



A New Year Message from the General Manager *Greetings!*

On behalf of Mesa Water District (Mesa Water®)’s publicly elected five-member Board of Directors, we wish you a happy and healthy new year!

Our staff works hard every day to deliver high-quality water to 110,000 residents in Costa Mesa and a portion of Newport Beach. Whether you’ve lived here for years or recently moved into our service area, we know you depend on us and we take that responsibility seriously.

Your health and safety are our top priority. Every time you turn on the tap, you’re receiving water that meets and regularly exceeds the highest standards for water quality. As we enter 2026, Mesa Water continues investing in long-term infrastructure and reliability. We are also advancing projects that strengthen local water supplies in and beyond our service area. These efforts will ensure our community has clean, safe water today—and well into the future.

You have my commitment, and that of our Board, that Mesa Water will remain steadfast in delivering clean, safe and reliable water every day. Thank you for allowing us to serve your family, friends and businesses – here’s to another great year ahead!

Warmest regards,

Paul E. Shoenberger, P.E.

Don't Miss the Current

Water Issues Study Group – January 26 & February 9

Have you reserved your spot for our Water Issues Study Group?

Join us for two nights and connect with neighbors while diving into everything water—from our 100% local supply to water quality, the Orange County Groundwater Basin and more.



Reserve your spot at MesaWater.org/WISG or contact us at Info@MesaWater.org



Get Your Drip Irrigation Installed Before Spring

Spring bloom is right around the corner, making now the perfect time to upgrade to drip irrigation!

By delivering water directly to plant roots, drip systems reduce waste from evaporation and runoff, promote healthier root growth and help control weeds. Long-term water savings and reduced maintenance make drip irrigation a smart investment. Plus, Mesa Water offers rebates to help offset installation costs. Install to maximize efficiency and enjoy a healthier, more sustainable garden all season long.

Visit MesaWater.org/BeMesaWaterWise to learn more.





Staff Splash: Meet Isabel Stevens

Isabel is the Senior Records Management Specialist who keeps the record-keeping process in check.

What are some of your highlights working at Mesa Water?

Shortly after joining Mesa Water, I had the chance to tour our beautiful Mesa Water Education Center, which has been a highlight so far. I tried all the interactive activities and even sat in the Redwood Theater on a miniature tree stump while learning about our unique amber water. Another highlight was staffing the Mesa Water booth at the Concerts in the Park this past summer. Sharing the Mesa Water mission with the community was so fun and rewarding.

If Mesa Water had a theme song, what would it be?

"Lean On Me" fits Mesa Water for a couple of reasons. First and foremost because the community leans on Mesa Water to provide one of life's most precious necessities. Water is one of the most essential resources, and our District is built on being reliable, steady and there when the community needs us most. Secondly, because Mesa Water is built on a culture of teamwork, collaboration and support.

Is there a project or initiative you're particularly excited about right now?

As an information professional, I'm truly excited to help expand Mesa Water's records management program through the launch of our new enterprise content management system. As a public agency, it's essential that our District's records remain both secure and readily accessible, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to support that mission.

If you were a body of water (ocean, river, lake, waterfall), which would you be and why?

I'd be the amazing ocean—calm, deep, reliable, mysterious and full of endless opportunities to discover something new. The ocean always keeps things interesting!

What's one thing you wish the public understood better about Mesa Water or the water industry?

I'd love for people to know just how many diverse career opportunities exist in the water industry. Many assume that everyone in this industry works in Engineering or out in the field, but there's so much more that happens behind the scenes. From Administration and Finance to Public Affairs and beyond, there are countless paths to explore and a variety of talents we rely on every day.

When you are not at work, what do you enjoy doing?

I'm a reader, foodie and Disney enthusiast. I love trying new restaurants, reviewing and recommending books and going to Disneyland with my best friend/husband. We also love to travel and hope to make it to Sicily in 2026.

Lights, Camera, Splash! Annual Student Video Contest Returns

Mesa Water's annual video contest is returning this spring! Local students who live in or attend high schools and colleges in the Mesa Water service area, are invited to submit a creative video (60 seconds or less) answering one of these questions:

- What does it mean to you that Mesa Water is 100% local? – **#PurelyLocal**
- Why is it safe to drink Mesa Water straight from the tap? – **#ByeByeBottled**
- Why do you love Mesa Water? – **#ILoveMesaWater**

Students can win cash prizes up to \$1,000 and referring teachers or instructors can win a \$500 Amazon gift card! Contest rules and details coming soon – **follow us on social media, @MesaWater to stay in the loop.**



MesaWater.org

Follow us @MesaWater



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marice H. DePasquale, President; Division III
Shawn Dewane, Vice President; Division V
Jim Atkinson, Director; Division IV
Fred R. Bockmiller, P.E., Director; Division I
James R. Fisler, Director; Division II

GENERAL MANAGER

Paul E. Shoenberger, P.E.

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.

Public Affairs Department

949.631.1201

Info@MesaWater.org

After Hours Emergency Phone: 949.631.1200

Printed using soy-based ink on 10% recycled FSC®-certified and elemental chlorine-free paper. Please recycle this when you are finished reading it. Thank you.

