



No Sweat About Water Supply During Dry Seasons

As summer temperatures climb, rest assured your water supply is reliable. Thanks to decades of long-term planning and investment from our Board of Directors, Mesa Water District (Mesa Water®) delivers a 100% local, reliable and resilient water supply to your homes and businesses year-round.

Mesa Water does not rely on imported water from the Colorado River or Northern California—making it the only water district in Orange County to be 100% locally sourced. Rather, we draw all of our water from the Orange County Groundwater Basin—an abundant, locally managed source that's regularly replenished by the Santa Ana River, stormwater and the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS), a world-renowned water purification project that recycles water to near-distilled quality.

Mesa Water customers also benefit from our forward-thinking infrastructure maintenance and management. Our infrastructure is continuously maintained and upgraded to reduce water loss, improve efficiency, and protect customers from rate volatility. In fact, our proactive maintenance ensures a tight system with water loss levels far below the national average.

Although Mesa Water has an abundance of water, using water wisely is always a smart choice. Outdoor water use remains the biggest opportunity for water use efficiency since it cannot be captured and recycled like indoor water. Making minor changes, such as adjusting irrigation timers, fixing sprinkler leaks, or choosing drought-tolerant landscaping can make a meaningful impact to reduce your usage of our most precious resource. [For water-wise resources, visit MesaWater.org/BeMesaWaterWise.](https://www.mesawater.org/BeMesaWaterWise)

Budding Researchers Share New Environmental Insights

More than 120 future scientists from area high schools presented their research findings at the annual Institute for Conservation Research and Education (ICRE) student poster symposium, hosted at the Mesa Water Education Center. Students spent a year conducting research on a range of environmental topics about local flora, fauna and more.

The winning team was Gaby Barragan, Zoey Young, Gianna Matian, Allie Trask and Lucca Miller from Costa Mesa High School for their presentation, *"How do Invasive Mussels Affect Biodiversity?"*



2025 Water Quality Report Now Available

Mesa Water conducts extensive water quality testing to ensure your water is clean and safe. To read the 2025 Water Quality Report, visit [MesaWater.org/WaterQualityReport](https://www.mesawater.org/WaterQualityReport).

To request a printed copy, email Info@MesaWater.org or call 949.631.1201 and include your name and mailing address.





Staff Splash: Meet Sharon Kumar

Sharon is Mesa Water's procurement and transparency expert, who brings deep knowledge and innovative ideas to elevate purchasing, contracting, and accountability practices.

What is your role at Mesa Water and what does a typical day look like for you?

I am the Senior Buyer at Mesa Water District, and my role focuses on managing procurement activities to ensure that goods and services are purchased efficiently, cost-effectively and in compliance with our policies. A typical day includes reviewing purchase requests, preparing bid documents, analyzing vendor proposals and working closely with various departments to support their procurement needs. I also help maintain transparency and consistency in our purchasing process, and I often work on improving workflows and ensuring compliance with public agency requirements. No two days are the same – which keeps the job both exciting and rewarding!

Beach, lake, river, or pool – what's your favorite way to enjoy water?

I've always loved beautiful, blue ocean water and nice sandy beaches – they hold a special place in my heart because I grew up in a tropical country where the beach was part of everyday life.

What is one thing you wish more people knew about water or the work we do here?

I wish more people understood the level of care and coordination it takes to deliver reliable, clean, safe water every day. It's easy to take it for granted when you just turn on the tap, but there's a lot of planning, compliance and teamwork happening behind the scenes. Since joining Mesa Water District, I've seen how committed everyone is to serve the community – whether it's through engineering, operations, education and more.

Do you have a hobby or activity you enjoy when you're off the clock?

Outside of work, I enjoy cooking, spending time with my family and being outdoors. I love exploring new places, especially coastal areas – being near the water always brings me joy. I also enjoy traveling and experiencing different cultures, which helps me stay curious and open-minded. It's a great way to recharge and stay balanced. I also love capturing everyday moments through photography, especially when I'm out exploring new places. It's a creative outlet for me.

Students Make a Splash in Mesa Water Video Contest

At its May 28 Board Meeting, local students were honored and awarded prizes for their creative and entertaining entries in the annual video contest for high school and college students who live in or attend school in the Mesa Water service area. The first-place prize was awarded to "Yee Haw, Mesa Water," produced by India Howerton and Graydon Sage from Costa Mesa High School. The group's clever video submission earned them a \$1,000 cash prize. Sarah Portwood, drama teacher at Costa Mesa High School, also received a \$500 Amazon gift card for classroom supplies for her efforts to encourage student participation. **View the winning videos at [YouTube.com/MesaWaterDistrict](https://www.youtube.com/MesaWaterDistrict).**



Members of the winning teams pictured from left to right, Sarah Portwood, Costa Mesa High School drama teacher, and Costa Mesa High School students: India Howerton, Graydon Sage, Diego Perez and Alejandro Sanchez.

Water You Doing This Summer? Don't Forget to Visit Our Booth

Summertime fun is in full swing and we're looking forward to being out in the community! You may have spotted us at the Costa Mesa Lions Fish Fry in June, but you can also catch us at the Costa Mesa Foundation's Concerts in the Park series held on July 8, 15, 22 and 29 at Fairview Park. Stop by the Mesa Water booth to say hello, ask questions and test your water knowledge for a prize from our trivia wheel. **We hope to see you out there!**



[MesaWater.org](https://www.MesaWater.org)

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Produced by Mesa Water's Board of Directors, **News On Tap** is a bi-monthly publication to inform Mesa Water's customers and community about water issues and events.

BOARD MEETINGS

Mesa Water Board meetings are held the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m. at 1965 Placentia Avenue, Costa Mesa, and are open to the public. For more information, call 949.631.1206.

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