

MARCH-APRIL 2023

Helix Highlights



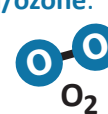
News



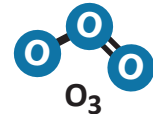
1 Treatment plant staff delivering 70% cost savings

In 2021, staff at Helix's R.M. Levy Water Treatment Plant embarked on a multi-phase upgrade of the plant's 20-year-old ozone generation system. When bids from contractors came in as high as \$3.5 million, they decided to perform the upgrades themselves with technical support from the equipment manufacturer, Veolia Water Technologies. Staff developed and completed a proof-of-concept pilot project in fiscal year 2020-21. They will complete the upgrade of the ozone power supply units and generators this year and replace the computer control system in fiscal year 2024-25. The final cost of the project is estimated at \$1.1 million -- a 70% cost savings by utilizing in-house expertise.

What's ozone? When oxygen molecules are hit by bursts of electricity in an ozone generator, they split and regroup as ozone. Learn why we use ozone to disinfect our water and more about water treatment at hwd.fyi/ozone.



Oxygen Molecule



Ozone Molecule



2 We just replaced two valves on a critical transmission line

In January, Helix replaced two large-diameter valves (see photo) used to control the flow of water from our treatment plant in Lakeside to customers in La Mesa, Lemon Grove and Spring Valley. This critical water transmission pipeline is energy-smart, too. It delivers up to 24 million gallons of water each day to locations in the far west reaches of our service area -- all by gravity.

Follow our construction at hwd.fyi/projects

3 Wet January bolsters Helix's local water supply

The bottom photo shows a break in the storm clouds over Lake Cuyamaca, which provides a local water supply for Helix and our customers. We're pleased to report this winter is off to a wet start.

Lake Cuyamaca

 **25.7"**
Avg. Annual
Precipitation
Since 1999

2022-2023 Precipitation

3.1"	5.4"	3.7"	17.7"
Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan

Hey teachers! Water is Life Poster Contest entries are due April 28.

It's time for K-8 students in Helix's service area to pull out their pens and crayons and make posters. Click on the link below to find and download our 2023 contest flyer and entry form.

Go to hwd.fyi/poster-contest



When winter storms find their way to San Diego, the water we capture in Lake Cuyamaca reduces our need for imported water purchases in the year ahead and can have a big impact on our financial results. But we don't know if the rain will continue. Last year, record rainfall in November and December was followed by the driest January to March period ever recorded.

Follow the news at hwd.com

MAY-JUNE 2023

What's Going On



Lake Jennings



When's the best time to go camping? Today!
Book a weekend at Lake Jennings and put smiles on faces.

March 1 - May 31 / Spring Photo Contest

Enter your three best photos of Lake Jennings, from camping to kayaking to wildlife. Learn more at hwd.fyi/spring.

May 20 / New Moon Fishing

New moon means no moon. Enjoy the stars and the fishing until 10 p.m.

May 20 & June 17 / Fireside at the Lake

Rent a firepit in Hermit's Cove from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. We'll provide the firewood and Adirondack chairs and you bring the marshmallows.

May 26-29 / Catfish Opener

When catfish grab your bait, they take off like a freight train. The event hours are:

- 3 p.m. to midnight on Friday
- 6 a.m. to midnight on Saturday
- 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday

May 29 / Memorial Day

We'll be open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.



Go to lakejennings.org or call 619-390-1623

Landscaping



Butterflies are having a fling at the Water Conservation Garden

May 6 / Butterfly Spring Fling

Ms. Smarty Plants, the Garden's Butterfly Ambassador, is hosting butterfly releases, the Pollinator Party, Storytime with Miss Metamorphosis, the petting zoo and crafts. Big kids will like the food trucks, vendor booths, workshops and consultations with landscape designers.

Register early for the butterfly releases, workshops and consultations at thegarden.org



It's spring and it's time to garden!

May 12 / WaterSmart Landscape Contest Entries Due

Do you love your beautiful, water-efficient landscape? Then share your accomplishment and inspire other homeowners. Learn how to enter at landscapecontest.com.

Saturdays @ 9 a.m. on Zoom.com

These online landscaping workshops are FREE. Watch as many as you like and reserve your spots at hwd.fyi/workshops.

- May 27 / Plan Ahead: Soil and Site Assessments
- June 3 / Design: Shape Your Space
- June 10 / Plants: Inspiring Choices for Our Region
- June 17 / Water and Irrigation: A Precious Resource
- June 24 / Installation and Maintenance: Protecting Your Investment

