



# La Puente Valley County Water District

*Serving the Community  
for 85 Years*

Newsletter for the La Puente Valley County Water District Customers Fall 2009

Board of Directors

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*Director*

Vincent House  
*Director*

William Rojas  
*Director*



**Office Hours  
&  
Location**

Mon. - Fri. 8 am to 5pm  
112 N. First Street  
La Puente, CA 91744  
Tel (626) 330-2126  
Fax (626) 330-2679

[www.lapuentewater.com](http://www.lapuentewater.com)

## No Rate Increase in 2009

In September of this year the District's Board of Directors unanimously agreed to cancel the 10% rate increase which was scheduled for September 2009. Over the last few years the District has been fortunate and financially prudent. The District has managed its finances to maintain acceptable reserves and avoid drastic rate increases despite the escalating cost of water.

In 2008 the District applied for and was awarded San Gabriel Basin Restoration Funds and Title XVI Federal Funds for the construction of the District's new Well No. 5. This funding along with other funding sources saved the District's customers over \$1 million dollars. Also, in 2008 and 2009 the District procured additional pumping rights in the Main San Gabriel Basin at a reduced price. These transactions help stabilize the cost of water for the District through 2013 and will save the District's customers over \$400,000.

In a time where most water service providers are looking at substantial rate increases, canceling already approved rate increases may not make sense to some. However, the District's Board of Directors and Staff believe strongly that successful cost savings efforts should be passed down to our customers. It is our mission to provide **high quality water at the most reasonable cost to our customers**, which drives the Board (continued on pg. 2)

Si usted desea una copia del boletín de noticias en español, favor de comunicarse al (626) 330-2126.

112 N. First Street / P.O. Box 3136  
La Puente, CA 91744  
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## No Rate Increase in 2009 (continued)

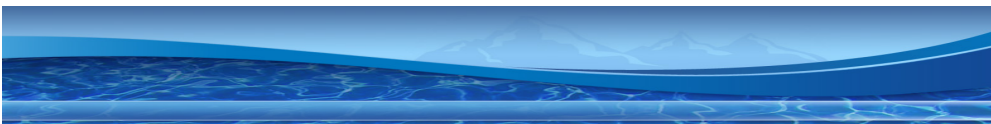
and Staff to conduct our business as efficient as possible. It hasn't always been so positive on the financial front for the District. To reach the financial position the District is in today, it took the adoption of a multi-year rate increase. The plan, adopted in 2006, was to increase rates in September of each year starting in 2006 continuing through 2010. Revenues from the first three years of this plan have made it possible to build District's reserves, allowing the District to fund needed capital improvement projects and to purchase additional pumping rights in the basin. Three years into the five year plan, the District finds itself in sound financial condition. In order to maintain this status, each year the District's Board will evaluate the cost of service and reserve levels to determine when and if an increase may be needed.

## District Accomplishments

As the District celebrates its 85th year of service to the community, we look back and take pride in the many accomplishments that have supported the District's mission of providing high quality water at the most reasonable cost possible. Below are some of the accomplishments or noteworthy events in the District's recent history:

- 2000 – Construction of the District's Treatment Plant.
- 2002 – BPOU Agreement, which secured funding for all expenses related to groundwater treatment and helped avoid major rate increases to our customers.
- 2004 – Industry Waterworks Management Agreement, which provides an additional revenue source to offset our customer's rates.
- 2005 – Construction of the 1.8 million gallon Main Street Reservoir.
- 2008 – Construction of new Well No. 5 at no cost to the District's customers.
- 2009 – Update of the District's Water Master Plan.

**The District has been able to carry out its mission and maintain and improve its water system without the need of financing, meaning the District has no debt. The District has consistently provided water to its customer's at rates well below the average of San Gabriel Valley Water Purveyors.**



## Household Plumbing Retrofit Assistance Program

The La Puente Valley County Water District is pleased to announce the Household Plumbing Retrofit Assistance Program ("Retrofit Program"). This Retrofit Program will provide financial assistance to older residential households for the replacement of pipeline from the water meter to the pipe's entrance to the household structure, commonly referred to as the "housesline". This Retrofit Program focuses on replacing aging galvanized pipes commonly used in older homes that have a higher probability of leaking and can experience water color and flow problems. The financial assistance consists of a voucher of \$10.00 per linear foot of housesline replacement, not to exceed \$1,000.00 in total. This Retrofit Program is limited and participation is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Customers who are interested are urged to contact the District office to confirm eligibility and obtain the necessary forms to get started.



Pictured: old leaking galvanized service line that was replaced.

## The District Appreciates Your Efficient Use of Water

- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the sidewalk, or street.
- When doing laundry, match the water level to the size of the load.
- Replace your old toilet with a high efficiency toilet. Rebates are available to help with the cost.
- Monitor your water bill for unusually high use. Your bill and water meter are tools that can help you discover leaks.
- Saving **Blue** saves **Green**, when you save water, you save money.

