

JULY-AUGUST 2021

# Helix Highlights



WATER QUALITY

**East County AWP Update**

The East County Advanced Water Purification Program will recycle east county wastewater and purify the recycled water to provide up to 30 percent of east county’s water supply. Construction is expected to start in 2022 and be completed in 2024.

**Construction Package 1**

Design-builder: AECOM/Lyles

- Water recycling facility
- Advanced water purification facility

**Construction Package 2**

Design-builder: GHD/Orion Construction

- 10 mile pipeline to Lake Jennings
- Dechlorination facility and lake inlet

**Construction Package 3**

Design-builder: AECOM/Lyles

- 2 wastewater pump stations
- 3.5 mile wastewater force main
- 3 mile residuals bypass pipeline
- Wastewater lift station

**Construction Package 4**

East County AWP and city of San Diego will develop a solution for managing water purification by-products.

[Learn more at eastcountyawp.com](http://eastcountyawp.com)



**East County  
Advanced Water  
Purification**

WATER QUALITY

**Our 2020 Drinking Water Quality Report is Available**

Want to know more about the tap water we deliver to your home? Our new Water Quality Report discusses the quality of our water in calendar year 2020. How do we ensure you have high quality water every day? We have experienced, highly trained people managing our chemistry and biology labs, treatment plant and distribution system; lots of technology; and a deep commitment to the communities we serve.

**9.7 Billion**

Gallons of water treated and delivered to customers in 2020

**100+**

Water quality parameters are monitored

**100%**  
Compliance



California  
Drinking Water  
Health Standards

USEPA  
Drinking Water  
Health Standards

USEPA  
Lead and Copper  
Rule

**Read It** [hwd.fyi/wqr2020-english](http://hwd.fyi/wqr2020-english) | [hwd.fyi/wqr2020-espanol](http://hwd.fyi/wqr2020-espanol)

If you would like a printed report, please call Customer Service at 619-466-0585.

WATER QUALITY

**Helix Employee Innovation Cuts Sampling Time in Half**

Biologists collect water samples from various depths in a reservoir with a container on a rope that let’s water in, but doesn’t let it out. This is how it’s always been done, and it’s slow work. In June, Helix employees tried a new approach at Lake Jennings. They marked each foot on a hose, lowered the hose to the desired depth, turned on a portable pump, and sucked the water sample right into a vial on the boat. “We cut sampling time in half,” said Helix Director of Water Quality and System Operations Brian Olney, “This is just another example of our continuous focus on efficiency, to keep costs and rates down for customers.” Helix is collecting water samples from 40 different depths and locations in Lake Jennings each month to establish the lake’s baseline water quality before the East County AWP goes online in 2025.



# JULY-AUGUST 2021 What's Going On



**WATER SUPPLY**

**San Diego Region Drought-Safe**

In June, the San Diego County Water Authority announced, “no shortages or water-use mandates are in the forecast, the result of three decades of strategic investments.”

Your Helix water bills helped fund those investments in the conservation of Colorado River water and development of the Carlsbad Desalination Plant. Your conservation efforts make a big impact, too. Per capita water use in the region is half of what it was in the 1990s.

Over the next 10 years, multiple projects to turn recycled water into drinking water, like the East County AWP, will further expand our regional water supply. The Water Authority’s new 2020 Urban Water Management Plan shows that we have sufficient water supplies through 2045, even during multiple dry years.

[Learn more at sdcwa.org/news](https://www.sdcwa.org/news)



**Helix Helps**  
Customer Assistance  
Program

The Helix Helps Customer Assistance Program offers a one-time credit of up to \$300 to help our residential customers who live in a single-family home, have a past due balance on their Helix water bill and can demonstrate loss of income due to the pandemic.

[Learn more at hwd.fyi/help](https://www.hwd.fyi/help)



ROSALIE DOSIK OF MOUNT HELIX

**Our 2021 WaterSmart Landscape Contest Winner**

In 2012, Mount Helix artist Rosalie Dosik demolished her backyard pool, added topsoil and planted a garden. “Now,” she says, “one can meander through the garden and enjoy the scenery. There are birds and wildlife galore. The entire backyard is cooler and more serene.”

[See more photos at hwd.com/blog](https://www.hwd.com/blog)



**SUSTAINABILITY**

**Save Water This Summer**

1. Adjust watering times, upgrade sprinklers, prevent runoff and regulate water pressure. We show you how.

[Go to hwd.com/how-to-water](https://www.hwd.com/how-to-water)

2. Spread a 3-4 inch layer of mulch around plants to prevent evaporation and apply for our mulch rebate: \$25 per cubic yard, up to \$100.

[Go to hwd.com/mulch-rebate](https://www.hwd.com/mulch-rebate)

3. A smart leak detector alerts you to irrigation and indoor leaks before they run up your water bill, and we offer a \$100 rebate.

[Go to hwd.com/smart-leak-detector-rebate](https://www.hwd.com/smart-leak-detector-rebate)



**COMMUNITY**

**Curl Up Around the Campfire**

Fireside at the Lake is like a 3-hour camping trip with a personal concierge. Just make a reservation and arrive at 6 p.m. You’ll find a firepit by the lake with wood, fire starter and Adirondack chairs. The basic package is \$12 per person for 4-6 people. Order an add-on package and you’ll get everything you need to make s’mores, roast hot dogs or play corn hole. Two nights are still available: July 16 and August 20.

It’s also time to reserve your campsite for Spooky Camp-O-Ween, October 22-24 and 29-31. Don’t miss out!

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