

## Reservoir rehab

**D**otting hillsides and tucked into neighborhoods, reservoirs are an important part of the East Bay's water infrastructure. After it is treated but before it reaches a home, school or business's tap, your drinking water is stored inside a reservoir.

EBMUD manages more than 160 water reservoirs throughout the East Bay. They range in capacity from less than a million gallons to more than 100 million gallons. Pumping water into neighborhood reservoirs requires more than half of all the energy EBMUD uses each year. One way EBMUD reduces its energy costs is by filling reservoirs during off-peak hours.

Water reservoirs are necessary to control water quality, maintain water pressure, and provide an ample water supply for customers and for fire protection.

The oldest water reservoirs in the EBMUD system were built in the 1890s. Early on, earthen dams or redwood tanks were used to store water for a community. As water quality standards changed in the 1950s and 1960s, these reservoirs were eventually lined and covered or replaced. Each year, as part of infrastructure renewal, older reservoirs may be rehabilitated, upgraded or replaced with concrete or steel tanks.



Sometimes large reservoirs may be replaced with smaller tanks to improve operations. Upgrades may be made to improve reliability in case of an earthquake. Neighborhood reservoir may be modified to improve water flow or meet a community's changing water needs.

If there's a reservoir rehab or replacement project in your neighborhood, impacts to traffic,

noise and the landscape may occur while this important work takes place.

Rehabbing neighborhood reservoirs is as critical as replacing water pipelines under your street. These projects are important investments in the East Bay's water safety and reliability and will continue in the coming years.

**Learn about the latest reservoir upgrades and other infrastructure projects in your neighborhood. Visit Construction Projects at [www.ebmud.com](http://www.ebmud.com).**

*(Above) EBMUD's more than 160 reservoirs store treated water for 1.3 million East Bay residents.*

*(Right) An aging reservoir serving a Richmond neighborhood was replaced with this new concrete tank. It was partially buried to blend in with the adjacent canyon landscape. This tank is now in service.*



# Clean bathroom, cleaner Bay

Bathroom cleansers tend to be harsh. They are designed to get rid of soap build-up, scum, tough stains and mildew on tubs, showers and toilets. When these harsh cleaning products are washed down the drain they end up at a wastewater treatment plant. Those plants are not able to remove every type of chemical from wastewater. That means some chemicals may end up in San Francisco Bay. You can help prevent that.

Instead of using harsh bathroom cleansers, clean and disinfect your bathroom in a more environmentally-friendly way:

- Use baking soda mixed with water to make a paste for all-purpose cleaning. Add elbow grease to scrub, then rinse.
- Sprinkle Borax on toilet bowl stains and soap scum on tubs, tiles and showers. Scrub then rinse.
- Mix a teaspoon of Borax with a quart of hot water in a spray bottle and spray to remove mold from tiles and walls.
- Prevent bacteria, mildew and mold growth by keeping surfaces dry. Wipe wet surfaces frequently. Use a squeegee in the shower. Keep your bathroom well-ventilated.

Remember a clean bay begins with you! Find more environmentally-friendly cleaning tips at [www.ebmud.com/cleanbay](http://www.ebmud.com/cleanbay) or call 510-287-1651.



## Tap tastes better

Summer vacations are fun, but don't you love coming home to the East Bay? We love it here: the people, the landscape, the culture, the weather and, of course, the tap water!

We've been hearing and reading customer comments and tweets, and it seems you love the East Bay's great-tasting tap water as much as we do.

Why does our tap water taste so good here? Our drinking water is mostly Sierra Nevada snowmelt, delivered 90 miles to our communities. One of the most important factors in water quality is the source: the purer the source, the better the water. Last year, your drinking water met or surpassed every state and federal public health requirement.

Learn more about your tap water quality in the latest annual report at [www.ebmud.com/wqr](http://www.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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JJA 2013 363 M