

Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District Residential Recycled Water Fill Station Program

Introduction

The Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District (District) would like to expand its Recycled Water Program to offer residential customers the ability to reduce potable water consumption by using safe, drought-resistant, non-potable disinfected tertiary-treated recycled water. Recycled water will be distributed to residents through a Residential Recycled Water Fill Station Program (Program) for landscape irrigation of residential yards, gardens and turf areas.

Program Description

The Program will be made available to any residential customer within the Sonoma Creek Watershed. The Residential Recycled Water Fill Station (Fill Station), to be located on the wastewater treatment plant property, will provide residents with access to recycled water for non-potable uses. Construction and operation of the Fill Station is designed to ensure the safe distribution and use of recycled water. Upon completion of the steps outlined in the Operating Procedures described below, residents may utilize the District's Fill Station free of charge.

Operating Procedures

Location, Access and Hours of Operation

- Fill Station to be located at Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District's Wastewater Treatment Plant at 22675 8th Street East, Sonoma, California, just east of R5 reservoir.
- Fill Station hours of operation are anticipated to be Monday through Thursday 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.
- Access and egress to the Fill Station site are shown in the proposed Site Map (**Attachment A**).

Procedure to Obtain Recycled Water

1. Residents can obtain a Residential Recycled Water Fill Station Use Application/Agreement form online at www.scwa.ca.gov or at the Fill Station site. Residents are encouraged to complete and review the application materials prior to their first visit.
2. First time customers will be required to complete an on-site fill station site orientation and training to learn about using the filling station and the proper handling and use of recycled water. Annual refresher training will be required for returning customers.
3. Residents will be served on a drop-in basis. District staff will verify that the Residential Recycled Water Fill Station Use Application/Agreement form has been completed. Each participant will be entered into a database, given a brief training about the use of recycled water, and provided with recycled water stickers for their containers.

4. Residents must bring their own sealable containers with a minimum volume of one gallon and a maximum volume of 300 gallons. Each resident can receive up to a total of 300 gallons of recycled water per trip, and each of the containers brought by the resident must be appropriately labeled.
5. District staff will oversee the filling of containers and assure that all containers are sealed and secured for transport prior to leaving the Fill Station.
6. District staff will record the estimated volume of recycled water collected per participating resident and the location where the recycled water is being applied.
7. Returning recycled water users will be checked in with the user database, and staff will log water volumes and application areas per visit. As always, staff will verify that the appropriate stickers are on all containers.

Recycled Water Supply

The Reclamation Facility is located at 22675 8th Street East in Sonoma. It provides primary, secondary, and tertiary treatment of domestic wastewater for the City of Sonoma and unincorporated areas of Glen Ellen, Boyes Hot Springs, El Verano, and Agua Caliente. The service area population is approximately 36,000. The Facility provides tertiary treatment (secondary treatment with additional filtration) of all wastewater. The Influent is treated by the following processes in succession: debris removal using bar screens, grit removal using a vortex tank, primary treatment and flow equalization using aerated equalization basins, secondary treatment using aeration basins, solids removal using secondary clarifiers, tertiary treatment using cloth media filtration, chlorination using chlorine contact chambers, and dechlorination using sulfur dioxide.

Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District
Residential Recycled Water Fill Station Use Application/Agreement

Customer Name: _____

For Office Use Only

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ Email Address: _____

Who can participate in this Program?

Eligible communities within the Sonoma Creek Watershed.

Things to know about the use of recycled water:

1. *What is tertiary-treated recycled water and is it safe?*

Recycled water is wastewater that has been processed through primary, secondary and tertiary treatment, and meet strict standards of the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water. According to these standards, properly tertiary treated and disinfected recycled water is safe for non-potable uses listed within the California Code of Regulations Title 22.

2. *What can I use recycled water for?*

Based on DDW, Title 22 requirements, tertiary-treated recycled water can be used to water your trees, gardens, vegetables, and lawns.

3. *What is this recycled water NOT suitable for?*

- Drinking
- Hooking it to the household plumbing system
- Filling swimming pools or spas
- Cooking or use in the kitchen
- Children's water toys
- Bathing or showering

4. *Why is recycled water not safe to drink? What happens if I drink it?*

Tertiary-treated recycled water is not approved for drinking. However, it is treated to an extremely high standard and accidental consumption is not likely to make you ill. If you accidentally drink recycled water, there is no need to panic. Should you experience any adverse symptoms or feel unwell, consult your doctor.

5. *Can I water my plants with recycled water?*

Yes, all plants can be watered with recycled water. This includes edible plants such as fruit trees, vegetables and herbs. Just remember to wash all fruits, vegetables, and herbs with drinking water prior to consumption. Recycled water tends to have a higher salt content than drinking water. We

advise you to direct the recycled water to the roots of the plants and not the foliage. This will protect them from potential leaf burn.

6. Do water-use restrictions (conservation) apply to recycled water?

No. Water-use restrictions do not apply to recycled water. However, recycled water is a valuable resource and should not be wasted.

7. Who develops the health standards for recycled water?

Recycled water is strictly monitored to ensure it meets water quality standards set by the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

8. How much will recycled water cost me?

Nothing, it's free.

9. How much recycled water can I pick up at a time?

The maximum amount per trip is 300 gallons. Keep in mind that water weighs 8.34 pounds per gallon, so consider weight when selecting the size of containers and vehicles for transport. Driving a vehicle with a heavy weight and sloshing liquid decreases vehicle stability and requires longer stopping distances. **Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District is not liable for any damages to you or your vehicle(s) due to your participation in the Residential Recycled Water Fill Station Program.**

10. What are the rules and regulations for residential use of recycled water?

- a) Use of this Program is subject to the procedures described in Item 11 below. By initialing this box, I certify that I understand this rule.
- b) Recycled water **shall not** be connected to any onsite plumbing system; this includes irrigation system or the onsite drinking water supply. By initialing this box, I certify that I understand this rule.
- c) Recycled water **shall not** be discharged to the street gutter or storm drain system. If you have leftover recycled water and want to dispose of it, either discharge it to a landscaped area or to the sanitary sewer system via an onsite cleanout. By initialing this box, I certify that I understand this rule.
- d) Recycled water **shall not** be applied where it could spray on external drinking water fountains, passing vehicles, buildings, or areas where food is handled or eaten. By initialing this box, I certify that I understand this rule.
- e) **DO NOT DRINK** recycled water or use it for food preparation. After working with recycled water remember, to apply hand sanitizer or wash hands with soap and domestic drinking water, especially before eating or smoking. By initialing this box, I certify that I understand this rule.
- f) Wash vegetables with drinking water prior to eating or cooking (the majority of the vegetables in the grocery stores are irrigated with recycled water). By initialing this box, I certify that I understand this rule.
- g) Ensure young children do not play with or drink recycled water. By initialing this box, I certify that I understand this rule.
- h) The District may conduct site visits at your property to ensure your proper use of recycled water and to ensure the health and safety of your family and the public. By initialing this box, I certify that I understand this rule.
- i) This Program is not eligible for delivery to and application at dual plumbed sites. Only the District can deliver recycled water to those sites. By initialing this box, I certify that I understand this rule.
- j) Recycled water may only be used at the address indicated in the customer's application form. By initialing this box, I certify that I understand this rule.
- k) Recycled water **shall not** be stored on site. By initialing this box, I certify that I understand this rule.
- l) Do not overfill containers or trucks. By initialing this box, I certify that I understand this rule.

- m) Hoses and containers used for the application of recycled water must be inspected prior to filling to ensure that they are cleaned of contaminants, in serviceable conditions, and free from leaks.
By initialing this box, I certify that I understand this rule.
- n) Containers must have water-tight seals and fittings to assure no leaks or spills occur during transport. By initialing this box, I certify that I understand this rule.
- o) Containers used to transport recycled water should not be used to carry drinking water. By initialing this box, I certify that I understand this rule.
- p) Recycled water shall not be applied where it could contact areas where food is handled or eaten, drinking water fountains, or faucets used for drinking water. By initialing this box, I certify that I understand this rule.
- q) Residential customer cars should be equipped with an adequate first aid kit. Cuts or abrasions should be promptly washed, disinfected, and bandaged. By initialing this box, I certify that I understand this rule.

11. Procedures to Obtain Recycled Water

- a) Complete and review this application form and agreement prior to arrival at the Fill Station.
- b) Residents will be served on a drop-in basis. Upon the initial visit, District staff will verify completion of the agreement, log user information into a database and conduct training.
- c) Residents must bring their own sealable containers with a minimum volume of one gallon and a maximum of 300 gallons (total maximum per visit is 300 gallons). Recycled Water Notice Stickers will be provided to place on all containers that will be used to transport and store recycled water.
- d) The Fill Station is self-serve, but District staff will be available to assist, verify container labeling, ensure containers are sealed for transport and log customer volumes per visit.
- e) Returning customers will be checked in with the user database, container labels will be verified and water volumes will be tracked per visit.
- f) Returning customers must present a copy of the permit to the District staff for each pick-up.
- g) Customers who fail to not following the requirements of the Program and/or adhere to applicable State, County or local codes will result in suspension of the permit.

Specify intended use for the recycled water: (for example: Landscape irrigation)

Certification Statement/Signature Section – (Do not sign until after training is received)

- By checking this box, I certify that I understand all the conditions of this agreement and agree to comply with these conditions and to conform to Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District's requirements for recycled

SVCSD Residential Recycled Water Fill Station Application

water use. Failure to comply with the conditions of this agreement may lead to termination of this agreement and the right to obtain recycled water from Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District's Residential Recycled Water Fill Station Program.

- By checking this box, I certify that I have completed the training required under the Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District's Residential Recycled Water Fill Station Program.
- By checking this box, I certify that I will be using the recycled water given at this Fill Station within the Sonoma Creek Watershed

Customers who fail to follow the requirements of the Program or fail to adhere to applicable State, County or local codes will result in suspension of the permit.

Signature

Date

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY - **Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District Approval**

Name

Date



Residential Recycled Water Fill Station Program User Training

June 2015



www.sonomacountywater.org



What is Recycled Water?

It is wastewater that has received extensive Treatment so it can be used for many nonpotable uses such as landscape irrigation, surface washing, dust control, food crop irrigation, decorative fountains, toilet flushing, and much more.



Recycled Water is NOT Suitable For

- Drinking
- Cooking or use in the kitchen
- Bathing or Showering
- Filling swimming pools or spas
- Children's water toys
- Connection to the household domestic plumbing system
- Discharge to the street gutter or storm drain



When Using Recycled Water

- Do not play in or drink recycled water.
- Prevent spraying onto drinking water fixtures or food handling areas.
- If you must dispose, discharge it to a landscaped area or to the sanitary sewer via an onsite cleanout.
- Use hand-watering application methods (hose, buckets, sprinkling cans, etc.)



Health and Safety Guidelines

- Practice good sanitation habits. Wash your hands with drinking water after using recycled water, especially before eating or smoking.
- You may use recycled water for irrigating vegetables and fruit bearing plants:
 - Wash vegetables/fruits with drinking water prior to cooking or consuming.
- All equipment (hoses, containers, etc.) that come into contact with recycled water shall be dedicated for use only with recycled water.



Procedure for Obtaining RW

- Customers will be served on a drop-in basis.
- Once the Recycled Water Fill Station Use Application and Agreement is signed, submitted, and training has been received, the customer will be given recycled water notice stickers to label containers prior to filling and an approved user card.
- Staff will assure that all containers are labeled and sealed prior to customer leaving the facility.
- Returning customers will be checked in using the user database, proper container labeling will be verified, and water volumes will be tracked per user per visit.



Fill Station Guidelines

- You may only collect recycled water during Residential Recycled Water Fill-Station “Open” hours, which are:
 - Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Show personal ID and District issued ID (District ID will be given during your first visit to the Fill Station)

NO PERSONAL ID + NO APPROVED USER CARD = NO WATER

- Customers must provide their own sealable containers (min. 1 gallon, max. 300 gallons)
- Children under 12 must remain in vehicle
- Customer may take minimum 1 gallon, maximum 300 gallons per trip. Customers may return to Fill Station for more recycled water
- Please be patient if Fill Station is busy



Residential Recycled Water Container Guidelines

- Consider your vehicle's and/or trailer's maximum load capacity and adjust stopping distance for the weight added to your vehicle and/or trailer after filling up.
 - Water weighs 8.345 lbs/gallon
 - 100 gallons = 834 pounds
- Containers must have water-tight lids and shall not leak
- Secure container's for safe transport
- Containers shall not be re-used to carry potable water.



Other Important Guidelines

- If you must dispose of recycled water, either discharge it to a landscape area, or to the sanitary sewer via an onsite clean out
 - Recycled water should not be disposed to or allowed to flow into storm drains, street gutters, or creeks
- Make sure all recycled water storage and collection containers have a Recycled Water Notice Sticker
- Recycled water shall not be placed in a storage container that is connected to a piped or underground landscape irrigation system or to the onsite drinking water supply
- Use stored recycled water within 2 to 4 days to reduce risk of bacterial growth and odors.
- Recycled water has a higher nitrogen content than potable water, so fertilizer use should be minimized or avoided.
- Customers should be equipped with an adequate first aid kit. Cuts or abrasions should be promptly washed, disinfected, and bandaged.



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