

What's On Tap



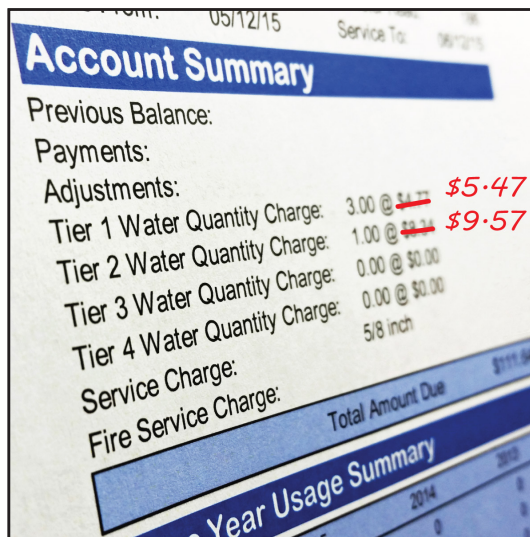
AT THE SOQUEL CREEK WATER DISTRICT

Stage 3 Emergency Rates In Effect

STARTING JUNE 1, 2015, the District began charging Stage 3 Emergency Water Shortage Rates in response to the ongoing drought and our long-term water shortage challenge. The rate increase from Stage 2 to Stage 3 Emergency Water Shortage Rates is needed to maintain revenue for District operations.

As customers conserve more to help protect our water supply, the District brings in less revenue. However, most of our operational and project costs do not decrease. We still must maintain our infrastructure and customer service to deliver clean, safe, and reliable water to our customers.

Water bills for typical low and average water-using customers will likely increase \$2 to \$7 a month. High water users may experience bill increases of \$20 or more a month. A rate schedule is available on the District website. These increases will first appear on customers' bills in July



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for water consumed after June 1. Summer water use is typically higher for most customers than in winter, which could also have an impact on bills.

If you would like more information on ways to decrease your household water usage please contact our water conservation specialist at (831) 475-8501 ext. 146 to schedule a free water-wise house call.

WATER BILL EXAMPLES WITH STAGE 3 RATES

Household Low Use (3 units/month or 75 gpd*)	Previous Stage 2 Rates	Current Stage 3 Rates	Household Average Use (7 units/month or 172 gpd*)	Previous Stage 2 Rates	Current Stage 3 Rates	Household High Use (15 units/month or 368 gpd*)	Previous Stage 2 Rates	Current Stage 3 Rates
Monthly Bill	\$39.14	\$41.24	Monthly Bill	\$72.50	\$79.52	Monthly Bill	\$177.38	\$199.84
Cost Per Day	\$1.30	\$1.37	Cost Per Day	\$2.42	\$2.65	Cost Per Day	\$5.91	\$6.66
* 1 unit = 748 gallons / gpd = gallons per day			About 65% of our residential households use 7 or fewer units per month			Top 6% of our residential households use 15 or more units per month		

Customers Continue to Do More to Use Less

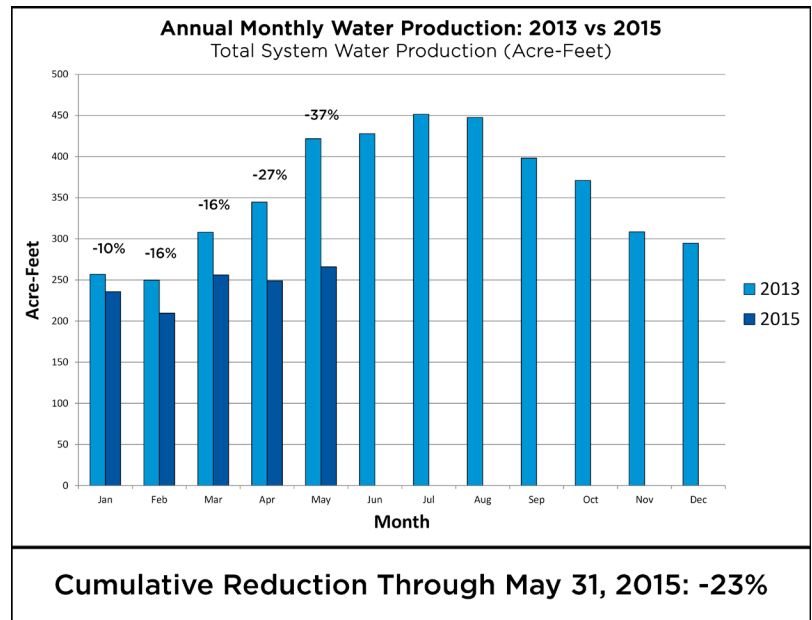
WE ARE CURRENTLY in a Stage 3 Emergency Water Shortage due to our over-drafted groundwater supply and a fourth year of drought, which has decreased the amount of recharge to our aquifers. Collectively, our goal is to reduce overall water use by 25% compared to 2013. We're already making great progress! So far this year, we've achieved a 23% reduction and in May your efforts produced a water savings of 37%. Thank you.

Our water waste restrictions are in effect year-round and include the following new, temporary restrictions:

- Only use a commercial car wash. Check our website for a list of water-efficient car washes.
- Do not wash buildings or other structures, unless necessary to prepare for painting and a pressure washer is used.
- Do not fill aesthetic water features such as fountains and ponds, except to support animal life.

Our community needs to continue its water-efficient ways beyond the drought to protect our limited water supply while we actively seek additional water sources. Most of you are already doing more to use less by minimizing irrigation, using efficient

Our Board of Directors meetings are open to everyone and comments from the public are heard at each meeting. To view our upcoming meetings schedule and board packets visit www.soquelcreekwater.org/who-we-are/board-meetings



fixtures and appliances, and making water-saving habits part of your daily routine. Thank you for continuing to do your part to help protect our community's limited groundwater supply and slowing down seawater intrusion by using water as efficiently as possible in your homes, yards, and businesses.

So far this year, we've achieved a 23% reduction and in May your efforts produced a water savings of 37%. Thank you.

Let us know how we can help you. We offer free water-saving devices, water-wise house calls and generous rebates for indoor and outdoor upgrades including lawn replacements, hot-water recirculation systems, clothes washers, greywater systems, and much more. To learn more about our conservation programs, visit www.soquelcreekwater.org/conserving-water

New Stage 3 Water Restriction

Because of our ^{long-term} water shortage and drought, washing your car at home is out.

But if a dirty car just isn't your thing, ^{water-efficient} a commercial carwash can still keep it clean!



www.soquelcreekwater.org

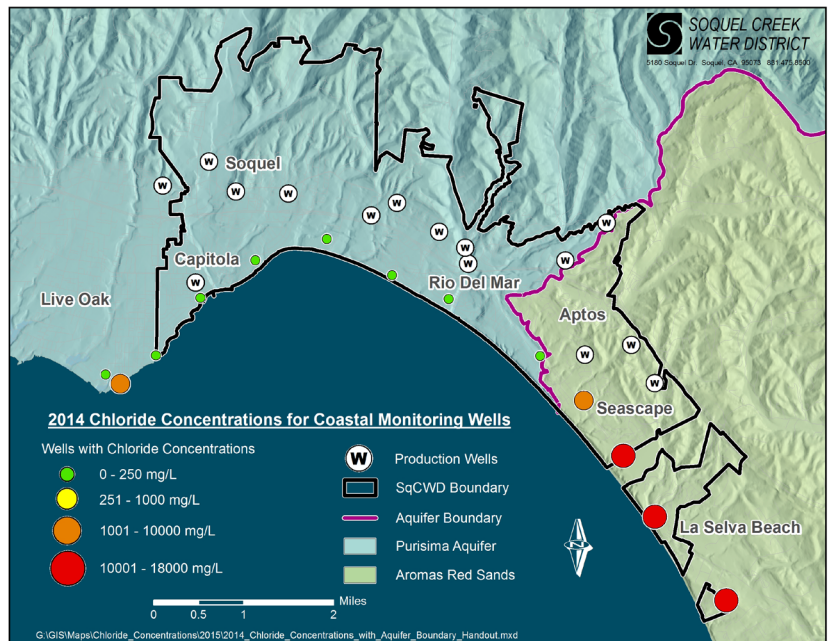


Seawater Intrusion: Our Long-Term Water Supply Challenge

DID YOU KNOW that, although our name is Soquel Creek Water District, we do not receive any water from Soquel Creek or other surface water sources such as creeks or rivers? All of our water comes from underground basins and is being affected by seawater intrusion, a process that could contaminate our entire drinking water supply.

Seawater intrusion occurs when groundwater levels drop so low that it allows seawater to flow inland underground and contaminate our groundwater supply and water wells. This condition can be irreversible and can result in either abandoning wells or requiring costly treatment. Seawater intrusion is already occurring along our coastline (as shown by the orange and red dots on the map at top right).

So far, the District's drinking water wells have not been contaminated by seawater and we are continuing to conduct scientific studies,



implement adaptive groundwater management strategies, and work collaboratively with the community on multiple solutions to achieve basin sustainability. In addition, the conservation effort by our customers has helped slow seawater intrusion.

It is important to remember, though, that our regional groundwater problems are long-term and will continue even after the drought ends.

To learn more about seawater intrusion, visit www.soquelcreekwater.org/our-water/seawater-intrusion

Seawater intrusion is already occurring along our coastline (as shown by the orange and red dots on the map above).

Water Saving Tips PSA Video Contest

View the winning water saving tip Public Service Announcements by local high school students! Visit www.watersavingtips.org/act/videocontest/

What's On Tap is an in-house publication printed quarterly for the customers of our District. Forward your comments to the editor at P.O. Box 1550, Capitola, CA 95010.

Staff Spotlight

2014/2015 District Service Awards

OUR EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT casts a wide glow this month, as we shine the light on a loyal group of fantastic Soquel Creek Water District employees celebrating employment milestones. When asked about the work-culture at the District, employees often talk about their strong connection with each other and the community.

On June 10th we celebrated our District family with a recognition celebration, in conjunction with the O'Neill Ranch Well ribbon-cutting ceremony. Staff members were honored by their supervisors and peers for their years of service and dedication to the District. Honorees from the 2014/2015 milestone group included: Kevin "K.C." Cole, Field Supervisor (30 years); Stella Dominguez, Customer Service Representative (25 years); Taj Dufour, Chief Engineer/Engineering Manager (15 years); Ben Newman, Water Systems Operator II



(10 years); Page Applegate, Customer Service Field Worker II (10 years); Ron Duncan, Interim General Manager (10 years); Shelley Flock, Interim Conservation Manager (5 years); and Travis Enzweiler, Field Crew Leader (5 years).

The celebratory event also acknowledged the long-term dedication of Board President Dr. Bruce Daniels for his 15 years as a District Board member and District/Board Counsel, Bob Bosso, who has worked on behalf of the District for 45 years! Newcomers were also formally hailed, with a group shout-out to staff members who were hired since 2014.

Combining this important staff event with the O'Neill Ranch Well ribbon-cutting ceremony was a great way to recognize the commitment and dedication of the people employed by the District.



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Other ways to connect with us!

