

# WMWD Residential Handout Highlights & Questions

## Water Rationing or a 250% Rate Increase

### WMWD IS Proposing a 40% Decrease In Your Personal Consumption

WMWD Mailer page.1 paragraph.1

"Every Western Municipal Water District customer has unique water needs. Typically, more water is necessary for large home properties than condos, and **businesses use water in differing ways.**"

WMWD Mailer page.1 paragraph.6

"Should Western's Board of Directors approve the proposed change in rate structure, **residential customers'** water budgets would be calculated based on each customer's amount of landscaping..."

**Questions:**

- What is the difference in how you deliver it and how it is used?
- What is the **difference in Rate?**
- Why are residents (the majority of customers) **being discriminated against?**

WMWD Mailer page.1 paragraph.1

"Those who **waste water** would pay more for their **waste.**"

WMWD Mailer page.2 paragraph.2

"...to acquire water necessary to meet this **excessive demand.**"

WMWD Mailer page.2 paragraph.4

"...efficient water users shouldn't have to cover the cost of acquiring water supplies necessary to serve **customers who use water inefficiently.**

WMWD Mailer page.1 paragraph.5

"Customers who exceed their water budget by **wasting water** would be billed at higher rates for the amount of water they use above their water budget."

WMWD Mailer page.6 paragraph.

"the cost of supplying water at these **inefficient and unsustainable** levels is significantly higher."

**Questions:**

- How and who defines the terms '**waste**', '**inefficiency**', '**excessive**' & '**unsustainable**'?

If you '**waste water**' as they define, our rates are going up **250%**, while only giving a **.09%** rate cut for those that use water 'efficiently'.

Tier	Supply & Delivery Cost	Efficiency Program Funding	Total Proposed Rate	Current Rate
1: Efficient Indoor Use	\$1.77	\$0.00	\$1.77	\$1.87
2: Efficient Outdoor Use	\$1.87	\$0.00	\$1.87	\$1.87
3: Inefficient Use	\$2.11	\$0.30	\$2.41	\$1.87
4: Excessive Use	\$3.18	\$0.60	\$3.78	\$1.87
5: Unsustainable Use	\$3.18	\$1.49	\$4.67	\$1.87

**\$4.67 ÷ \$1.87 = 250%**

# WMWD Residential Handout Highlights & Questions Continued

WMWD Mailer page.1 paragraph.3  
"...help meet **our region's water-supply challenges.**"

WMWD Mailer page.2 paragraph.4  
"...to cover **the cost of acquiring water supplies** necessary to serve **customers who use water inefficiently.**"

WMWD Mailer page.2 paragraph.5  
"Additionally, **western Riverside County is a semi-arid region**, and we must rely on expensive and increasingly unreliable sources of imported water to **supplement our limited local water supplies.**"

WMWD Mailer page.4 paragraph.1  
"...the costs associated with our various water sources, including local groundwater and **water imported from Northern California.**"

## Questions:

- What challenges?
- How are we more of a "**semi-arid region**"? According to the **National Weather Service**, Western Riverside County has an average of **24 inches a year** on a regular basis and this year alone we are **5 inches higher than regular**. This is the highest in our whole County and also the same or **more average rainfall than 50% of the counties in Northern California**. It is also among the **highest in all of Southern California**.
- Why does WMWD continue to advise the County of Riverside that they can and will provide water for **new development for the next 20 years**?
- Is it responsible to **increase demands** given our limited local water supplies?
- Why does **WMWD not implement a stricter development requirement** on new larger developments over 100+ units?

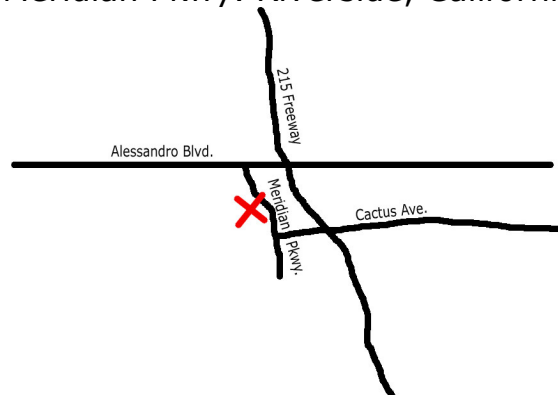
WMWD Mailer page.7 paragraph.8  
"Additionally, Western's Board reviews sewer rates each summer, and will consider changes to that rate in August 2011."

## Questions:

- Is this a **future rate hike** for sewer?
- Is this a water **rate hike based on sewer** amounts?

**PLEASE ATTEND THE PUBLIC HEARING**  
**July 13, 2011 - 6:30 p.m.**

**Western Municipal Water District**  
14205 Meridian Pkwy. Riverside, California 92508



## WMWD Residential Handout Highlights & Questions Continued

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WMWD Mailer page.5 Outdoor Budget

" • *Daily localized weather data*

- **Irrigated area**
- **Landscape factor**"

WMWD Mailer page.5 Avg. Water Used

...the District is proposing an indoor water budget of **60 gallons per person per day.**"

### Questions:

see attachment A - Ordinance 375 (passed January 2009)

- Is this water rationing?
- Do **I now need to call you and submit a full EAWU plan every time I want to change my plant types** or quantities?
- Do **I need to tell you when my parents move** in so you do not charge me too much for their showers or any of their extra usage?
- According to the USGS "...each person uses **80-100 gallons of water per day.**"

WMWD Mailer page.5 Landscape Factor

"The proposed rate structure is based on the **assumption...of 0.8. Customers requesting new water service from Western after January 1, 2012, would receive a landscape factor of 0.7.**"

### Questions:

- So are **new customer rates based on less usage**, therefore getting a better rate as they can use more before they hit their 'budget limit'?

WMWD Mailer page.1 paragraph.3

" **Western's goal** is efficient water use among our customers, **NOT to generate any additional revenue.**"

WMWD Mailer page.6 paragraph.2

"How would Western use the **revenues generated** from customers who exceed their water budget?"

WMWD Mailer page.6 paragraph.3

" This rate structure **no longer meets the financial** or water-use needs of the District..."

### Questions:

- Is this a way to generate additional revenue from existing customers or not?

WMWD Mailer page.7 paragraph.5

"The proposed adjustment policy would **account for horses by providing 30 gallons per animal per day,**"

### Questions:

- Should I not bathe or exercise my horses? According to the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, horses need as much as 2.65 gallons per hour when exercising and if the weather is hot, they can require 2-4 times the regular amount needed just to stay hydrated. This can be **over 40 gallons of water per day per horse.** So the budget for horses **is 10 gallons a day short** and this is with no baths or extras.
- What about **dogs, chickens, cats** etc.?

# WMWD Residential Handout Highlights & Questions Continued

**Their examples of your proposed savings if you use only what they allow you to.**

**1 Unit of Water = 748 gallons**

<b>WMWD Budget Proposal</b>	<b>Yearly Allotments</b>
60 gallons per person per day	60 gal. x 365 days = <b>21,900</b>
Average number of people in your home is 3	21,900 x 3 = <b>65,700</b>
30 gallons per horse per day	30 gal. x 365 days = <b>10,950</b>

WMWD Mailer page.4 Example.1

**"Example 1:** A customer with a property of **0.18 acres** with **three persons** living in the home and **a landscaped area of 2,744 square feet** would receive monthly water budgets totaling **185 billing units (138,380 gallons)** over the course of a year. At the current water rate, this customer would pay approximately \$347 over the year for 185 units of water. Under the proposed Water Budget Rate Structure, the same household using 185 units of water would pay **\$338 over the year** – a reduction of \$9."

Your water unit bill must be equal or less to meet this requirement:  
**\$28/month.**

WMWD Mailer page.4 Example.2

**" Example 2:** A customer with a property of **0.5 acres** with **four persons** living in the home and **a landscaped area of 6,535 square feet** would receive monthly water budgets totaling **348 billing units of water (260,304 gallons)** over the course of a year. At the current water rate, this customer would pay approximately \$650 over the year for 348 units of water. Under the proposed Water Budget Rate Structure, the same household using 348 units of water would pay **\$638 over the year** – a reduction of \$12."

Your water unit bill must be equal or less to meet this requirement:  
**\$54/month.**

WMWD Mailer page.4 Example.3

**"Example 3:** A customer with a property of **1.25 acres** with **five persons** living in the home and **a landscaped area of 18,513 square feet** would receive monthly water budgets totaling **796 billing units of water (595,408 gallons)** over the course of a year. At the current water rate, this customer would pay approximately \$1,488 over the year for 796 units of water. Under the proposed Water Budget Rate Structure, the same household using 796 units of water would pay **\$1,473 over the year** – a reduction of \$15."

Your water unit bill must be equal or less to meet this requirement:  
**\$124/month.**

Remember the WMWD default budget will be based on 3 people not what the examples above show you so the monthly allotment will actually be less.

**These examples do not include any additional fees, this is strictly water cost.**

WMWD Ordinance 375 item.B line.1

**"A separate dedicated meter is required for landscaped areas greater than or equal to 2,500 square-feet."**

- **Who pays** for this dedicated meter?
- Why do all the budget allotment examples in the handout show a landscaped area of **> 2,500**, would this not require us all **to purchase a new meter**?

## WMWD Residential Handout Highlights & Questions Continued

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### Determined Facts:

1. If you change or add landscaping, you need to alert WMWD and submit a full EAWU compliant plan (**you must pay for this**) so they will **consider** allowing you to increase your water budget.
2. If someone moves in with you, you need to alert WMWD so they will **consider** allowing you to increase my water budget.
3. If you use what they claim is excessive, **your rate goes up 250%**.
4. We are being told we have a water shortage when according to the **National Weather Association we are at normal levels of rainfall** and in fact this year we are above normal totals.
5. The examples supplied in the handout do not reflect the correct estimated number of persons living in your household.
6. Based on weather and the type of plants you grow, they are going to tell you how much water you are allowed to use before you are **excessively penalized**.
7. WMWD is proposing a **water budget 40% less** than what is stated for human consumption on a daily basis.
8. You are being told **to use less water** than what is **recommended by the USGS**.
9. WMWD examples do not show actual default numbers, so they are misleading.

Why should you be told how much water you are allowed to purchase?

Are you now supposed to **take 40% less showers, or drink 40% less water?**

If you are opposed to **water rationing** and huge penalties for over usage, please fill out the form below and mail it to the following address and we will make sure it gets submitted at the next water board meeting.

If you need us to assist in getting them to us, please contact us: **info@raglm.org**

**Please cut the opposition letter in half and give one to your neighbor.**

It is imperative that we receive these by **July 10, 2011** so we may get them to the public hearing.

### Related Documents:

WMWD Residential Mailer:

[http://www.raglm.org/pdfs/wmwd/Riverside\\_Residential.pdf](http://www.raglm.org/pdfs/wmwd/Riverside_Residential.pdf)

WMWD Ordinance 375:

[http://www.raglm.org/pdfs/wmwd/Ord375\\_LandscapeWUE.pdf](http://www.raglm.org/pdfs/wmwd/Ord375_LandscapeWUE.pdf)

### Important Dates:

6/15/2011 - RAGLM Community Meeting - WMWD will be speaking on this issue.

7/13/2011 - WMWD Rate Hike Hearing

# Simple WMWD Cost Analysis

**(1 acre) foot of water = 325,851 U.S. gallons.**

This is 1 foot high of water across 1 acre.

WMWD unit of water measurement is **748 U.S. gallons.**

According to WMWD's unit measurement, this would be 436 units of water per foot acre.  
 $325,851 \text{ gal.} / 748 \text{ gal.} = \mathbf{436 \text{ units of water}}$

According to Jeffrey D. Sims (WMWD Assistant General Manager, COO) it costs WMWD **\$30 per foot acre** of water to pump it **100 feet of elevation.**

So it costs WMWD **\$0.07 per unit of water per 100 feet of elevation pumped.**  
 $\$30 / 436 \text{ units} = \$0.07$

According to the Metropolitan Water District's (where we import our water from) website, their **retail rate is \$104 per acre foot.**

[http://www.mwdh2o.com/mwdh2o/pages/finance/finance\\_03.html](http://www.mwdh2o.com/mwdh2o/pages/finance/finance_03.html)

So the cost of imported water is **\$0.24 per unit of water.**  
 $\$104 \text{ MWD Rate} / 436 \text{ units per foot acre} = \$0.24$

According to Jeffrey D. Sims 86% of our water is imported.  
So **imported water cost per foot acre is \$0.21.**  
 $\$0.24 \text{ per foot acre} \times 86\% \text{ of imported use.}$

Lake Mathews sits at about 1500'

My house sits at 2200'

That is a difference of 700'  
 $2200 - 1500 = \mathbf{700'}$

This would cost WMWD **\$0.49 per unit of water to pump it to my house.**  
 $(700 \text{ feet} / 100 \text{ foot lift increment}) \times \$0.07 = \$0.49$

It costs WMWD **\$0.70 per unit of water** for (imported water) to supply me this includes the full pump charge for all the water.  
 $\$0.21 \text{ imported unit cost} + \$0.49 \text{ per unit}$

**Current unit rate \$1.87**

**WMWD's Profit per unit rate \$1.17**

**Cost per unit is 37% of charged rate**

**Profit per unit is 63% of charged rate**

*This does not take into account any **wholesale discount** WMWD may get from MWD. Also this is simple the water cost and does not include the other fees they add to the bill. This also does not take into account any administration costs etc. but you can figure that one out for yourself.*

Did you know that Exxon Mobile and most all of those **evil big oil companies** only have a profit margin of around **8%**?

What does that make Western Municipal?

Did you know that **WMWD has the final say** on new meters being put in.  
So if we have a water shortage, why do they keep allowing new development?  
Why should the existing residents be rationed so WMWD can create more customers?

South Region New Water Meter Cost: **\$17,000** - (This is our region.)  
North Region New Water Meter Cost: **\$3,100**

**If you would like to help get the word out and team up with someone to get signatures of opposition, please contact RAGLM - (951) 286-4572 or [info@raglm.org](mailto:info@raglm.org).**

## Opposition to Water Rationing

To: Western Municipal Water District

I am opposed to the proposed new water rate tiered system as documented in the mailer that was sent out in May 2011. Please make this opposition part of the public record.

Rate increases and rationing on existing residents is not the way to make room for more customers who in turn, place additional burdens on the currently available limited resources. The fact that we not only get more rain in Western Riverside County than more than 50% of all Northern California, is proof we do not need more water imported from an area with the same challenges, and told it is due to our inefficient use.

Thank you,  
WMWD Customer

**Please mail to:**  
Residents Association of Greater Lake Mathews  
3410 La Sierra Ave. #F41  
Riverside, CA 92503

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print legibly)

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(address is required by WMWD for service verification)

**Type of Service:**  Residential  Commercial      **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(required by WMWD)

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ (required by WMWD)

**We MUST receive these before July 13, 2011**

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