

## WATER CONSERVATION REQUIREMENTS AND TIPS

In support of the City of San Jose, the Santa Clara Valley Water District and San Jose water services providers, all residents and business are asked to do their part to preserve the drinking water supply during this drought. Residents and businesses are required to reduce their water use by 30 percent. For more information and water conservation tips visit, [www.sjenvironment.org/waterconservation](http://www.sjenvironment.org/waterconservation) or contact (408) 277-3671.

Water uses during temporary outdoor special events are typically tied to health and safety requirements. With conservation in mind, we encourage our organizers to preserve the drinking water supply by following these suggestions:

- Use recycled water for cleaning hard surface areas such as streets, sidewalks and paseos. Organizers remain responsible for power washing or spot mopping areas used during outdoor special events to remove grease, stains and debris. Note: Recycled water cannot be used for steam cleaning, as State regulations do not allow heating of recycled water. Therefore, steam cleaning is not an option for clean-up.
- Educate your staff and volunteers working water stations along race and walk routes, to fill water cups as carefully as possible to avoid unnecessary spillage.
- When water barrels are needed to secure large tent structures, fill the barrels as minimally as possible with recycled water and dispose of the water on turf areas. When appropriate, use weights to secure tents verses water barrels.
- If misters are required for emergency preparedness, place the misters in strategic locations ensuring maximum benefit of the devices.
- If water hoses are used, ensure the hose has a shut-off.
- As of April 21, 2015, San Jose's City Council, adopted a resolution prohibiting the use of City hydrants. Below is the section of the San Jose Municipal Code, related to this action:

### 15.10.365 - Hydrants.

After adoption by the city council of a resolution declaring a thirty percent or greater water shortage, it shall be unlawful for any person, except a water company for the purpose of necessary hydrant or water distribution system maintenance, or under the direction of the city's fire chief for firefighting or fire sprinkler maintenance, to use or allow the use of any water or flushing of any water from any fire hydrant. (Ord. 24600.)

South Bay Water Recycling provides a Recycled Access Point for *commercial* businesses. Commercial businesses and contractors can be certified to use the sites, and are replacing potable drinking water with recycled water throughout San Jose and Milpitas. Attached you will find a Fact Sheet about the City's access points with the answers to most of your questions.

If you have further questions or wish to obtain a list of certified commercial companies who can power wash areas after your event, please contact Michele Young at 408-975-2519.



# South Bay Water Recycling Recycled Water Access Point Program Fact Sheet

## Expanding Recycled Water Use with Recycled Water Access Points (RWAP)

To conserve our valuable drinking (potable) water supplies, South Bay Water Recycling (SBWR) has made recycled water available for commercial non-potable uses at several truck fill locations in San José and Milpitas. State Approved uses include construction activities such as grading, compaction, concrete wetting, and dust control as well as landscape irrigation, pressure washing, and sewer flushing.



## Recycled Water Quality

Recycled water is highly treated to meet rigorous and protective standards set by the State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water, and SBWR currently supplies clean and safe tertiary-treated recycled water to over 750 customers in San Jose, Milpitas and Santa Clara.

## Participation Requirements

Users must complete a short Training and sign a User Agreement to confirm the correct use of the fill stations and the proper handling of recycled water. In addition, trucks must be inspected and labeled to certify that they are correctly equipped to transfer recycled water.

After truck and driver certification, users will be issued a portable recycled water meter, with a unique nozzle that can only fit the RWAP hydrants. This minimizes the possibility of cross-connections between the potable and recycled water distribution systems.

Construction exemptions for required use of recycled water may be granted on a case by case basis, depending on the availability of recycled water near the project site. Please contact the City Planning Department for more information on the required use of recycled water for proposed projects.

## Getting Started

In order to complete the certification process, and receive meters, site keys, and the most updated site maps, please contact the recycled water retail agencies listed below:

Milpitas – call (408) 586-2600

San Jose –call (408) 277-3671

RWAP Supervisor Trainings are scheduled every Wednesday from 9am to 11am, at the San Jose/Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility (700 Los Esteros Road in San José) or by appointment. Contact the City of Milpitas for trainings and inspections in their area.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **What is a Recycled Water Access Point?**  
A Recycled Water Access Point (or RWAP) is a stand-pipe that allows a certified RWAP Supervisor access to recycled water to fill their tanker truck.
2. **How can I get locations and information about using recycled water from an RWAP?**  
Please contact your local water retailer or South Bay Water Recycling for availability in your area.  
City of Milpitas – (408) 586-2600  
City of San José – South Bay Water Recycling (408) 277-3671
3. **What are the uses for recycled water?**  
Recycled water is approved for non-potable (non drinking) uses such as irrigation, dust control, and street sweeping
4. **Can I use recycled water to irrigate my landscape at home?**  
No. Recycled Water is approved only for commercial (non-residential) uses.
5. **Can I drink recycled water?**  
No. At this time, recycled water is not approved for drinking.
6. **Do I have to use recycled water?**  
The use of recycled water is required by many city ordinances if recycled water is available. Visit your local city's planning department for availability in your area.
7. **Where does recycled water come from?**  
Recycled water is produced from treated wastewater from the San Jose/Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility.
8. **Why is recycled water regulated more than potable (drinking) water?**  
Recycled water is safe to use by trained personnel to assure it is used appropriately and that the public drinking water supply is separated and protected from contamination.
9. **Are there any rules I need to follow when using recycled water?**  
Recycled water has not been treated and disinfected for drinking. The use of recycled water is therefore regulated by the State of California Division of Drinking Water, State Water Resources Control Board to ensure that the public health and potable water supply are separated and protected from contamination. To assure that the use is appropriate, the State has required that users be trained, vehicles and sites are inspected and certified, and appropriate safeguards are in place to protect public health.
10. **Do I have to use a special container?**  
All containers must be properly labeled, per the SBWR RWAP User Agreement. Recycled water is only distributed to certified RWAP Supervisors with registered trucks that have been inspected.
11. **Can I store recycled water at my site or commercial business?**  
Yes. Recycled water can be stored on site, with appropriate signage and use management per the User Agreement.
12. **Do I have to get certified in multiple cities or will one certification work at all SBWR locations?**  
Recycled Water Access Point Supervisors can be trained and registered at any qualified SBWR water agency.
13. **Can I take the recycled water I picked up in one city and take it to another city?**  
Yes. Recycled water purchased from one city may be used in a different city.
14. **Can I use a potable meter to access recycled water or do I have to get a special meter?**  
The RWAP meter is different from a potable water meter, so you must use a recycled water RWAP meter when accessing recycled water.
15. **Do I need to clean my tank or container before filling it with potable water?**  
Recycled water trucks must be certified and registered to carry water for nonpotable uses only.
16. **What if I have multiple tanker trucks?**  
All trucks must be inspected and registered with SBWR.
17. **How much does recycled water cost?**  
Please contact your water retailer for prices and availability.
18. **How do I report my recycled water usage and pay?**  
It will vary depending on recycled water retailer. Please see your local recycled water retailer for specifics.