



Our Region's Trusted Water Leader
San Diego County Water Authority

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News Release

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Over \$2.7 Million in Federal Grants Awarded to San Diego Water Agencies *Oceanside, Olivenhain and Water Authority receive WaterSMART grants*

March 24, 2021 – The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has awarded three San Diego County water agencies a total of \$2,788,500 in 2021 WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grants. A total of \$42.4 million in grants was given to 55 projects across 13 states to improve water reliability and efficiency, conserving more 98,000 acre-feet of water per year.

“The Water Authority and its member agencies have been leaders in helping customers improve water efficiency, which ultimately helps our communities become more resilient to both dry years and the large-scale impacts of climate change,” said Water Authority Board Chair Gary Croucher. “This grant money is added value for our region as we continue to do our part for people and the planet.”

The projects selected in San Diego County are:

- The City of Oceanside’s Advanced Metering Infrastructure and Pipeline Improvement Project (Phase III) -- \$2,000,000 grant. The project includes upgrades to 11,519 existing primarily residential water meters to smart meters connected to the city’s customer feedback portal. Approximately 62 broken and leaking pipe segments will also be replaced. Website: <https://www.ci.oceanside.ca.us/gov/water/watersmart/default.asp> Contact: Cari Dale, (760)435-5800, cdale@oceansideca.org
- Olivenhain Municipal Water District Advanced Metering Infrastructure Water Use Efficiency Project -- \$500,000 grant. The project will expand advanced metering infrastructure with the installation of 4,181 meter transmitting units on existing AMI-capable meters. The meters will be integrated with the district’s customer engagement portal to provide customers near real-time water-use data. Website: <https://www.olivenhain.com/new-meter-reading-technology> Contact: John Carnegie, (760)753-6466, jcarnegie@olivenhain.com.
- San Diego County Water Authority WaterSmart Contractor Incentive Program -- \$288,500 grant. The project will expand an existing rebate program for irrigation devices, including smart irrigation controllers and high-efficiency nozzles. The expanded program will encourage large landscape and commercial customers to install an estimated 8,000

stations for smart irrigation controllers, 330 irrigation controllers, 18,000 high-efficiency sprinkler nozzles, 75 flow sensors, and 30,000 square feet of drip irrigated landscaping. Website: <https://www.sdwatersmartcip.com/> Contact: (888) 521-9763, sdcwa@waterwise-consulting.com.

The Bureau of Reclamation grants support the new [Executive Order on Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad](#) to increase resilience to climate change impacts. The agency's WaterSMART program works cooperatively with states, tribes, and local entities to plan and implement actions that increase water supply reliability through investments to modernize existing infrastructure and attention to local water conflicts.

For more information, visit www.usbr.gov/watersmart.

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The San Diego County Water Authority sustains a \$245 billion regional economy and the quality of life for 3.3 million residents through a multi-decade water supply diversification plan, major infrastructure investments and forward-thinking policies that promote fiscal and environmental responsibility. A public agency created in 1944, the Water Authority delivers wholesale water supplies to 24 retail water providers, including cities, special districts and a military base.



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