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Please call (805) 541-9005
with any questions. **Thank you!**



Utilities Department
879 Morro Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

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The City of San Luis Obispo Utilities Department

RESOURCE

MANAGING COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR THE FUTURE

Postal Patron

Inflow and Infiltration: We Want Your Input!


The City's sewer system and the Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) can experience problems associated with excessive wet weather Inflow and Infiltration (I/I). I/I occur when groundwater or rainwater flow into the sewer system, either through a direct connection or through seepage through cracked laterals, leaky pipe joints and/or deteriorated manholes. Flows into the City's sewer system from I/I can create a variety of problems and can lead to spills and compliance problems. Treatment of this excess water also adds additional treatment costs at the WRRF.

Sewer laterals have been identified as a significant source of I/I and the Utilities Department will be looking into a program to help homeowners replace their damaged laterals. The City is interested in hearing from our customers about this important issue. Please check our website at slocity.org/iandi for additional information regarding I/I and laterals and to provide your input.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Water & Sewer Problems
8 AM to 5 PM
(805) 781-7215

After Hours & Weekends
(805) 781-7312

 JOIN US ON FACEBOOK



California's Rainfall Variability

As we continue into what could be our sixth year of drought on the Central Coast, we are reminded of the inherent variability of rainfall in California.

The "Godzilla of all El Niño's," as it was described last year, delivered about average rainfall to San Luis Obispo while providing well above average rainfall and overtopping many reservoirs in the northern half of the state. We now know that the difference between a below average year of rainfall and a well above average year can often come down to both the location and the frequency of a few of California's most prolific weather events: atmospheric rivers.

IN THIS ISSUE:

1. WATER USAGE IN 2016
2. REDUCING LEAKING GARBAGE CONTAINERS
3. RESIDENTIAL SEWAR CAP



DESIGN BY VERDIN

WINTER 2017 | VOLUME 20 | ISSUE 3



Water Usage 2016

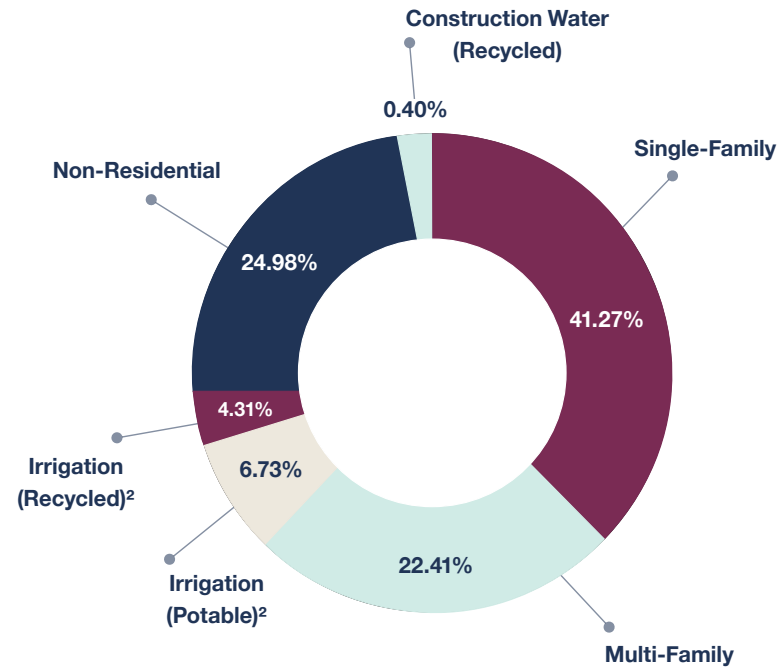
Despite a strong El Niño in Northern California last year, the Central Coast closed out the water year (October 2015 – September 2016) with below average annual rainfall totals. Even with varying messaging across national media about the status of the drought, water consumption across San Luis Obispo was reduced an impressive 21% as residents, businesses, and governmental agencies partnered to conserve water both indoors and outdoors.

As we enter what may be our sixth consecutive year of drought, we applaud the community for once again exceeding conservation goals and expectations. We are proud to be partners in a community that works together to make it through challenging times like this. We are also thankful for past generations who chose to invest in the acquisition of additional water supplies to buffer the City's ability to withstand prolonged periods of drought. To learn more about the City's current water resources, visit slowater.org to view the 2016 Water Resources Status Report.

WATER YEAR 2016 REDUCTION VS 2013:

21% Reduction
1185 AF Acre-Foot Reduction

WATER YEAR 2016 USE BY SECTOR:



NOTES:

1. 2016 Water Year includes October 2015 – September 2016 and is compared to the State's designated reduction baseline of calendar year 2013.

2. "Irrigation" use represents accounts with dedicated irrigation meters, this category includes irrigation use for non-residential and multi-family accounts.

RAINFALL 2016 BY LOCATION:

LOCATION	ANNUAL AVERAGE RAINFALL	2016 WATER YEAR TOTAL RAINFALL (Oct 2015–Sept 2016)
ROCKY BUTTE	39	26.89
HWY 46 AND W7 MILE ROAD IN CAMBRIA, CA	30	19.93
SLO RESERVOIR	25	17.80
SALINAS DAM	23	13.46

*measured in inches

Steps for Reducing Leaking Garbage Containers

Throughout San Luis Obispo, there are numerous garbage containers that are cracked and leak out the liquid waste that's created by wet garbage. In addition to being a public health concern and attracting vermin, leaky garbage containers also lead to water quality problems in our local creeks. The liquid waste from leaky containers can cause oxygen to be robbed from the water and can be harmful to aquatic life.

Some simple housekeeping can go a long way to reduce liquid waste from garbage and improve water quality in our creeks:

- 1 Place garbage in a bag before putting it in your trash container.
- 2 Reduce the amount of wet items in the trash, like beverages and ice.
- 3 Keep your home containers put away and out of public right-of-way to reduce the risk of people searching for recyclables tearing bags open after they've been deposited in a trash container.

If you come across a leaking garbage container or your container at home is leaking, contact San Luis Garbage at 543-0875. To report leaky garbage containers that may be contaminating local waterways, or any other stormwater violations, please contact the Utilities Department at 781-7215.



OUTDOOR IRRIGATION RESTRICTIONS:

Outdoor irrigation only permitted two days per week during approved hours

EVEN NUMBERED ADDRESSES:
Tuesday & Friday

ODD NUMBERED ADDRESSES:
Monday & Thursday

No irrigation permitted between 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM

No runoff onto streets, sidewalks, or driveways

No irrigating outdoors during or within 48 hours following measurable rainfall

It's Not Too Late to Establish Your Residential Sewer Cap



December 5 – March 8 is the 2016-17 Average Winter Water Use Period. Although the averaging period is already underway, there are still two months left to make changes to accurately reflect your wastewater generation!

Residential sewer caps are established annually by averaging water use during December, January and February billing cycles, periods when residential customers should no longer need to be irrigating outdoors. This winter water use period helps determine the amount of wastewater that enters our collection system from your house and sets a cap on your sewer charges for the following fiscal year (July–June) based on that average. Please remember that eliminating outdoor irrigation during this time will allow for accurate calculation of your sewer cap for the following fiscal year.

To learn more about the Average Winter Water Use Period, what a Sewer Cap is, and how it can affect your bill, visit our website at www.slocity.org/sewercap or call us at 781-7133.