

## Not another drop needed

**S**o much rain! Following the longest dry period on record, this could very well be the wettest rainy season in our history. We don't need another drop of rain or another snowflake in the mountains because our reservoirs are now completely full, and then some.

Dams serve an important function in water delivery: they store precious drinking water. They also help manage floods in wet years like this, and enable us to generate clean, green hydroelectric power.

As we shift our daily operations from managing a water shortage to managing floods, we want to assure you that our dams and reservoirs are safe.

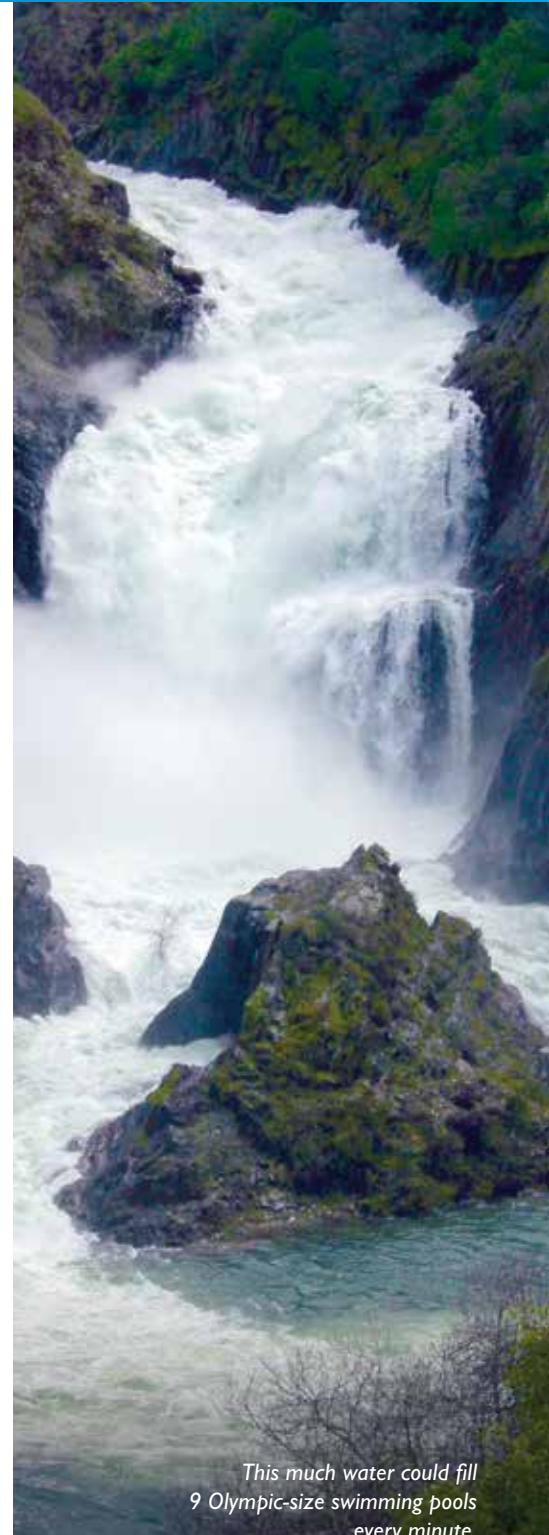
We inspect our dams, their spillways and related facilities annually, monthly or even daily when warranted. Experts look for anomalies such as cracks, settlement and

seepage. They review the integrity of all structures and check pressures inside the dam, read state-of-the-art geotechnical instruments and also check pressures and elevations of some dams remotely, a valuable tool here in earthquake country. The results show that these critical components of our water system are sound and protect the public.

The engineering community continually strives to deepen knowledge of the latest developments in geotechnical, structural and earthquake engineering. EBMUD and dam regulators work together to evaluate the safety of our dams, using the most current analysis methods to perform needed upgrades. The spillway at Pardee Dam has been upgraded twice; San Pablo Dam in El Sobrante has been retrofitted three times (most recently in 2010); and Chabot Dam in San Leandro is being seismically upgraded now.

While we adjust to this new day in water supply, EBMUD asks you to consider what you experienced in the past four years. Now that we are out of a drought, it's the right time to prepare for the next one. And one thing is for certain—droughts and floods are a part of California's DNA.

Thank you for being a conscientious water user. From pulling out lawns and replacing with water-wise plants, to watering the smart way and fixing leaks indoors, your actions are our strengths. Visit [ebmud.com/watersmart](http://ebmud.com/watersmart) to learn more ways to make lasting changes to the way you use water.



*This much water could fill  
9 Olympic-size swimming pools  
every minute.*

# See Scott save

Scott is a Water Conservation Representative at EBMUD and has dedicated his career to helping individuals, companies and landscape professionals become better stewards of our precious resource: water.

As an experienced landscape architect, 18 years ago he designed a water efficient landscape and irrigation plan for an East Bay homeowners association who installed significant upgrades to improve their outdoor water use and got an EBMUD rebate for their efforts.

"It may be easy to glue pipes together, but it's challenging to create an efficient design."

Scott appreciated the District's efforts to spur on conservation—and that's when he decided to work for EBMUD.

Now, Scott leads an EBMUD partnership with landscape industry professionals who share the same passion: engaging and teaching others about water efficiency. He reviews plans for new construction to ensure they meet strict guidelines and leads workshops for do-it-yourselfers and professionals on drip irrigation and irrigation scheduling.



"Water conserving landscapes benefit us in more ways than saving water. They can add habitat, improve air and water quality plus save energy."

Scott never tires of looking for a better way.

"I want to connect with people to share what I know, to learn together, and to help the environment."

**Learn more at [ebmud.com/onthejob](http://ebmud.com/onthejob)**

## FIX A LEAK WEEK

Every year, EBMUD invests tens of millions of dollars in repairs to fix or replace the most worn pipes in our system. We are on the job 365 days a year, 24 hours a day because we need

these pipes to deliver water to the people of the East Bay.

This March, we invite you to rise to the challenge and invest in your own pipes and fixtures. For the third year running, EBMUD is proud to sponsor the Environmental Protection Agency's National Fix a Leak Week.

Beginning in mid-March, you will find dye tabs and leak detection displays at 50 local hardware stores throughout the East Bay. The dye tabs are one of the easiest ways to help you find one of the most common and wasteful leaks in your home—a faulty toilet flapper. Our

research shows that 1 in 4 homes has a leak, and a faulty toilet flapper can leak about 200 gallons of precious drinking water each day.

Don't stop there. Leaks happen just as much outside as inside and your irrigation system is the most likely culprit. This is particularly important now as we ready for springtime and the California natives you



planted last fall will be ready for their first summer. Take the opportunity to test your system now, before you need to turn

it on! View our irrigation videos online and get a better handle on your outdoor irrigation scheduling.

If you missed Fix A Leak Week and want dye tabs or more information, visit [ebmud.com/watersmart](http://ebmud.com/watersmart).

Annual household leaks waste 1 trillion gallons nationwide. Fix that leak—it's easy as 1-2-3.

## Orinda's back!

In November, we told you about a major upgrade to our biggest water treatment plant in Orinda. We're thrilled to announce that Orinda Water Treatment Plant is coming back into service, delivering more than 120 million gallons daily to 800,000 customers. Time flies when you're working hard!



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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.