

Metropolitan's Water Treatment Plants Safeguard Public Health



The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is the largest wholesale provider of drinking water in the country. Metropolitan provides water for 26 member public agencies to deliver to nearly 19 million people living across six Southland counties. Metropolitan operates five water treatment plants, including some of the largest facilities in the nation.



Metropolitan imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California. Colorado River water is brought via Metropolitan's 242-mile Colorado River Aqueduct extending from Lake Havasu on the California-Arizona border, to Lake Mathews near Riverside. Northern California supplies are

drawn from the confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers and transported in the State Water Project's 444-mile California Aqueduct to serve urban and agricultural needs in the San Francisco Bay area as well as Central and Southern California.

Metropolitan's Water Treatment Plants

Southland water is treated at one of five Metropolitan-owned and operated treatment plants to comply with stringent federal and state drinking water regulations that protect public health.

Metropolitan tests its water for almost 400 different constituents and performs about 250,000 water quality tests annually. Each plant is equipped with an on-site water quality laboratory that serves as a satellite to the main Water Quality Laboratory located in La Verne on the grounds of Metropolitan's original treatment facility. All water provided by Metropolitan meets or exceeds regulations.



JOSEPH JENSEN WATER TREATMENT PLANT

The Joseph Jensen Water Treatment Plant started operation in 1972 and treats water from the State Water Project. It is located in Granada Hills and distributes water to the San Fernando Valley, Ventura County and central Los Angeles. Jensen is Metropolitan's largest treatment plant and the largest west of the Mississippi River, with a capacity of 750 million gallons a day. The plant is named after Joseph Jensen, who served as chairman of Metropolitan's Board of Directors for a record 25 years, beginning in 1949.



ROBERT B. DIEMER WATER TREATMENT PLANT

The Robert B. Diemer Water Treatment Plant began operation in 1963 and is located on a hilltop in Yorba Linda. The plant distributes water via gravity-flow to coastal Los Angeles and Orange County. The Diemer plant treats water from both the Colorado River Aqueduct and the State Water Project and has a treatment capacity of 520 million gallons a day. The plant is named after Robert B. Diemer, who started at Metropolitan in 1929 and served as general manager from 1952 to 1961.



ROBERT A. SKINNER WATER TREATMENT PLANT

The Robert A. Skinner Water Treatment Plant is located in Winchester, in Southwest Riverside County and treats water from the Colorado River Aqueduct and State Water Project for western Riverside County and San Diego County. Skinner started operation in 1976 and has a capacity to treat 350 million gallons of water a day. The plant is named for Robert A. Skinner, Metropolitan's general manager from 1962 to 1967. The adjoining Lake Skinner is a popular recreation spot for sailing and fishing. There's also hiking trails and horseback riding and the park is home to the Temecula Valley Balloon and Wine Festival. The park is operated by the Riverside County Regional Park & Open Space District.


HENRY J. MILLS WATER TREATMENT PLANT

The Henry J. Mills Water Treatment Plant is located in the city of Riverside, and sits near the Box Springs foothills at an elevation of 1,650 feet, the highest of Metropolitan's treatment plants. It became operational in 1978. The Mills plant exclusively treats water from the East Branch of the State Water Project and provides treated water to the City of Riverside, Eastern Municipal Water District, and Western Municipal Water District in Riverside County. The plant was named for Henry J. "Hank" Mills, who capped a 41-year Metropolitan career by becoming general manager in 1967, a post he held for almost five years before retirement. Mills has a treatment capacity of 220 million gallons per day. Outside its perimeter, knee-high walls have been built to protect the habitat of the endangered Stephen's kangaroo rat that can be found in the nearby vicinity.



F.E. WEYMOUTH WATER TREATMENT PLANT

The F.E. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant began operation in 1941 and was the first plant built by Metropolitan. The plant treats both Colorado River and State Water Project water and serves parts of Los Angeles County, including the San Gabriel Valley and areas of Orange County. Weymouth has a treatment capacity of 520 million gallons a day – roughly the equivalent of filling the Rose Bowl every four hours. Weymouth is also the location of Metropolitan's state-of-the-art Water Quality Laboratory – one of the nation's most advanced facilities. The plant is named for Frank E. Weymouth, Metropolitan's first chief engineer and general manager who served from 1929 to 1941. He supervised construction of the Colorado River Aqueduct and died just weeks after its completion. The plant is noted for its Mission Revival-style architecture.



Metropolitan's \$1.2 billion investment that spanned 14 years was recently completed with the addition of ozone treatment at all five water treatment plants. Compared to the more traditional chlorine disinfection process, ozone destroys a wider range of micro-organisms, produces fewer byproducts and more effectively removes unpleasant tastes and odors.

ABOUT METROPOLITAN

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a state-established cooperative of 26 member agencies – cities and public water agencies – that serve nearly 19 million people in six counties. Metropolitan imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies and helps its members develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource management programs.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.



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www.mwdh2o.com