



Irvine Ranch Water District
Construction Notice

For more info call (949) 453-5500 or visit www.irwd.com

October 2011: Project Update for Michelson Water Recycling Plant Expansion

Background Overview

Established in 1961, IRWD provides drinking water, sewage collection and treatment and produces recycled water. IRWD's tertiary treatment of wastewater at its Michelson Water Recycling Plant (MWRP) results in an excellent quality of recycled water that is used for landscape and agricultural irrigation, and for industrial and commercial needs. About 20 percent of IRWD's current supply is recycled water, enough to provide landscape irrigation for 80 percent of the District's business and community customers including parks, school grounds, and golf courses. Every gallon of recycled water used to irrigate crops or landscaping saves a gallon of drinking water.

In 1967 IRWD's Michelson Water Recycling Plant began delivering recycled water to agricultural users. Over the years IRWD's water recycling program grew to a nationally-recognized program that provides recycled water for a variety of other non-drinking water uses. By 2008, MWRP's capacity had grown to 18 million gallons per day (mgd). IRWD service area continues to grow and the recycled water system must grow along with it. Planners estimate that, when the service area reaches "final build out" in approximately 2025, a recycled water capacity of 33 million per day will be required to meet demands. A master plan was prepared to ensure that the plant will meet these requirements. A second plant expansion, currently under construction, intends to increase the plant production by an additional 10 mgd. The expansion project is scheduled for completion in late 2012.

Project Description and Update

The MWRP Phase II Expansion Project, which began in September 2009, will increase the plant's capacity to 28 mgd. The plant's expansion includes 16 facilities including new sewer lines and a flood wall around the plant's boundaries. In order to stabilize the flood wall and sewer, 3000 reinforced concrete piles (14 inch square and approximately 50 feet in length) are currently being installed around the plant by diesel and hydraulic hammers driving the piles into the ground. Poor soils adjacent to and near the San Diego Creek require the piles, which will support the structures and prevent settling over time. The majority of the pile driving on the main road leading to MWRP (Riparian View) was completed the week of August 15. Pile driving at the back of the plant, near the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary ponds began in late August and production has slowed due to limited access. This pile driving is scheduled for completion in mid-November. Piles will be driven for the remaining portions of the new flood wall and sewer lines on Riparian View beginning in November. All piles are scheduled to be installed by early 2012.

Work Hours

Typical work hours for this project are 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, although crews may need extended hours (on occasion) to complete certain portions of the project. These hours are in compliance with the local municipal code, which allows construction activities between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Questions

IRWD keeps the community informed through project information and updates available on IRWD's website at www.irwd.com. From the home page, please click on the "Construction Projects" tab and then the "Michelson Water Recycling Plant Expansion" link. If you have questions, please contact either Jo Ann Corey or Shannon Reed in the IRWD Public Affairs Department at (949) 453-5500.

IRWD thanks you in advance for your continued patience as we complete this important and critical construction project.