

# customer Pipeline



September • October 2012

## How is each water infrastructure dollar spent?

**B**efore water reaches your tap, it travels through a vast system of aqueducts, treatment plants, reservoirs, pumps and pipes.

Every dollar spent on East Bay water infrastructure is an investment you, the ratepayer, makes in high-quality, reliable drinking water.

This is how each water infrastructure dollar in the East Bay is spent:

### 12¢ Aqueducts and dams

Most of the water East Bay residents drink year-round is stored ninety miles east, at Pardee Dam in the Sierra. Three aqueducts carry that water across the Delta to the East Bay. Maintenance on aqueducts and dams is necessary for seismic safety and to reliably deliver your water supply.

### 10¢ Treatment plants

Five local facilities treat your water to make sure it meets or surpasses all public health requirements before it reaches your tap. Renovations at neighborhood treatment plants increase reliability and update technology and equipment to maintain the highest water quality standards.

### 37¢ Reservoirs and pumps

In the East Bay, treated drinking water is stored inside more than 160 reservoirs dotting our hillsides. Water is delivered to customers' taps using gravity and electric-powered pumping plants. Regular maintenance and replacement of this system of reservoirs and pumps keeps your water pressure, water flow and water quality stable.

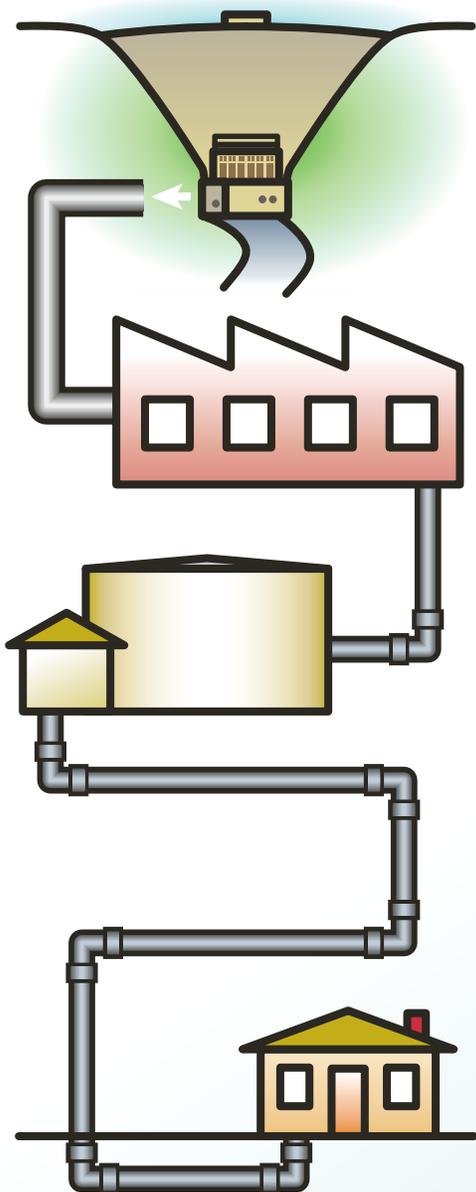
### 41¢ Pipelines

Nearly 4,200 miles of pipelines distribute water to East Bay homes and businesses. Age, corrosion, ground movement, soil conditions and other factors can cause pipes to break. Sometimes replacing a deteriorated pipe is better than repairing it each time it breaks. Maintenance, repairs and replacement of pipes take place throughout the year.

---

### \$1 Total

In the last fiscal year, EBMUD spent about \$228 million on operation, maintenance and long-term improvements to your water distribution infrastructure.



# Why the Delta matters to the East Bay

Although EBMUD does not deliver Delta water to you, we depend heavily on the Delta. Like all Californians, East Bay residents benefit from a healthy Bay Delta ecosystem.

Your drinking water from the Sierra is delivered via three aqueducts that cross 15 miles of the Delta vulnerable to flooding and earthquakes. Each year, EBMUD invests millions of dollars to maintain and protect this water infrastructure.

Because we draw nearly all of our drinking water from the Mokelumne River, a small Delta tributary, EBMUD and East Bay residents are considered upstream users of the Delta.

This summer, Governor Jerry Brown and Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar presented a revised Bay Delta Conservation Plan. Their plan proposes major new facilities in the Delta region. This includes large pumping plants that would draw water from the Sacramento River into two tunnels to deliver water more reliably to agricultural and urban users, primarily in Southern California. Additionally, the plan calls for more than 100,000 acres of habitat restoration in the Delta.

EBMUD is engaged in the statewide water discussion and supports efforts to sustain the Bay Delta ecosystem. This is consistent with our commitment to maintaining a healthy Mokelumne River and healthy fisheries. EBMUD also recognizes



the importance of water supply for other agencies in the Bay Area and throughout California.

We are working hard to evaluate the plan and avoid any unfair impacts on East Bay customers' water supply, rates and existing infrastructure investments as a result of the proposed plan.

## Keep your pool, spa and fountain copper-free

If you are in the EBMUD wastewater service area, before you drain your pool, spa or fountain, contact EBMUD at 510-287-1651 or email [cleanbay@ebmud.com](mailto:cleanbay@ebmud.com) for guidance. For additional residential pollution prevention information, visit [www.ebmud.com/cleanbay](http://www.ebmud.com/cleanbay).

If you've owned a pool for any length of time, it's quite likely you've had to deal with the occasional algae flare-up. Your past prescription for a cure may have included a fair dose of copper algacide. While that may do the trick, it will limit your options when it's time to drain your pool.

Copper is highly toxic to most aquatic life. Water containing copper from pools, spas or fountains should never be discharged to storm or sewer drains. Wastewater treatment plants can remove some, but not all, copper from discharges. Reducing or eliminating the use of copper in pools, spas and fountains will better protect our San Francisco Bay.

You can enjoy your pool, spa and fountain and keep our Bay healthy if you

- 1. Prevent algae problems.** Clean regularly and maintain proper water chemistry, filtration and circulation.
- 2. Use non-copper based algacides.** Alternatives include polymeric and ammonia-based algacides, sodium bromide and chlorine enhancers. Check with your pool maintenance or chemical supplier for additional alternatives.
- 3. Discharge water properly.** Check with your local wastewater authority for the best way to drain water to the sanitary sewer.



**EAST BAY  
MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT**

P.O. Box 24055 • Oakland, CA 94623  
1-866-40-EBMUD (1-866-403-2683)  
[www.ebmud.com](http://www.ebmud.com)

### Board of Directors

John A. Coleman • Katy Foulkes • Andy Katz  
Doug Linney • Lesa R. McIntosh • Frank Mellon  
William B. Patterson

### General Manager

Alexander R. Coate

### 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.



Printed on recycled paper

S/O 2012 363 M