

Exploring the world of water

We love hands-on learning – observing things up close, asking questions, conducting experiments, collaborating with experts. And when it comes to the world of water, there is so much to explore.

This fall, EBMUD will launch several new K-12 educational programs to spark the minds of budding scientists, engineers and environmental champions. We will provide outdoor education on our watersheds and field trips to water treatment plants for fifth-grade classes from across our service area in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. For middle and high school students, we'll offer virtual and in-person tours of our wastewater treatment plant, which plays a critical role in protecting public health and the San Francisco Bay. We're also partnering with The Lawrence Hall of Science at UC Berkeley to develop and offer "Environmental Detective" school assemblies.

We want these to be more than just one-and-done experiences, so we're also developing resources for teachers, including lesson plans and materials to support science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM) curricula in their classrooms.

As part of our commitment to equity, no less than half of EBMUD's field trips will be offered to Title I schools to help ensure students from low-income families have access to high-quality educational opportunities. Transportation funding will be available for qualifying schools to eliminate attendance barriers for students from underserved districts.

By renewing our commitment to youth education, we hope to inspire tomorrow's leaders to better understand and appreciate our most valuable natural resource and further explore the world of water.

A water-wise way of life

EBMUD's water supply is in good shape this year as snowmelt from last winter's storms topped off Pardee Reservoir in the Sierra Nevada foothills. But we know another drought could be right around the corner. To be ready for whatever comes next, Californians need to make wise water use a consistent way of life.

Why conserve water?

- 1 MAINTAIN A RESILIENT WATER SUPPLY**
Climate change is leading to higher temperatures, reduced snowpack, and more frequent and severe droughts.
- 2 SUPPORT HEALTHY WATERSHEDS**
When we conserve, we have more water in our reservoirs and rivers to support countless species, including Chinook salmon and steelhead trout.
- 3 BOOST BIODIVERSITY**
Growing plants adapted to our local climate saves water, builds healthy soil, and provides food and habitat for birds, bees, and butterflies.
- 4 FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE**
Saving water decreases the energy needed to pump, treat and heat water, which reduces greenhouse gas emissions.
- 5 KEEP COSTS LOW**
Saving water is more cost-effective than building new or expanded infrastructure like dams and reservoirs.



How can you take small actions to make a big splash?

- 1 MAKE EVERY DROP COUNT**
Strive to use 35 gallons or less each day by using only what you need.
- 2 BE A SUPER SAVER**
Household leaks can add up to thousands of gallons of wasted water each year. Fix dripping faucets and leaking toilets to save water and lower your bills.
- 3 IMPROVE INDOOR WATER EFFICIENCY**
Install efficient showerheads and faucet aerators. Choose WaterSense and Energy Star-labeled washing machines, dishwashers and appliances whenever possible.
- 4 GARDEN WISELY**
Let your garden bloom with local plants that thrive on little water. Place mulch around plants and trees to keep soil moist and healthy so you can water less.
- 5 SPRUCE UP YOUR IRRIGATION**
Check outdoor irrigation for leaking pipes. Install efficient sprinkler heads or drip systems. Turn off irrigation after it rains and during the cool winter months.

HAVE OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS?

Let us know how you save water, and we may reach out to feature you in an upcoming Water Wednesday Webinar. Email your tips to waterconservation@ebmud.com.



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EBMUD Mission Statement

To manage the natural resources with which the District is entrusted; to provide reliable, high-quality water and wastewater services at fair and reasonable rates for the people of the East Bay; and to preserve and protect the environment for future generations.

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