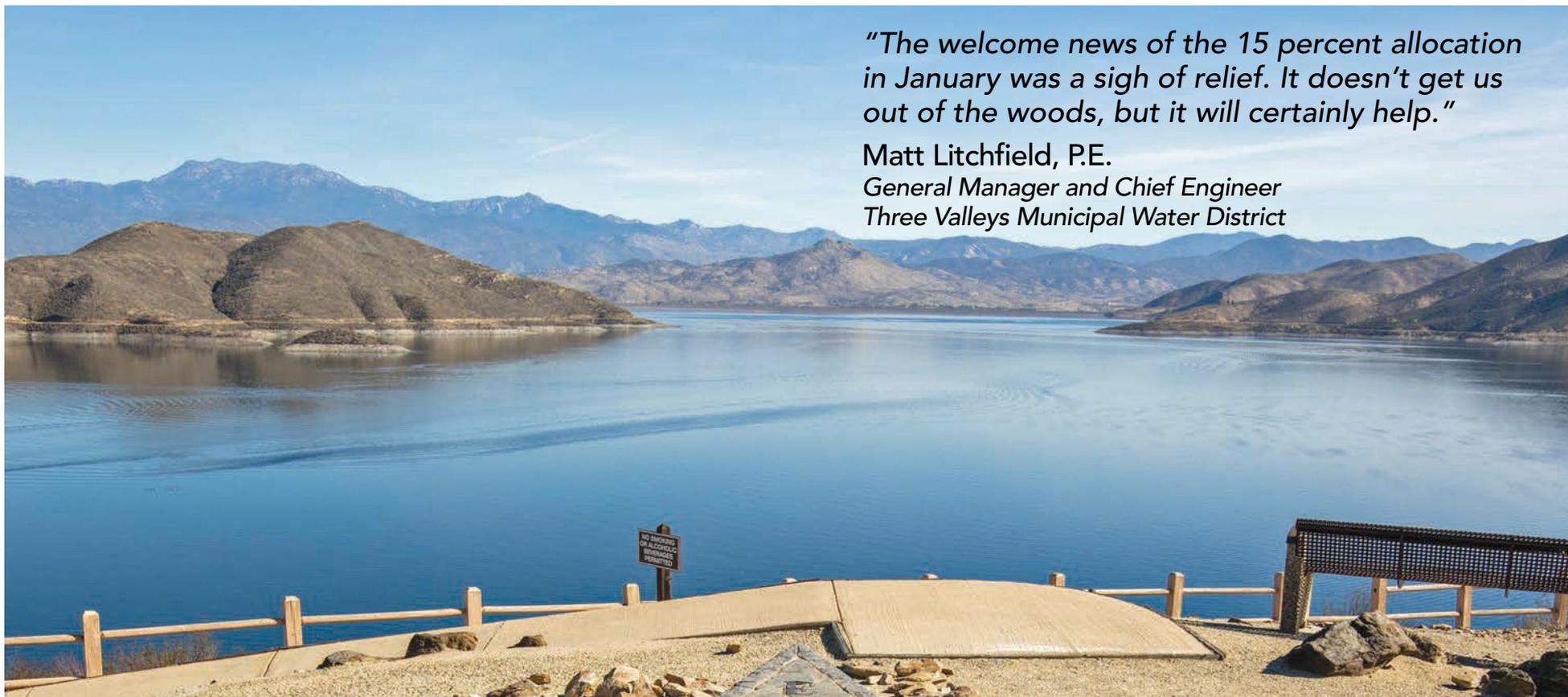


Photo courtesy of California Department of Water Resources



“The welcome news of the 15 percent allocation in January was a sigh of relief. It doesn’t get us out of the woods, but it will certainly help.”

Matt Litchfield, P.E.
*General Manager and Chief Engineer
Three Valleys Municipal Water District*

At left, snow melts into a creek flowing into the South Fork of the American River near South Lake Tahoe, where California Department of Water Resources surveyors measured snowpack on Feb. 1. The Sierra snowpack is below average, which could affect imported water supplies. Above, Diamond Valley Lake is the largest drinking water reservoir in Southern California.

Water Managers Welcome State Allocation Increase

Change Does Not Alter Need to Conserve

By Elizabeth Smilor
Special Sections Writer

“December storms enabled DWR to convey and store water in San Luis Reservoir, which allows for a modest increase in water deliveries this year.”

Karla Nemeth
*Director
California Department
of Water Resources*

Regional water managers were pleasantly surprised in late January by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) decision to increase the State Water Project allocation to 15 percent of requested supplies for 2022. This is up from a drought-driven zero percent allocation.

“It’s great news. We were preparing for the worst – a zero percent allocation – and for how we were going to get by in 2022,” said Three Valleys Municipal Water District General Manager and Chief Engineer Matt Litchfield, P.E. “The welcome news of the 15 percent allocation in January was a sigh of relief. It doesn’t get us out of the woods, but it will certainly help.”

Darin Kasamoto, general manager of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, also expressed guarded optimism.

“It was positive news in terms of the water picture, but 15 percent is still really small,” Kasamoto said. “To put it in perspective, the average allocation over the history of the project is closer to 60 percent, so there’s still a pretty good deficit there.”

Tom Love, general manager of Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, called the allocation a “welcome relief,” but stressed the continued need to conserve.

“It’s not time to open up the faucet,” Love said. “We had good precipitation in December but we don’t know what the future is going to bring and we need to keep our water supplies in the bank so we have water supply dependability in the future.”

[See **WATER MANAGERS**, Page 12]

Upper District and Three Valleys are two of 26 member agencies of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which holds a long-term contract to receive State Water Project (SWP) supplies. San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, like Metropolitan and a total of 29 agencies, holds a contract for SWP supplies. All three of the San Gabriel Valley agencies help import water into the San Gabriel groundwater basin and indirectly supply water to millions of residents.

"We're fortunate to have a groundwater basin that has some storage remaining that provides us a buffer to sustain water supplies during dry periods such as this."

Tom Love

*General Manager
Upper San Gabriel Valley
Municipal Water District*

Reservoir, which allows for a modest increase in water deliveries this year," said DWR Director Karla Nemeth in a statement announcing the increase. "But severe drought is not over. Dry conditions have already returned in January. Californians must continue to conserve as the state plans for a third dry year."

DWR will continue to make assessments and a final allocation will be determined in May or June.

"December rainfall was very helpful, unfortunately January was bone dry," Kasamoto noted. "Going forward, we're going to have to hope for a wet spring to boost the allocation."

Litchfield agreed, saying, "This is not a drought-buster. The reservoirs up north were at historic lows on Oct. 1. They are filling up, but it just depends on how much they fill between now and the final allocation."

"We're fortunate to have a groundwater basin that has some storage remaining that provides us a buffer to sustain water supplies during dry periods such as this," Love said. "We still need to be diligent as we continue to work on prominent drought-proofing solutions for the future, such as the Regional Recycled Water Program."

Each year, DWR makes an initial State Water Project allocation on Dec. 1. Allocations are updated as snowpack and runoff information are assessed.

"December storms enabled DWR to convey and store water in San Luis Reservoir, which allows for a modest increase in water deliveries this year," said DWR Director Karla Nemeth in a statement announcing the increase. "But severe drought is not over. Dry conditions have already returned in January. Californians must continue to conserve as the state plans for a third dry year."



Sean de Guzman, manager of the California DWR Snow Surveys and Water Supply Forecasting Unit, conducts the second media snow survey of the 2022 season at Phillips Station in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Despite December storms, the snowpack is below average.

Photo courtesy of California Department of Water Resources

All the regional managers will continue working together to protect and create more local water supplies to ensure water reliability and emphasized that all water users should remain conservation minded.

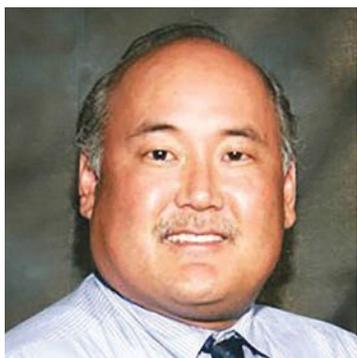
"Even with this modest allocation, we'll need to continue drawing down our storage reserves to meet demands. To make those reserves last if the dry conditions prevail into next year, we all need to keep using water as efficiently as possible," said Metropolitan General Manager Adel Hagekhalil in a statement. "We are working hard with our member agencies to make the necessary changes and investments to ensure Southern Californians always have the water they need, regardless of whether the drought continues and regardless of where they live." ■

"We are working hard with our member agencies to make the necessary changes and investments to ensure Southern Californians always have the water they need ..."

Adel Hagekhalil
*General Manager
Metropolitan*



Adel Hagekhalil
*General Manager
Metropolitan Water
District*



Darin Kasamoto
*General Manager
San Gabriel Valley
Municipal Water District*



Matt Litchfield, P.E.
*General Manager and
Chief Engineer
Three Valleys MWD*



Tom Love
*General Manager
Upper San Gabriel Valley
Municipal Water District*

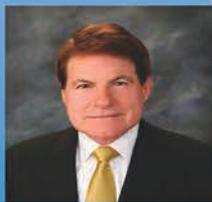


Karla Nemeth
*Director
California Department of
Water Resources*



When in drought, be a H₂erO and

<p>turn off the tap!</p> 	<p>wash only full loads!</p> 
<p>install a WaterSense labeled fixture.</p> 	<p>let your lawn go less than lush.</p> 



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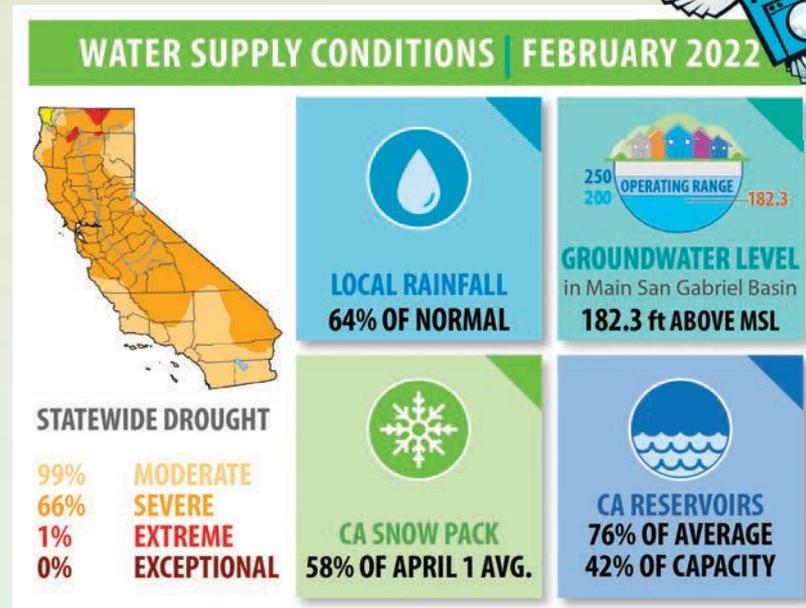
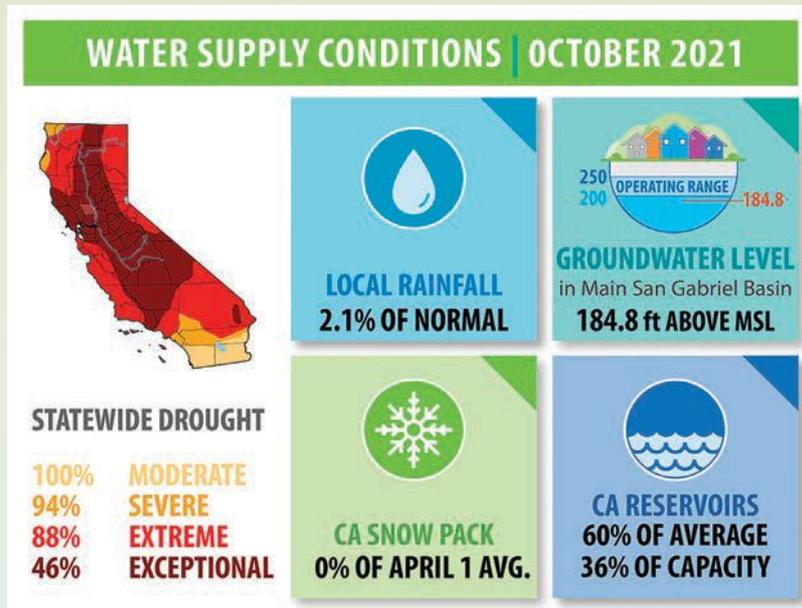


Director
Jennifer Santana
Vice President
Division 5



For more information on the drought and water conservation visit
www.upperdistrict.org/drought/

NEW YEAR 2022 WATER SUPPLY UPDATE



Drought and changes in precipitation and water supplies are NORMAL. It takes a long time to get into a drought and a long time to get out. Conservation as a “way of life” is one of our best means of preserving our precious water resource.

Water-Saving Tips

INDOORS



FIX LEAKS



INSTALL HIGH-EFFICIENCY TOILETS



TAKE 5-MINUTE SHOWERS INSTEAD OF 10-MINUTE SHOWERS



TURN OFF WATER WHEN BRUSHING TEETH OR SHAVING



WASH FULL LOADS OF CLOTHES



USE A DISHWASHER INSTEAD OF HAND WASHING

OUTDOORS



REIMAGINE YOUR YARD WITH WATER WISE PLANTS



ADJUST SPRINKLER HEADS AND FIX LEAKS



USE HOSE NOZZLE AND BUCKET TO WASH YOUR CAR



WATER EARLY MORNING OR LATE EVENING



INSTALL DRIP IRRIGATION AND ADD A SMART CONTROLLER



COVER POOLS AND SPAS

Thanks to our Member Cities and the San Gabriel Valley for saving water.

We are committed to smart water management, infrastructure investment, partnerships and conservation.

Visit our website (www.sgvmd.com), call (626-969-7911) or email us (info@sgvmd.com) for more information about our conservation grant, rebate, education and outreach programs.



Jurisdiction Responsibilities

Provide Organics Collection Services to All Residents and Businesses



Conduct Education and Outreach to Community



Secure Access to Recycling and Edible Food Recovery Capacity



Establish Edible Food Recovery Program



Procure Recyclable and Recovered Organic Products



Monitor Compliance and Conduct Enforcement



Infographic courtesy of CalRecycle

[SB 1383, Page 3]

Each city or county must also meet a state-determined annual procurement target by recovering organic waste in the form of mulch, compost and/or renewable energy from Anaerobic Digestion and Electricity from Biomass Conversion.

“Wasted food can be turned into a valuable resource, such as compost for our landscapes and even biofuel. All that goes back into the communities, making them more sustainable,” said Lozano.

While there is an enforcement requirement to SB 1383, Perez says Valley Vista is working hard to make sure that none of the communities they serve will face any penalties. The state has given jurisdictions until 2024 to implement the program and educate their constituents. After Jan. 1, 2024, non-compliance can be penalized.

“We all have to show a good faith effort,” Perez said. “I don’t think the state wants to come down with penalties. The plan is to educate the public.”

Cost is another underdetermined and area-specific factor. Perez said additional processing, infrastructure and labor will likely increase costs, but the effect on residential rates will vary.

The second part of SB 1383 that directs food generating businesses to recover and redirect more edible food serves an immediate need. In 2018, 4.3 million Californians (10.8 percent of California’s population) didn’t have enough to eat. By May 2020, that number had doubled, surging to 9.2 million Californians (23 percent of California’s population) who didn’t know where their next meal would come from during the COVID-19 economic crisis, according to the COVID Impact Survey.

“The food rescue aspect of SB 1383 is what really sets it apart,” said Lozano. “As the waste hauler, we won’t be facilitating that but we are providing resources to our businesses.” She said they have partnered with Food Finders in Los Alamitos, which pairs businesses with places that need the edible food, such as food banks, senior centers and youth programs. Food Finders also handles the required reporting for the businesses.

Perez and Lozano encourage residents to be on the lookout for specific instructions from their city and/or county leaders as to how to make any necessary adjustments in their households.

“The cities can choose how to implement the change,” said Perez. “It will not be a one-size-fits-all program, but the end result will be the same, the materials will be diverted and processed correctly and not go to the landfill. We’re always trying to make our communities better and we’re always about getting the job done.” ■



STAY ENGAGED

www.calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp

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Zero Discomfort.



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- Educational Institutions
- Employers
- Stadiums
- Organizations to get OSHA ETS Compliant FDA Authorized Self-Test Kit

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