



THE NORTH BAY WATER REUSE PROGRAM

BENEFITS OVERVIEW

With potable water supplies increasingly under pressure, the North Bay Water Reuse Program was created to join the rapid expansion of recycled water use throughout the Bay Area, state, and nation.

THE BENEFITS OF A UNIFIED PROGRAM

A comprehensive regional program of this type provides a sound approach toward meeting local, state and federal water resource management objectives and regulatory requirements.

- By working together the program develops cost-saving economies of scale on engineering, environmental studies and outreach
- By working together recycled water can be distributed to help meet urban, environmental and agricultural water resource demands
- Working together allows for improved coordination on production and use of recycled water
- Working together prioritizes water projects and activities to support the long term water interests of the region

PROGRAM BENEFITS

Recycled water is a cost-effective supply that can help relieve long-term water supply challenges in Sonoma, Marin and Napa Counties. Recycled water offers a smart and sustainable resource that will augment local supplies and is a reliable supply even during droughts.

- Reduces dependence on vulnerable river water and imported water supplies
- Reduces the need for farmers to draw water from rivers and small creeks, improving stream flows for riparian habitat and fisheries recovery
- Provides a reliable, high-quality water supply for restoration of wetlands
- Results in less discharge of treated water into the bay and river
- Has a lower carbon footprint and uses less energy than developing other potable supplies
- Creates a truly new source of water that helps mitigate risks of drought and effects from climate change
- A reliable water supply for parks, public landscaping and agricultural irrigation
- Improves overall water supply reliability at a lower cost than other potable water resources
- Helps address growing water demands in the region



“Recycled water is a critical part of the future of natural resource management if we are to begin to meet the challenges of population demands, environmental needs and regional economic viability. Compound these issues with supply instability brought on by climate change and it becomes imperative that we put every drop of water to it highest and best use.”

*— Tim Smith,
Former Sonoma County Supervisor*



“Ongoing water shortages are a very serious situation and on top of the bad economic conditions, it just contributes to unemployment. Recycled water can help our local economy and environment.”

*— Bill Long, Chair
North Bay Water Reuse Authority*

DIVERSITY OF USES

From residential landscaping to vineyards, from school fields to cemeteries, from ranches to wetlands, The North Bay Water Reuse Program's recycled water will benefit a wide diversity of needs across three counties.

- Serves urban needs in all three counties
- Serves agricultural needs
- Enhances environmental restoration projects and enhances local and regional ecosystems
- Provides opportunities for environmental education
- Promotes sustainable practices

MEETING LONG TERM POLICY GOALS

The North Bay Water Reuse Program projects yield significant economic and non-economic benefits towards meeting larger and harder to measure local, regional, state and federal policy goals, such as sustainability, wetlands rehabilitation, avoided greenhouse gas emissions, water supply reliability, avoided and deferred environmental costs and more.



A reliable water supply is extremely important for the region. For example; an economic study conducted by MKF Research found that the full economic impact of the wine and vineyard sector in Napa County totals \$9.5 billion.

Napa's wine and vineyard sector directly, and indirectly, provides nearly 40,000 jobs in Napa, almost half of the county's total employment; it is critical to maintain the water needed for this valuable economic engine.

Recycling water is as old as the earth itself. On land, rain brings potable water to the earth, it is used and reprecipitates into the soil. As it moves through the earth, it is filtered and cleansed. It is then pumped up and used again—or recycled.

THE NORTH BAY WATER REUSE PROGRAM

A cooperative multi-agency program that promotes sustainability and environmental enhancement in the North Bay by expanding the use of recycled water.

Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District • Napa County • Napa Sanitation District
North Marin Water District • Novato Sanitary District
Sonoma County Water Agency • Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District

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Potential Acres of Recycled Water Served After Completion of Alternatives I, II and III:



PASTURELANDS: 4,757 acres in Marin, Sonoma and Napa Counties



URBAN LANDSCAPING: 2,312 acres in Marin, Sonoma and Napa Counties



FARMLANDS: 2,924 acres in Marin, Sonoma and Napa Counties



VINEYARDS: 30,445 acres in Sonoma and Napa Counties



WETLANDS: 1,800 acres for wetlands restoration in the Napa-Sonoma Marshes Complex