



RAINBOW

MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
JULY 2026 . ISSUE 259

Southern California's largest water reservoir, Diamond Valley Lake in Hemet, holds up to 246 billion gallons of local water supply. Read more in the award-winning Annual Water Quality Report.

Get to Know Your H2O

Annual Water Quality Report & Industry Award

Water is a key part of our daily lives. It is in everything we do, from growing avocados to preparing dinner and bathing kids. Rainbow Water works tirelessly to ensure a safe and reliable water supply is delivered to our community. This year was no different. Rainbow Water met all Environmental Protection Agency and California State Drinking Water Standards in 2025 and has published the information in the 2025 Annual Quality Report.

Rainbow Water routinely monitors the distribution system to ensure the water served to our customers' homes and businesses meets or exceeds all state and federal guidelines for safe drinking water. Last year, Rainbow Water team members conducted over 300 tests for total coliform bacteria and dozens of other water quality tests to maintain water compliance for the entire year, as reported in the annual water quality report.

Rainbow Water met or exceeded all EPA and California State Drinking Water Standards in 2025.



The Annual Water Quality Report, also known as the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), is issued by water agencies to inform customers about their drinking water supply, as required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water.

The report provides details on the water quality monitoring, water wholesaler, water data, water contaminants, PFAS, fluoride, and a glossary of terms. The report includes an overview of Rainbow Water's 100% imported water supply and a map of water sources from the Colorado River Aqueduct and the State Water Project. The closest local water sources are Diamond Valley Lake in Hemet (pictured above), and Lake Skinner in Temecula (pictured at right), both sites feed from the State Water Project and Colorado River.

Rainbow Water's Water Quality Report Receives 2026 CAPIO Annual Report Award

Rainbow Water received the 2026 Award of Distinction from the California Association of Public Information Officials (CAPIO) in the Annual Report category for the 2025 Annual Water Quality Report. This is Rainbow Water's first nomination and win for the industry award that highlights outstanding communication and public information campaigns by local government and public agencies across California.



Around the District

Highlights from the General Manager: Tax Roll Assessments, Fees for Service, and New Water Theft Penalties



Rainbow Water's Board of Director's held public hearings at the June regular board meeting to update the fees for services and adopt annual tax roll assessments.

The annual tax roll assessment was approved by the board. This covers property tax revenues collected to be applied toward the readiness-to-serve charge and water availability initiated by the Metropolitan Water District. The assessment has been in place since the mid-1990's and has not increased since that time.

The board also adopted administrative penalties for water theft related to meter tampering, unauthorized fire hydrant use, and water diversion, as allowed by Senate Bill (SB) 394. SB394 was signed into law in October 2025 to help deter illegal water theft across the state. Water theft impacts the water supply available to customers, risks contamination, reduces water pressure, increases costs for all Rainbow customers, and could hinder access to fire hydrants during emergency events. The penalties are structured on a tiered violation level for first, second, and subsequent violations.

Rainbow Water's fees for service were amended to ensure costs for delinquent payments, developer plan checks, meter relocations, and other customer specific charges are recovered appropriately. The fees are reviewed, and cost recovery amounts are assessed by Rainbow Water during the annual budget process in the spring.

A complete list current rates and fees is available on the Rainbow Water website at: rainbowmwd.ca.gov/Water-Rates



2025 Consumer Confidence Report Available Online Read the latest information about your drinking water and view the data report in English and Spanish, with screen reader accessibility tools. For a limited time, printed reports are available at the Rainbow Water office. Start learning about your water today and download the report online at: rainbowmwd.ca.gov/CCR



New Credit Card Processing Fees

Rainbow Water will start recovering merchant costs for accepting credit and debit card payments, with a new 2.95% convenience fee on all online and in-person card transactions. The new credit card fee policy was approved by the Board of Directors in May. The fee will be collected directly from the payment processor to cover credit card merchant fees, and the revenue will not be paid to Rainbow Water.

After the most recent budget analysis, the approximate \$150,000 in annual credit card merchant fees were absorbed by all customers, not just those using credit cards. Rainbow Water's payment processor will now pass on the credit card fees directly to customers who pay with credit and debit cards.

New credit card fees will go into effect on August 3, 2026

- The fees do not apply to ACH and check payments, which remain no-fee options for customers.
- Fees apply to debit and credit card payments made through auto pay, by phone, online, and at the Rainbow Water office.

Update Your Billing Information

- Visit the website rainbowmwd.ca.gov and select the Pay My Bill button on the homepage.
- Log into your account or set up an account.
- Select Payment Accounts, add a payment method for ACH payment and save your bank information.
- To set up auto payment, select Automatic Payments, add your recurring payment and select save to complete online bill pay enrollment.
- Customers also have the option to contact Customer Service to update billing information at (760) 728-1178.



Join the Rainbow Water Board of Directors Candidacy Filing Period Open Through August 7

Rainbow Water District has two voter elected board positions open in the November 2026 general election. Rainbow's Board members are elected officials representing five distinct divisions around the District and are typically selected to serve four-year terms. The November 3, 2026 general election will include candidates for the Rainbow Water District's Board of Directors representing Divisions 3 and 4.

How Do I Apply?

- Identify your division and search for your service address on the Rainbow Water website: rainbowmwd.ca.gov/What-division-am-i-in
- Complete and sign the candidacy filing forms.
Candidacy forms are available at the Rainbow Water office or the County of San Diego Registrar of Voters' office
- All candidates are required to file nomination forms in person at the San Diego Registrar of Voters office.
- Candidacy filing period: July 13 - August 7, 2026



SCAN FOR
REGISTRAR
OF VOTERS

Visit the County of San Diego Registrar of Voters for in-person services available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or contact the office by phone at (858) 505-7260. For more information and a list of candidate frequently asked questions, please visit the Registrar of Voters' website or scan the code: tinyurl.com/Tt8zu2n5



Art Supply Drive For the Boys & Girls Clubs

Rainbow Water has partnered with the Boys and Girls Clubs of North County as a donation site for the Summer Art Supply Drive. All donations will go directly to students enrolled in summer camps and year-round after-school programs in our service area.

Donate Art Supplies

The Boys and Girls Clubs is actively seeking donations of new art supplies, including: crayons, colored pencils, construction paper, digital cameras, drawing books, erasers, general craft supplies, glue sticks, markers, paint, paintbrushes, sidewalk chalk, and more.

Drop-Off Location

From now to September 4, bring new art supplies to the Rainbow Water Headquarters, 3707 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook. Lobby open during regular office hours Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For more information visit the Rainbow Water website: rainbowmwd.ca.gov/BGC-donations

Strategic Plan Feedback

Rainbow Water is finalizing an update to the District's Strategic Plan and wants you to participate! The plan defines the District's mission and values, and sets primary goals and objectives for the next five years and beyond. We welcome your feedback and invite you to share your thoughts. A draft of the plan and a comment form are available on our website homepage at: rainbowmwd.ca.gov/SP-Feedback



VIEW AND
SUBMIT
COMMENTS

Join Our Public Meetings

Meetings are held in the Rainbow Water board room, and via Zoom on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. The agenda, public comment, and online meeting information is available online at: rainbowmwd.ca.gov/Meetings

Upcoming Board Meetings
July 28, August 18, Sept 22



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Customer Care & After Hours: 760.728.1178
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
RAINBOWMWD.CA.GOV