

customer Pipeline



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Energy is one of the biggest costs of delivering water to taps and treating wastewater from homes and businesses. EBMUD generates renewable energy at several of its facilities and reduces its energy use whenever and wherever possible. In 2011, EBMUD generated more than double the energy from renewable sources than it used to provide water and wastewater services to its East Bay customers. Surplus renewable energy is sold back to energy utilities. By purchasing less power to operate water and wastewater facilities, EBMUD cuts costs for ratepayers, creates fewer greenhouse gas emissions and reduces its carbon footprint.

It's a new year for renewable energy at EBMUD

EBMUD generates renewable energy through

Hydropower

Two hydroelectric power plants at EBMUD's Sierra reservoirs produce enough electricity to power nearly 20,000 homes each year.

Biogas

Inside large digester tanks at EBMUD's wastewater treatment plant in Oakland, food and beverage scraps are transformed into methane gas. This gas powers turbines that produce electricity. The turbines generate enough power to operate the plant. Excess electricity is sold back to the grid.

Solar

Photovoltaic panels at various water treatment plants, atop office buildings and at reservoirs generate electricity to partially offset energy use at those sites.

EBMUD reduces its energy use through

Gravity flow

To reach the East Bay, Sierra snowmelt travels more than 90 miles and relies mostly on gravity rather than energy-intensive pumps.

Energy efficiency

Many EBMUD facilities use energy-efficient lighting, high-performance insulation and innovative heating and cooling systems. At construction sites, when possible, recycled materials are used, water-efficient landscaping is installed, and truck traffic and landfill use are minimized.

Hybrid fleet

EBMUD's hybrid fleet of vehicles cuts carbon dioxide emissions and saves 12,000 gallons of gasoline each year.



Keep medicine out of the Bay

Unwanted and expired medications are a household hazard that should never be washed down the drain. Your kitchen and bathroom drains connect to pipes that connect to your city's sewer system and then to a wastewater treatment plant. Many medications are not completely removed during the wastewater treatment process and can pass into San Francisco Bay.

There is a safe and easy way East Bay residents can keep medicine out of the Bay.

Follow these steps

1. Protect your privacy by removing all prescription labels.
2. Place pills into a plastic zipper bag and recycle the original packaging.
3. Keep liquid medication in its original container.

4. Drop off your unwanted medications* at one of the following pharmaceutical disposal sites for incineration.

Berkeley Transfer Station

1201 Second Street, Berkeley
Monday–Saturday, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.,
except holidays

California State Office Building (Lobby)

1515 Clay Street, Oakland
Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.,
except holidays

EBMUD Administrative Building (Lobby)

375 11th Street at Franklin Street, Oakland
Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–4 p.m.,
except holidays

Oakland Fire Department

1401 98th Avenue at International Blvd., or
1445 14th Street at Mandela Pkwy., Oakland
Always open, please ring the doorbell.

United Pharmacy

2929 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley
Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–6 p.m.;
Saturday, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.

Don't see a site near you? Go to www.ebmud.com/cleanbay or contact EBMUD at cleanbay@ebmud.com or 510-287-1651 to find a medication disposal site in your neighborhood.

* For disposal of controlled substances (e.g. narcotics) visit the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's website to find periodic one-day disposal events: www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html.

Healthy salmon, healthy river

The Mokelumne River in the Sierra is EBMUD's primary water source. A healthy river and robust watershed mean a more pristine water source and purer water for you. One way EBMUD preserves the health of the Mokelumne River and its watershed is by carefully managing river resources, especially Chinook salmon and steelhead trout fisheries.

Three years ago, salmon runs in California experienced one of their worst years ever and the Mokelumne River was not spared. That year less than 500 returning fish were counted. This worried many communities in the Central Valley and beyond. To change this dire situation, EBMUD along with California Department of Fish and Game and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are using innovative strategies to improve habitat, protect the local fishery and tailor river flows to match the life stages of migrating fish.

There is good news to share in early 2012: improved salmon runs were seen throughout the larger rivers in the Central Valley last year. And, early reports from EBMUD biologists point to an especially strong rebound on the Mokelumne River where more than 18,000 salmon were counted. Final counts will be available later this year.

By improving habitat along the river, better coordinating Delta operations and continuing scientific study on the river, the number of Mokelumne salmon should continue to increase in coming years and be a model for recovery for other Central Valley river systems.

Learn more about the Mokelumne River, EBMUD's watershed management and your water supply at www.ebmud.com/environment/habitats.

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EBMUD Mission Statement

To manage the natural resources with which the District is entrusted; to provide reliable, high-quality water and wastewater services at fair and reasonable rates for the people of the East Bay; and to preserve and protect the environment for future generations.