



## Central Basin

Municipal Water District

Central Basin serves a population of more than 2 million people living within 24 cities in Southeast Los Angeles County.

## We're Reaching Out

If you're interested in learning more about water issues and Central Basin, we'll come to you. We have speakers available for community events and organizations to talk about Central Basin's programs, water quality standards and reliability of water supply issues. For more information on requesting a representative to speak at your organization, please call Sandi Linares-Plimpton at (323) 201-5511.

# CENTRAL FOCUS

 summer2008

PRSR STD

US POSTAGE PAID  
LOS ANGELES, CA  
PERMIT NO. 1831



## Central Basin

Municipal Water District  
PUBLICATIONS

6252 Telegraph Road  
Commerce, CA 90040-2512  
www.centralbasin.org

## Website Updates: Central Basin Goes Blogging



Earlier this year, Central Basin launched the Water Cooler, "California's First Official Water Blog," to provide our community with direct access to breaking water news, photos and articles.

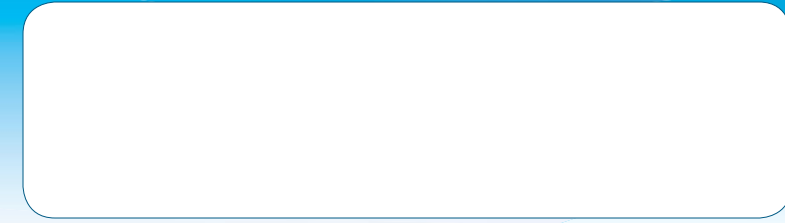
So far, the response has been tremendous. We are pleased to see industry professionals, local students and community members alike using the Water Cooler as an interactive forum to directly post their comments, questions and ideas relating to the state's most pressing water issues.

Have you been to the Water Cooler lately? If not, you could be missing out on the latest water news in your area! Visit us today and share your thoughts. [www.centralbasin.org/blog/](http://www.centralbasin.org/blog/)



### More NEW WEBSITE Features

- Visit [centralbasin.org](http://centralbasin.org) Today to Find:
  - The Latest Community Events & Photos
  - Direct Links to our Cities & Partners
  - Fun Water Education Games for Kids!



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### Board of Directors and Service Areas

#### Division I: Director Edward C. Vasquez

Bell Gardens, Downey, Montebello, Norwalk and Vernon

#### Division II: Director Robert Apodaca

La Habra Heights, La Mirada, Pico Rivera, Santa Fe Springs and Whittier

#### Division III: Director Art Chacon

Bell, Commerce, Huntington Park, Maywood, Walnut Park, portions of Cudahy and Monterey Park, and unincorporated areas of East Los Angeles

#### Division IV: Director Rudy C. Montalvo

Lynwood, South Gate, Florence-Graham, Willowbrook, and portions of Cudahy, Compton, and Carson

#### Division V: Director Phillip D. Hawkins

Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Hawaiian Gardens, Lakewood, Paramount and Signal Hill

### Representatives on the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Board of Directors:

Robert Apodaca  
Phillip D. Hawkins

### General Manager

Art Aguilar

### Newsletter Editor

Valerie Howard

### Newsletter Design

Digital Synergy



## Introducing *Think Watershed*, The Field Trip Aboard a Floating Laboratory!

This past spring marked the launch of a new and exciting education program: Think Watershed. Only a few months old, the program—a collaboration between the District, the Think Earth Foundation, the Los Angeles County Office of Education and numerous other sponsors—

is already a hit among 4th, 5th and 6th graders throughout the area. In fact, field trips have already begun filling up for the 2008-09 school year.

Students begin their watershed adventure with comprehensive and fun classroom activities developed for the program (all of which meet rigorous

state teaching standards). The program culminates on the 3-hour cruise through the Long Beach Harbor on a "Floating Lab Boat," where students apply what they have learned by participating in a plankton lab, a bottom sediment study, water visibility testing, and much more!

To help make this program affordable for all local schools, free bus transportation is provided, along with grant funding opportunities through the LA County Office of Education.

For more information about Think Watershed or to book your field trip, visit

[www.ThinkWatershed.org](http://www.ThinkWatershed.org)





## Message from the General Manager

It's hard to believe that summer is already here. 2008 has definitely been a busy year for us, but we believe that's a good thing. After all, the projects that keep us the busiest are the very projects that will bring new resources and services to the communities we serve.

Of course, one of the biggest projects of the year has been settling into our new home in the City of Commerce. Moving back to the heart of our service area has been one exciting transition, and I have to say, it's great to be home again.

Our new, central location has furthered our ability to advocate for the changing water needs of our community. It's no secret that the California water system has faced some critical challenges this year. As regional agencies come together to find long-term solutions, it is important that we remain at the forefront of these discussions, giving a voice to residents and businesses who would otherwise not have one.

On other fronts, this past spring was an exciting time at Central Basin as we took part in numerous events and special projects to promote environmental stewardship. In addition to hosting our 2nd Annual Earth Day event in the City of Whittier, we worked to spread ecological awareness during Water Awareness Month in May. With summer now here, it's important to keep in mind the lessons learned this past spring about the value of our most precious resource.

For more information about our community programs, please visit our website at [www.centralbasin.org](http://www.centralbasin.org). Have a great summer!

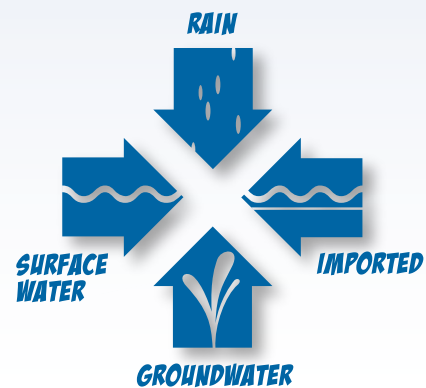
Art Aguilar  
General Manager

## CENTRAL BASIN FUN FACT

### THE MEANING BEHIND THE ARROWS

### WHAT DOES THE CENTRAL BASIN LOGO MEAN?

The answer stems back to the early 1950s, when the District realized the need to not just manage area groundwater but to also supplement local supplies with other sources. It was during this transformational period that the District took on the critical role of a regional water provider, and adopted the logo we know today. Each arrow represents a source of water we rely on in the Central Basin, and true to the District's name, they all point to the center:



## It's Official: California is in a Drought

After two years of record-low rainfall, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger declared a statewide drought this past June. At Central Basin, we have already started to ramp-up our efforts, joining in on statewide discussions to improve water supply reliability. For the latest information on our state drought conditions, please visit [www.centralbasin.org](http://www.centralbasin.org) today.

## CONSERVATION TIPS: Cut Summer Water Use

When temperatures rise, so does the temptation to use more water. Here are some simple ways to cut water use and save money:

### Indoor



Turn off the water when you brush your teeth. **Save 3 gallons per day.**

Shorten your showers by one or two minutes. **Save 5 gallons per day.**



Fix leaky faucets. **Save 20 gallons per day.**



### Outdoor



Water your yard only before 8 a.m. or at dusk to reduce evaporation and interference from wind. **Save 25 gallons per day.**

Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks. **Save 150 gallons each time.**



Install a smart sprinkler controller. **Save 40 gallons per day.**



Tips can be found on [www.bewaterwise.com](http://www.bewaterwise.com)

## Contact Us

Make sure you have **Our New Contact Info!**  
For More Information About...

- **Board of Directors**  
(323) 201-5527
- **Water Resources**  
(323) 201-5501
- **Media & Public Information**  
(323) 201-5552
- **District Finances**  
(323) 201-5522
- **Events & Outreach**  
(323) 201- 5511
- **Conservation**  
(323) 201-5500
- **Education Tours & Programs**  
(323) 201-5519

**FOR GENERAL QUESTIONS,  
CALL (323) 201-5500**



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[www.centralbasin.org](http://www.centralbasin.org)

## Get Your FREE CONSERVATION MAGNET Today!

Conservation Tips will help remind your entire household to conserve water all year long!

Please contact Sandi Linares-Plimpton at [sandilp@centralbasin.org](mailto:sandilp@centralbasin.org) or (323) 201-5511

**FREE**

