

Water supply sufficient despite scant snow

Solid winter rainfall offset by a meager snowpack leaves the East Bay with a complicated water supply outlook. EBMUD reservoirs hold enough to meet our needs this year. But a dry March accompanied by a snow-melting heat wave all but erased the frozen reserves that typically replenish our supplies as spring turns into summer.



How do changing conditions affect planning and operations? We asked our experts:

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE TO WATER SUPPLY FORECASTING?

EBMUD engineers and hydrologists create water supply forecasts using modern scientific observations and nearly a century of historical data. That data is becoming less predictive as the climate changes and new weather patterns emerge. Our experts collaborate with Nevada's Desert Research Institute and UC San Diego's Scripps Institution of Oceanography to utilize the best science and apply the latest tools and techniques.

WHY DOES IT MATTER IF SNOW MELTS EARLY?

Snowpack is essentially a frozen reservoir that acts like a water savings account. When it melts early and all at once, we must let more runoff pass through to the ocean to maintain required space in our reservoirs for downstream flood control. That leaves less in the savings account come summer to replenish our supply.

WHAT IS EBMUD DOING TO SAVE WATER AND MINIMIZE LEAKS?

A lot. We identify our most vulnerable underground pipes and strategically replace them before major breaks happen. We test and deploy pipes made of advanced materials to minimize water loss. We use sensitive acoustic devices to detect and repair leaks on pipes before they surface on the road. And we invest in conservation programs and recycled water infrastructure.

WHAT CAN CUSTOMERS DO?

Many customers continue to make water conservation a way of life. To all taking steps to save water – fixing leaks, landscaping with low-water plants, reducing water waste – keep up the good work!

Learn more at ebmud.com/watersupply, ebmud.com/pipeline-replacements, and ebmud.com/conservation

Investing in water quality resilience

EBMUD works around the clock to deliver safe, clean water from source to tap. So, it is our pleasure to report that your drinking water quality meets or surpasses every state and federal requirement that safeguards public health.

We expect nothing less, but we never take it for granted. It requires dedicated professionals and extensive infrastructure to bring you the best, year after year.

EBMUD is making its largest capital investments in a generation to upgrade our water treatment plants so we can continue to provide exceptional drinking water for decades to come.

Orinda Water Treatment Plant

At EBMUD's largest plant, which has been in near continuous service for almost a century, we are halfway through a project to add both ultraviolet disinfection and a new chlorine contact basin and make chemical system safety enhancements. This is EBMUD's

largest single construction project. When complete in 2027, it will improve our ability to disinfect water and control the formation of disinfection byproducts.

Upper San Leandro Water Treatment Plant

A multiyear project to strengthen facilities against earthquakes, modernize aging infrastructure and enhance chemical system safety is about 60 percent complete. These upgrades will improve operational efficiency and reliability — even during system improvements, drought, extreme weather and wildfires.

Walnut Creek Water Treatment Plant

Climate change makes events like wildfires, severe storms and algae blooms more likely in our reservoirs and watersheds. We're planning improvements to help us treat water that is increasingly impacted by these events and enhance our ability to treat supplemental water supplies from the Sacramento River during droughts.

Investing in a modern, resilient, reliable system allows EBMUD to keep providing the safe, great-tasting water you count on.



Our tap is tops!

Read EBMUD's 2025 Annual Water Quality Report at ebmud.com/wqr



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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.

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