

Reservoirs Upgrade Underway to Increase Water Storage

Work is underway to enhance two Mesa Water District (Mesa Water®) reservoirs. The upgrades include implementing a reservoir chemical management system that will allow us to store up to 15 million gallons more water, helping to manage peak demands. It also includes updating pump stations to improve Mesa Water's distribution system. These significant upgrades, expected to be completed in Fall 2025, will increase the reliability of our operations.

Mesa Water continually invests in maintenance of its infrastructure and water supply projects to deliver nearly five billion gallons of local, clean, safe drinking water to residential and business customers each year. A water system requires regular wide-ranging maintenance to help achieve its designed lifespan. Our maintenance program is one of the ways that we are able to protect customers from rate volatility because maintaining infrastructure is less costly than emergency repairs.



Did You Know?

Proposition 218 of the California Constitution states that a water agency can only charge for the cost to procure, treat, and deliver the water to the customer – and the amount of water delivered to the customer is documented at the customer's water meter.

Mesa Water Receives Top Honor in Financial Reporting Excellence



For the 28th year in a row, Mesa Water has been recognized for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. The award is the highest form of recognition in accounting and financial reporting.

The Annual Report is judged by a panel to meet the high standards of the GFOA program, which includes demonstrating a constructive spirit of full disclosure to clearly communicate its financial story.

Left: Mesa Water Financial Services team

Mesa Water Demonstrates Operational Efficiency and Exceptional Financial Management

Because of responsible rates and cost controls, Mesa Water routinely achieves excellence in the following areas:

- **Efficient Operations** – For more than a decade, Mesa Water has been one of Orange County's most efficient water agencies based on expenditures per capita.
- **Financial Management** – Both Fitch and Standard & Poor's have consistently reaffirmed Mesa Water's existing AAA credit rating – the highest achievable by an organization – due to Mesa Water's exceptional financial management and policies. AAA credit ratings allow Mesa Water to save ratepayers money by borrowing funds at the lowest available interest rate for key infrastructure improvements.

Staff Splash: Meet Carrie Fesili

Carrie Fesili, water operations coordinator at Mesa Water, is dedicated to helping ensure a local, reliable source of water for our customers.

Q: What is one project or initiative that you are most proud of at Mesa Water?

A: I am most proud of the upgrades to our fleet and equipment that we have made to ensure that we have reliable vehicles and tools for our staff to do their jobs safely and efficiently.

Q: What is your favorite memory at Mesa Water?

A: My favorite memory is from last fall when the staff and the Board of Directors attended a Topping Out Ceremony at the Mesa Water Reliability Facility. We all signed a beam that was raised and placed on the top of a new building. It is really special to be a part of Mesa Water and this community, and something that will be here for years to come.

Q: What would the community find surprising about Mesa Water?

A: The community might find it surprising to learn that Mesa Water is a small agency with only 55 employees. Considering all the aspects that go into reliably providing an abundance of clean, safe water, from infrastructure to water quality testing to advocacy, it is amazing to be a part of an efficient and dedicated team.

Q: What is your favorite water-themed song?

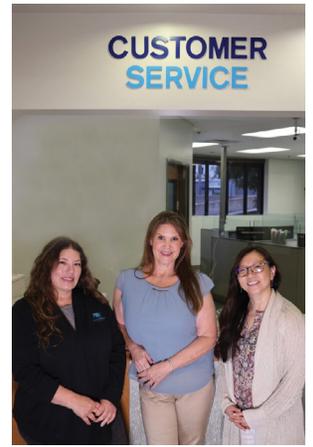
A: I have been listening to a lot of Taylor Swift lately since I recently saw her in concert with my daughter and husband. I will have to say Midnight Rain is my current favorite water-themed song.

Staff Splash is a recurring feature in News on Tap. Look forward to meeting more Mesa Water employees in future issues.



California Water Professionals Appreciation Week

Join us October 1-9 in celebrating Mesa Water professionals who work hard every day to provide our customers with an abundance of local, reliable, clean, safe water.



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.

Public Affairs Department

949.631.1201

info@MesaWater.org

After Hours Emergency Phone: 949.631.1200

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