

# the PIPELINE

PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT



## A Message about Wildfire Preparedness from GM Dennis D. LaMoreaux



It is frightening to imagine January's destructive fires in Altadena and Pacific Palisades happening in the Antelope Valley. But it did happen on a smaller scale five years ago in Juniper Hills during the Bobcat Fire. They all began as vegetation fires that became urban firestorms. Recently, our customers have asked, "Can it happen here?" and "What can be done to protect our homes?"

Yes, it can happen here. The Bobcat Fire is the latest example. There have also been previous wildfires in the Angeles National Forest that burned close to Palmdale before being controlled. We will always be faced with this threat due to our proximity to the forest. Therefore, it is an important part of Palmdale Water District's (PWD) operations and planning. Examples of our preparation include coordinating with the Los Angeles County Fire Department on testing and maintenance of fire hydrants, designing water systems to meet fire flow requirements for developments, and signing an agreement for firefighting aircraft to use water from Lake Palmdale.

Additionally, PWD has stationary and mobile generators with different fuel sources to improve the reliability of water production and booster facilities during power outages; increases water in storage during fire weather events; has emergency interconnections with neighboring water agencies; and has multiple layers of mutual aid agreements.

All these steps we have in place will help during wildfires. However, it is still possible for wildfires to overcome the water system's ability to fight it. Public water systems are built to provide safe, clean water, not fight wildfires. But customers can take steps to reduce the risk of losing their homes to a fire.

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### Calendar:

**Board Meetings**  
Mondays @ 6 p.m.  
March 10 & 24  
April 14 & 28  
Tuesday @ 6 p.m.  
May 27  
PWD Board Room

**Water-Wise Workshop:  
Mastering Your Water Use**  
Thursday, May 1  
@ 5-6 p.m.  
PWD Board Room

**Customer Appreciation Day**  
Tuesday, July 22  
@ 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
PWD Main Office  
2029 E. Avenue Q, Palmdale

**PWD Closure**  
Memorial Day  
Monday, May 26

### Recommended Spring Watering Schedule:

- Water three times a day
- Five minutes each time
- Three days a week

# Despite Dry Weather Locally, Drought Restrictions Not Expected for Customers

PWD customers will not face mandatory drought restrictions or penalties this year, even though the area has received little rain this winter. With the state's 35% allocation in late February and water carried over from last year, PWD will have enough supply to meet customers' needs.

The State Water Project's 35% allocation will give PWD 7,455 acre-feet (AF) of water. In addition to the carryover of 3,600 AF from 2024, the District has rights to 5,500 AF from the Littlerock Dam and can pump a minimum of 4,300 AF from groundwater wells. The total of 20,855 AF is more than the 16,000 AF of water needed for customers this year.

An acre-foot of water is equal to 326,000 gallons. A family of four in Palmdale uses an average of 143,000 gallons of water annually.

"We are pleased to inform our customers that they don't have to worry about drought restrictions this year," said PWD Resource and Analytics Director Claudia Bolanos. "It will also allow us to save water for 2026. We're thankful that the northern Sierra Nevada has a good snowpack. It helps us during a winter when we saw limited rain. But I'd like to remind everyone to continue conservation efforts."

By early June, the state will issue a final water allocation percentage.

## Scott Rogers Promoted to Assistant General Manager

PWD is pleased to announce the promotion of Scott Rogers to Assistant General Manager, following his successful five-year tenure as the District's Engineering Manager. With over 31 years of experience in the water industry, Rogers has played a key part in PWD's Capital Improvement Projects, managing engineering programs, and securing more than \$30 million in grants. His leadership in the Pure Water Antelope Valley project, which aims to provide advanced water purification for future drinking water supply, has been especially impactful.

"I am honored and excited to have the opportunity to continue working with the great teams we have to achieve even more success at the District," Rogers said.

In his new role, Rogers oversees Information Technology, Operations, Engineering, and Facilities departments, which consist of approximately 50 employees. As the District's second-in-command, Rogers is committed to continuing the mission of providing reliable, clean water to the community.



*(Continued from page 1)*

These include maintaining a defensible space around the house, installing ember and flame-resistant attic vents, keeping gutters clean or covered, and adding weather-stripping to close gaps around garage doors.

There are many online resources, including Home - Ready for Wildfire CAL FIRE Safety & Preparedness Tips at <https://readyforwildfire.org/>.

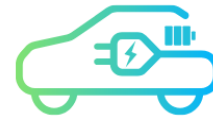
I hope this information about PWD's preparation and the fire preparedness resource are useful. The best chance we have at minimizing damage to our community from a future fire is all of us preparing for it now.

— Dennis D. LaMoreaux  
PWD General Manager



Scan the QR code to visit,  
[www.readyforwildfire.org](http://www.readyforwildfire.org).

# New Fast Chargers for Electric Vehicles Will Be Available at PWD



EVCS is installing a new electric vehicle fast charging station at PWD that will be available for use by the public 24 hours a day. Electric vehicle owners will need the EVCS app to use the charger. The cost per kilowatt-hour is determined by the company.

PWD began offering an electric vehicle charging station for the community in late 2017. The former charging station was no longer functioning properly and needed to be replaced.

“We decided to move in a different direction and found EVCS,” said PWD Facilities Manager Wendell Wall. “Working with EVCS was a win-win. It is a turn-key project where they applied for the funding and will do all the installation. It was at no cost to PWD.”

The project is funded by a grant from the Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District.

The charger will be located in front of PWD’s main office at 2029 East Avenue Q, Palmdale. For more information about EVCS, go to [www.evcs.com](http://www.evcs.com).



## Customer Care Corner

Ask Customer Care Rep  
Ramon Rodriguez

**?** I had a toilet leak, but I am a tenant. What can I do to lower my water bill?

**A** If you’ve experienced a toilet leak, report it to your landlord as soon as possible for repairs. You may also be eligible for a Courtesy Leak Adjustment if the leak caused excessive water use. Apply online with proof of repair or contact our Customer Care at 661- 947-4111 for assistance.

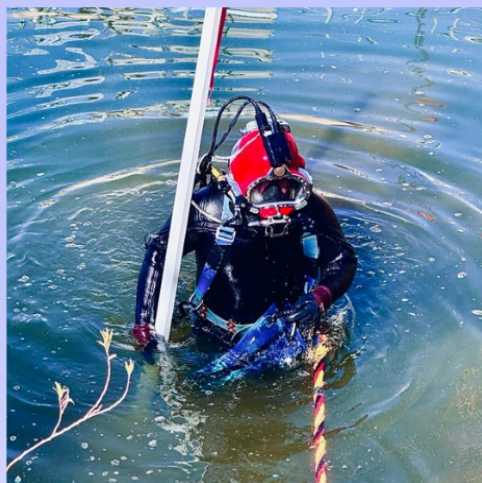
**?** What is a variance application and how can this help lower my water bill?

**A** Households with more than four people can request a variance application to adjust their water allocation and prevent charges for excessive water use. Submit the Variance Increase Request Form with supporting documentation for approval in office or online at [www.palmdalewater.org](http://www.palmdalewater.org).

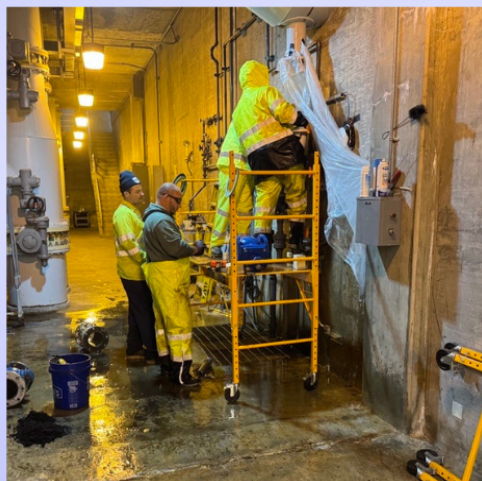
**?** Does PWD offer rebates?

**A** PWD offers rebates on high-efficiency toilets, clothes washers, irrigation controllers, and more to help you conserve water and reduce costs. Learn more at [palmdalewater.org](http://palmdalewater.org) or call 661-947-4111 ext. 5002 for details.

## Leslie O. Carter Water Treatment Plant Undergoes Annual Maintenance



Once a year in the winter, our team conducts crucial maintenance at the Leslie O. Carter Water Treatment Plant. In addition to the routine maintenance this year, divers were hired to inspect the sluice gates at Lake Palmdale outlet structure and help PWD staff replace the outlet structure grates. These divers assisted with the maintenance to ensure that the slides are in operating condition so water can bypass the treatment plant in an emergency. This helps us to ensure the dam that forms Lake Palmdale meets safety requirements.





**Mark your Calendars for  
PWD's Customer  
Appreciation Day**

Tuesday, July 22, 2025  
10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
PWD Main Office  
2029 E. Avenue Q, Palmdale

**CONTACT US!**

CUSTOMER CARE: 661-947-4111  
EMERGENCY LINE: 661-947-4114  
FAX: 661-947-8604  
WATER-USE EFFICIENCY:  
661-947-4111 EXT. 5002

PAY YOUR BILL BY PHONE 24/7:  
855-498-9969  
PAY ONLINE:  
PALMDALEWATER.ORG

PAY NEAR ME: PAY WITH CASH AT ANY 7-  
ELEVEN OR FAMILY DOLLAR LOCATION  
WITH YOUR PWD STATEMENT.

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AT PALMDALEWATER.ORG.**

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**Water-Wise Workshop:  
Mastering Your Water Use**



Join us for an engaging workshop hosted by Palmdale Water District on Thursday, May 1, from 5-6 p.m. at our main office.

This workshop is designed to increase customers' water management skills. You will learn how to locate your water meter, decipher your water bills effectively, and gain practical tips on conserving water in your daily life. We will also cover important topics such as leak variance applications, understanding allocation forms, and insights into our rebate programs.

Thursday, May 1, 2025  
@ 5-6 p.m.  
2029 East Avenue Q,  
Palmdale

Scan the QR code to sign up.



**For more information, contact Public Affairs Specialist Michelle Trejo at  
mtrejo@palmdalewater.org or 661-441-5944.**



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*Mission Statement : Since 1918, the Palmdale Water District has provided high-quality water at a reasonable cost. We pride ourselves on great customer care; advocating for local water issues that help our residents; educating the community on water-use efficiency; and leading our region in researching and implementing emerging technologies that increase operational efficiency.*