

Morro Reservoir



WATER SUPPLY AND STORAGE

The Rainbow Municipal Water District relies entirely on imported water supplies to serve our customers. We receive our water from pipelines owned by the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) and the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA). In August, SDCWA discovered a leak at the 90-inch pipeline that runs through the Moosa Creek area and provides water to the southern portion of our District.

This aqueduct carries the water to our system where we deliver it to homes and growers in our service area. Due to the location and the pressures in the pipeline, SDCWA determined it was necessary to move forward with repairs immediately, despite the warm weather and peak seasonal demands.

SDCWA scheduled their emergency shutdown for September 9 through 18, 2019. Efforts to sustain our water supply for our customers throughout the duration of the shutdown began immediately. Since we have two connections from the MWD pipeline system in our northern service area, water service in that areas will be close to normal. The main impact area is in our southern service area south of Highway 76.

Unlike a power outage when there is no electricity at your homes, RMWD has tanks and reservoir to supply our customers with water even if the pipeline connection to our wholesale supply is shut off or isolated. Morro Reservoir is our large covered reservoir located in the Morro Hills area. We began filling the reservoir to maximum capacity promptly and by Friday, September 6, 2019 it had 124 million gallons, held in reserve.



Morro Reservoir then feeds into three other storage facilities (Hutton, Gopher, and Turner tanks), with temporary pumping facilities. The tanks are monitored 24/7 and the levels are checked constantly to make adjustments throughout the day, forecast demands, and detect anomalies as they occur.

We asked customers to reduce their outdoor water use during the aqueduct shutdown to ensure water to supply

the region were ample for continued indoor usage and minimal outdoor use over the estimated ten day period in case the repairs took longer than expected. We also need to retain a certain amount of emergency storage in the event of a fire in our area.

Rainbow MWD would like to thank its customers for their efforts before and during the SDCWA Emergency Aqueduct Pipeline shutdown. Many of you called in to find out how you could best support the District in conserving water supplies during the shutdown. We truly appreciate all of your support!

As you may have noticed we have several of these message boards (pictured to the right) strategically placed around the District. We will be removing these message boards as soon as the repairs are completed and regular service has been restored.



For more details about the pipeline and the shutdown please go to SDCWA website at www.sdcwa.org/pipeline-4-repairs.