



Career Technical Education Day Returns to PCWA

After a two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, PCWA's Career Technical Education Job Mentorship Program has made a comeback. On April 6, PCWA welcomed more than 50 juniors and seniors from Placer County high schools to learn about careers in the technical fields of engineering, drinking water operations, construction, environmental science, and geographic information systems (GIS).



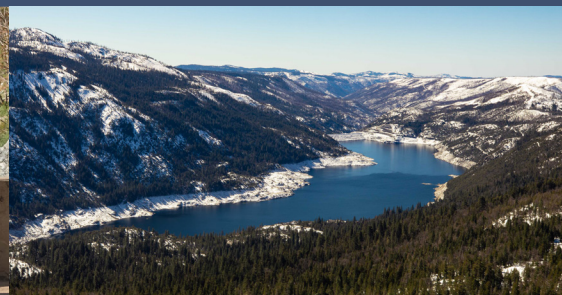
The day started at PCWA headquarters with an introduction to the agency and a safety briefing. Next, students visited PCWA's award-winning American River Pump Station, where they learned about the history of the Auburn Dam site, development of the pump station, and how water is diverted from the river and delivered to PCWA customers. Students were invited to go beneath the concrete deck of the pump station into the large vault that stores water from the river before it is pumped uphill, into the three-mile long Auburn Ravine Tunnel. Hearing directly from PCWA engineers

and operators, students learned about the pump station's total capacity, horsepower, and ability to move water to PCWA's customers throughout western Placer County.

The group's second stop was PCWA's Foothill Water Treatment plant in Newcastle. There, students learned about the water treatment process and technology used to ensure that PCWA's drinking water meets all standards for safety and quality. Starting at the point where water enters the plant to the point where it is distributed to storage tanks for delivery to customers, students were able to see all the different stages of the treatment process.

The group of students then returned to PCWA headquarters where they participated in a "meter-madness challenge" hosted by PCWA's water efficiency team and a hands-on mapping exercise with PCWA's GIS team.

The Career Technical Education Day was not only a great learning experience for students, but also a tremendous opportunity for PCWA's water professionals to share their passion about their careers at the Agency. PCWA thanks the Western Placer Unified School District, the Roseville Joint Union High School District, and the Placer Union High School District's administration and faculty who helped make this day possible, allowing our employees to help inspire the next generation of technical professionals.



Snow Survey Results

On April 1, PCWA conducted its all-important April snow survey in the American River Watershed. April is typically when snowpack is the deepest and has the highest Snow Water Equivalent (SWE). SWE is a measurement used to gauge the amount of liquid water contained within the snowpack that will be released as the snow melts over the coming months.

Results from PCWA's four snow courses show an average SWE of 10 inches, putting the snow water content at 32 percent of average for April 1. Fortunately, even with the declining snowpack and below-normal conditions, combined storage levels at French Meadows and Hell Hole reservoirs are still at 90% of average for April 1.

Current snowpack, combined with reservoir storage levels, places PCWA in a position to effectively meet our customers' demands as we head into summer.

To watch a video of the snow survey, visit [YouTube.com/ThePCWA](https://www.youtube.com/ThePCWA).





General Manager's Report

By Andrew Fecko

PCWA customers are fortunate to be served by locally owned and locally controlled water supply reservoirs, namely French Meadows Reservoir and Hell

Hole Reservoir. These reservoirs are capable of meeting multiple years of water supply needs in Placer County, which often puts us in a more favorable water supply situation than others in California. However, because we are connected to a statewide water system it is necessary for us to be conscious of water supply and environmental conditions downstream, particularly in times of drought.

On March 28, Governor Newsom signed an executive order related to California's drought.

The main takeaway from the order is that water suppliers throughout the state must activate their drought contingency plans, which require locally appropriate water conservation actions. This mandate from the Governor is founded in the harsh reality that dry conditions are taxing both the environment and water suppliers up and down the state. Even though PCWA has an adequate supply of water for our customers this year, it is important that we respond to this call to action. Our local conservation efforts provide the benefit of preserving cold water supplies at Folsom Reservoir for Steelhead and Chinook Salmon populations on the lower American River.

To comply with the Governor's order, we are asking

customers to reduce water use by 20 percent from what you would normally use. Specifically, this can be achieved by:

- Keeping sprinklers tuned and replacing old nozzles;
- Checking soil moisture before watering;
- Stressing your lawn, but not your trees;
- Limiting landscape watering to three days per week; and
- Adding a 2-3 inch layer of mulch to your landscape.

To help our customers conserve water, the Board of Directors has approved an extension of our enhanced rebate and educational programs. Rebates are available for turf replacement, irrigation systems, and water using appliances. I encourage you to take advantage of these programs.

For our canal water customers, we are allowing reductions in canal water deliveries in 2022 without penalty or permanent reduction in service. We are also partnering with the Placer Resource Conservation District to roll out a new raw water tank rebate to help customers store water for greater reliability and efficiency.

At PCWA, we believe in stewardship of our water resources. The programs above are effective not just in times of drought but offer positive benefits long-term. If you are interested in how PCWA can help you be more water efficient, please contact Customer Services or visit us at pcwa.net.

PCWA has

REBATES

for your home,
school, or business

Learn more at
pcwa.net/rebates



\$1,000

to replace lawn with
low-water plants



\$500

for new high-efficiency
sprinklers and drip
irrigation



\$250

for a WaterSense
labeled sprinkler timer



\$50

for a new pool cover

Board of Directors

PCWA is an independent public agency governed by an elected Board of Directors. Directors represent each of five districts in Placer County and are elected by voters to four-year terms.

Your PCWA Board of Directors:

- DISTRICT 1: Gray Allen
 DISTRICT 2: Primo Santini
 DISTRICT 3: Mike Lee
(2022 Chairman)
 DISTRICT 4: Robert Dugan
(2022 Vice Chairman)
 DISTRICT 5: Joshua Alpine

Public Meetings

The Placer County Water Agency Board of Directors meets regularly the first and third Thursdays of each month at 2 p.m. at the Placer County Water Agency Business Center, at 144 Ferguson Road, in Auburn.

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