

Mesa Water Dedicated to Efficient, Cost-Saving Operations

Mesa Water District (Mesa Water®) proactively incorporates new technologies and adapts processes to maximize operational efficiencies that save ratepayers' money. As part of its comprehensive Production System Operations Plan, operations staff utilize a unique water optimization tool weekly that looks at the supply forecast for every Mesa Water production source and aids the team in running each of them in the most efficient way. This includes maintaining optimal reservoir levels, balancing well sites, and monitoring the groundwater basin pumping percentage to determine what



resources are necessary, including the optimal time to run the Mesa Water Reliability Facility (which supplements about 15% of our water supply), which lowers operating costs.

Similarly, Mesa Water's award-winning Pipeline Integrity Program uses pipeline condition assessment to maximize useful life, resulting in cost-savings for customers. The condition assessment data allows Mesa Water to keep pipes that are in good condition in service and replace those that need renewal. The program also aids the district in developing a long-term infrastructure budget plan, and will save Mesa Water an estimated \$230 million over the next 30 years.

Through forward-thinking planning and innovative programs, Mesa Water remains operationally efficient and fiscally responsible.

Ready to Serve You During Extreme Weather or a Natural Disaster

Mesa Water is prepared year-round to provide high-quality water during a power outage, tropical storm or other natural disasters. With the landfall of Tropical Storm Hilary, Mesa Water was ready to meet the needs of our service area. All emergency backup power was tested at the district's sites prior to the storm to ensure water remained available for customers. Highly-trained staff closely monitored and controlled facilities through Mesa Water's Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition system, which can detect loss of power at local and remote facilities.

Preparations also included monitoring for the potential need to pump water out of critical infrastructure areas, which can capture rainwater in storms. Water treatment storage tanks and reservoirs were topped off in advance of the storm to ensure we had readily accessible supply. Additionally, Mesa Water had extra staff standing by to respond, if needed, to restore clean, safe water to your home or workplace.



Mesa Water employees work continuously to ensure that our infrastructure and systems remain reliable in the event of an emergency – and always.



Mesa Water Notify Keeps You Informed in Real-Time

Through our Mesa Water Notify system, we were able to send a message to our customers via email and text to reassure you that we were prepared for Tropical Storm Hilary, so you didn't have to worry about your water supply. If you did not receive an email or text from us, now is a good time to contact our Customer Services Department at 949.631.1200 to be sure we have your most current email address and mobile number, so that we can reach you in real-time in the event of an emergency.

Staff Splash: Meet Kurt Lind

Kurt Lind, district business administrator, is dedicated to ensuring we are one of the most efficient water districts in Orange County.

Q: What would people find surprising about your role?

A: My role at Mesa Water is very unique. There are not many positions in government that focus on providing accountability and efficiency for the ratepayers.

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

A: Overseeing all of Mesa Water's independent audits including, customer service, information technology, safety, and process and performance. It's one of the many reasons why Mesa Water is one of the most efficient water districts in Orange County.

Q: What advice do you have for someone starting in an administrative role in the water industry?

A: Learn all about how we plan, produce and deliver our only product. Mesa Water's sole purpose is to provide 100% local, reliable and safe water to our customers.

Q: What do you enjoy doing when you're not at work?

A: Being the best husband and father that I can be. I wouldn't be who I am today without my beautiful wife and kids.

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



Mesa Water Recognized for Excellence in Governance and Transparency



Mesa Water was recently reaccruited as a "District of Distinction" by the Special District Leadership Foundation (SDLF) for its sound fiscal management policies and practices in district operations. This is the eighth time Mesa Water has received the accreditation, one of the most prestigious awards in local government in the state.

The award highlights the Mesa Water Board of Directors and staff's commitment to transparency and accountability. Requirements for the award include regular financial audits with no major deficiencies; policies and procedures that conform to all state law statutes and regulations; and proof of training in the areas of ethics, governance, and harassment prevention. Additionally, Mesa Water received the SDLF's District Transparency Certificate of Excellence in recognition of its outstanding efforts to promote transparency and good governance.

SDLF is a non-profit organization that promotes good governance and best practices among California's special districts.



Water Issues Study Group 2024

Ready to immerse yourself in water education? Join us on January 30 and February 20, 2024, for Water Issues Study Group, a unique, two-evening program that provides invigorating discussions about our 100% local, reliable, clean, safe water supply, for adults who live or own a business in our service area. Speakers include Mesa Water staff and local water industry experts. For more information or to reserve your spot, contact us at Info@MesaWater.org or visit MesaWater.org/WISG.



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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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