

SMART GOAL #2: WATER SUPPLY

Comprehensively evaluate and present viable options for implementing a diversified water supply.

Water supply is of the utmost importance to the District. Several types of concerns about water supply were identified throughout the strategic planning process; ensuring and securing long-term water supply is a critical priority for the District. This goal **includes activities associated with protecting our current water supplies** while investigate options for creating recycled water and stormwater capture programs to ensure sustainable and reliable water provision for its customers.

2.1 Ensure excellence in regulatory compliance.

Key Success Measures

1. Actively monitor new regulations and engage in the rulemaking process.
2. Deliver services in accordance with standards set by regulatory agencies.
3. Chromium-6 MCL
 - Share best practices and collaborate with other water districts in the Coachella Valley through our consultant to develop a cost-effective approach to managing Chromium-6 levels within our water supply.
 - Increase transparency, create an education and outreach plan to share the District's approach with the community, and increase overall awareness of water quality and supply issues facing the District.
 - Ensure the District's Chromium-6 plan is incorporated in the Long Range Financial Plan and that any capital projects are incorporated into the Five-Year CIP Program.
4. Lead & Copper Rule
 - Develop a lead service line inventory and make it publicly available.
 - Develop a lead service line replacement plan.
 - Sample schools and childcare facilities for lead and copper.
 - Strengthen treatment to comply with the new 10 microgram/liter (µg/L) trigger level.
 - Develop a communications plan to educate the public about the Lead and Copper Rule Revision's requirements and the steps MSWD takes to meet them.
5. Conservation as a Way of Life
 - Continue to work with regulators to address the feasibility of state-set conservation goals.
 - Continue to review regulations and apply for variances based on agriculture, evaporative coolers, and seasonal populations while evaluating other areas that may reduce conservation targets.
 - Solicit grant support to help pay for an MSWD weather station to obtain better precipitation and evaporation rates in our service area.
 - Enhance customer rebate programs to include water-saving appliances like dishwashers, clothes washers, and high-efficiency toilets.
 - Budget for and incorporate a Conservation as a Way of Life engagement campaign into the annual customer communications plan.
 - Solicit grant funding to develop an Evaporative Cooler Maintenance and Replacement Program.
 - Review the turf rebate program and target outreach efforts to customers with turf.
 - As part of the new Critical Services Center, construct a new demonstration garden to encourage the use of native drought-resilient plants.

SMART GOAL #2: WATER SUPPLY (Continued)

2.2 Support / Advocate regional development of local water supply and reduce reliance on imported supply.

Key Performance Measures

1. Explore options and grant funding to create a financially feasible recycled water program (looking at potable and non-potable options) at the Horton and Wright facilities.
2. Work with the City and other water districts to encourage the use of native drought-resilient plants; work with the City to add to developer requirements.
3. Evaluate options for stormwater capture and reuse.
4. Participate in negotiations for the final determination of the Ground Sustainability Agency for basins within the District's service area, which include the San Geronio Pass Sub-Basin, the Mission Creek Sub-Basin, the Indio Sub-Basin, and the Desert Hot Springs Sub-Basin.
5. Work with the Salt Nutrient Management Plan stakeholders to continue monitoring Total Dissolved Solids in the Coachella Valley and advocate for project funding to protect our aquifer.
6. Continue to explore opportunities with the Agua Caliente Indian Reservation to access groundwater.
7. Review and explore options with our State Water Project allocation, preparing for contract expiration and the possibility of reduced Colorado River supplies.
8. As part of the Water Master Plan, include projects that connect the MSWD IDE areas to the MSWD "main" system.

2.3 Continue to implement the MSWD Groundwater Quality Protection Project, which is a comprehensive water resource management effort that eliminates known pollution sources; reclaims water to reduce demand on limited groundwater resources; protects underground storage capacity; and leverages multiple funding opportunities.

Key Performance Measures

1. Expand the sewer system and wastewater treatment facilities by reclaiming water and reducing groundwater demand while protecting our groundwater supply.
2. Leverage local, state, and federal grant opportunities to ensure program affordability for our residents.
3. Communicate the value of septic to sewer and water quality efforts to stakeholders and the community to ensure continued support.
4. Participate in community events to build trust and ensure transparency.
5. Participate in the Coachella SNMP committee to collect data, monitor and mitigate impacts of septic systems within the MSWD boundaries.
6. Work with local, state, and federal partners to obtain 50 percent match funding for current and future assessment districts.