



# Westlands Water District

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June 27, 2011

*This notice contains important information about the following:*

- **District General Election**
- **2011-2012 Water Rates and Charges**
- **2011-2012 Water Supply Update**
- **Supplemental Water Supply Update**
- **Metropolitan Water District Exchange Update**
- **Repayment Contract Assessments**
- **Water Allocation Benefit Charge Reminder**
- **Customer Service Website Statistics**
- **Holiday Office Closures & Water Ordering Procedures**

## **District General Election**

District Secretary Dave Ciapponi has reported that the 2011 District General Election has been cancelled, since the number of declared candidates matched the available positions. In accordance with the law, the District will now request that the Fresno County Board of Supervisors appoint Directors Frank Coelho, Donald Devine, Larry Enos, Todd Neves and Mr. Alan Sano to the full-term positions, which run through 2015, and Director Sarah Woolf to the partial-term position running through 2013.

## **2011-2012 Water Rates and Charges**

The Board of Directors has revised the 2011-2012 Water Rates and Charges, retroactive to March 1, 2011. The changes to the rates and charges were prompted by the increase in the CVP water supply allocation for south-of-Delta agricultural contractors to 80 percent. The new rates will be implemented on the June water billing statements that are mailed early in July and due July 25. The revised rates are available on the District's website at <http://www.westlandswater.org>, under the Water & Power/Water Rates tabs, or by calling Customer Accounting at (559) 241-6250.

## **2011-2012 Water Supply Update**

The CVP allocation to south-of-Delta agricultural water contractors remains at 80 percent. Combined with the District's rescheduled supplies, current-year Supplemental Water acquisitions and water user transfers, the District is projecting approximately 1,065,952 AF in surface water will be available to water users in 2011.

Current storage in San Luis Reservoir is about 170 percent of normal and Shasta is at or nearing capacity. Staff expects that under an average hydrologic scenario going forward that San Luis Reservoir will fill, though the timing is uncertain at this point. The final report of the seasonal snow pack from DWR indicated that the statewide snow pack was 144 percent of average with the

northern Sierra snow pack totaling 159 percent of average. The current cumulative precipitation under the Northern Sierra 8 station and Southern Sierra 5 station indices are 147 and 153 percent, respectively.

### **Supplemental Water Supply Update**

Water users have submitted timely agreements to purchase 47,410 acre-feet of Supplemental Water. Late agreements to purchase 1,000 acre-feet have also been received. The District will have enough water to meet all supplemental water requests received to date. The delivered price is expected to be no more than \$165 per acre foot.

The timing and amounts of expected allocations are shown in the table below.

<b>Allocation Month</b>	<b>AF Amount</b>
May – Actual	16,985
June – Actual	16,479
July – Estimated	4,500
August – Estimated	4,700
September – Estimated	4,000
October – Estimated	1,746

### **Metropolitan Water District Exchange Update**

The District expects to deliver during July and August 2011, the return water portion of that exchanged with Metropolitan Water District last year. Water users who participated in the exchange can expect to receive about half of their return water in July and half in August. The costs collected when the water is delivered will be the current District O&M, Water Delivered Benefit and San Luis & Delta Mendota Water Authority O&M rates totaling \$39.73 per acre-foot.

### **Repayment Contract Assessments**

The 2011 Repayment Contract Assessment statements have been mailed. The charges are due now and delinquent after November 17, 2011. A 5 percent penalty will be added after the delinquent date. Please contact Deborah Tuggle at 559-241-6212 for additional information about Assessments.

### **Water Allocation Benefit Charge Reminder**

Water users and landowners who are making decisions about the purchase, sale or transfer of water to lands should be aware of the Water Allocation Benefit charge, which is \$0.78 per acre-foot, and which will be billed to the water user of record as of June 30, 2011, on the land that received a CVP Interim Contract water allocation. If you become the water user after water has been allocated to the property in question, you will be obligated to pay the charge even if you did not receive any water. Questions about the charge should be directed to Customer Accounting at (559) 241-6250.

**Customer Service Website Statistics**

About 96 percent of all Water User accounts have signed up for login capability to use secure District website features such as water ordering, water order status, water exhaustion projection, month-end allocation, account water history, satellite imagery, interactive forms, accounts receivable history, water buy and sell offers, crop report data entry and penalty history. The website is at <http://www.westlandswater.org>. Water users may contact their Accounting Technician at (559) 241-6250 to set up a secure login or for assistance in using the various features of the customer section.

**Holiday Office Closures & Water Ordering Procedures**

District offices will be closed on Monday, July 4, 2011, in observance of Independence Day. The affected water ordering deadlines are as follows:

<b>For Water Use On</b>	<b>Place Water Order By</b>
Saturday or Sunday - July 2 or 3	Friday, July 1, 9:30 a.m.
Monday or Tuesday - July 4 or 5	Friday, July 1, noon

The emergency telephone number for after hours and holidays is (559) 224-1523.