District Overview

The Santa Clara Valley Water District is the largest multi-purpose water supply, watershed stewardship and flood management special district in California. The District serves nearly two million people in Santa Clara County by providing a reliable and safe supply of water; enhancing streams and watersheds through creek restoration and habitat protection; providing flood protection for homes, schools and businesses; and partnering with other agencies to provide trails, parks and open space for community recreation.

The water district's unique multi-purposes enable it to use a comprehensive regional approach to water resources management and environmental protection that would not be possible if these services were fragmented among several agencies.

As the primary water resources agency for Santa Clara County, the water district encompasses all of the county's 1,300 square miles and serves the area's 15 cities: Campbell, Cupertino, Gilroy, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Palo Alto, San Jose, Santa Clara, Saratoga and Sunnyvale. The District also serves the unincorporated areas of the county.

Collaboration with the community we serve is not only a key value but has proven to result in more successful outcomes. By seeking public input, the District is respecting the fact that our operations and projects have a direct impact on people's lives.

Community action created the District, when farmers and business representatives formed the Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation Committee in the 1920s. At that time, groundwater supplies were being over pumped, causing the land to subside, or sink. The committee pursued creation of an organization to manage and replenish groundwater supplies, and the resulting Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation District later constructed reservoirs throughout the county to conserve water. The 1929 Santa Clara Valley Water District Act gives the District its authority to operate as a state special district, with jurisdiction throughout Santa Clara County.

Our mission is to provide Silicon Valley safe, clean water for a healthy life, environment, and economy.

The District Act authorizes the District to: "...provide comprehensive water management for all beneficial uses and protection from flooding within Santa Clara County. The District may take action to carry out all of the following purposes:

(a) to protect Santa Clara County from flood and storm waters of the district, including tidal flood waters and the flood and storm waters of streams that have their sources outside the district, but flow into the district;

(b) to protect from those flood or storm waters the public highways, life and property in the district, and the watercourses and watersheds of streams flowing within the district;

(c) to provide for the conservation and management of flood, storm, reclaimed, or recycled waters, or other waters from any sources within or outside the watershed in which the district is located for beneficial and useful purposes, including spreading, storing, retaining, and causing the waters to percolate into the soil within the district;

(d) to protect, save, store, recycle, distribute, transfer, exchange, manage, and conserve in any manner any of the waters;

(e) to increase, and prevent the waste or diminution of, the water supply in the district;

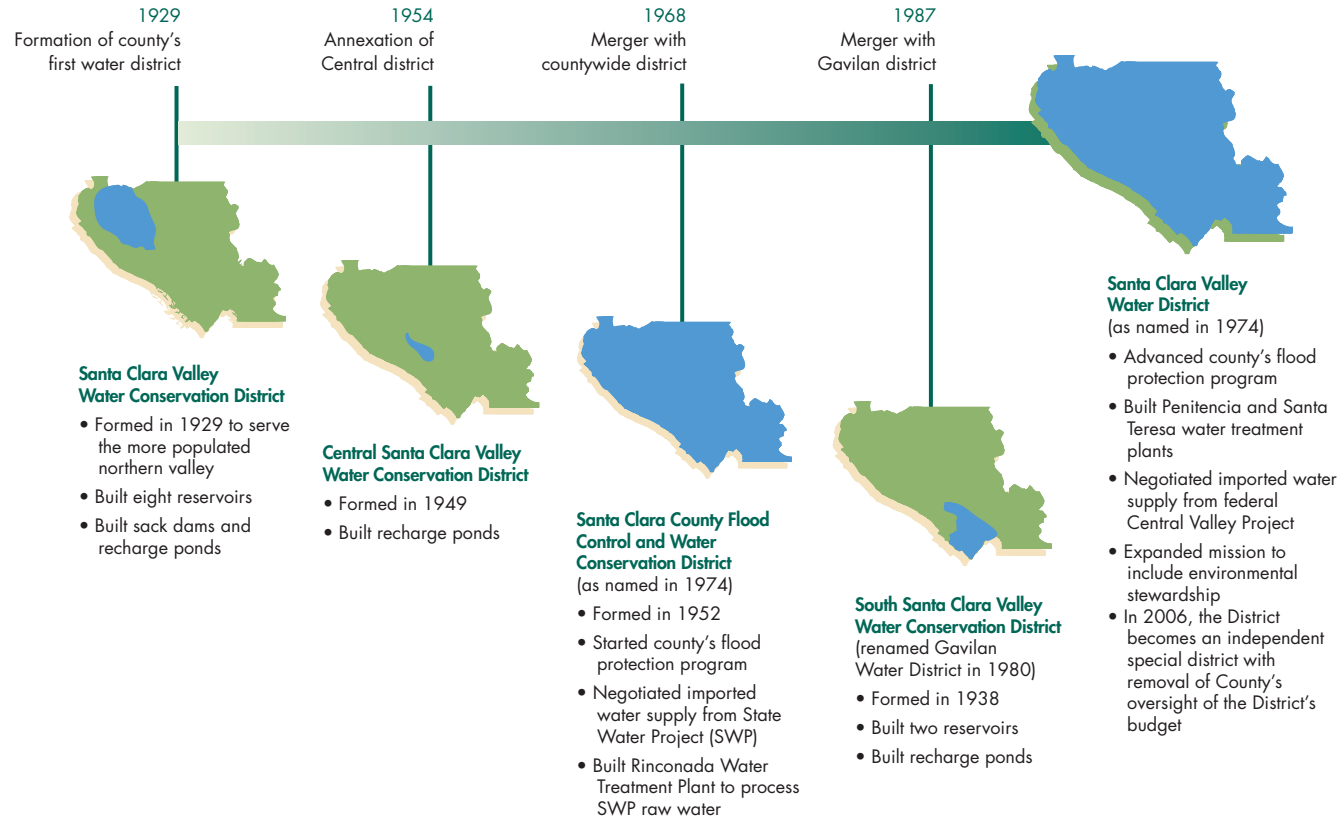
(f) to obtain, retain, reclaim, protect, and recycle drainage, storm, flood waters or treated wastewaters, or other waters from any sources, within or outside the watershed in which the district is located for any beneficial uses within the district;

(g) and to enhance, protect, and restore streams, riparian corridors, and natural resources in connection with carrying out the objects and purposes set forth in this section."

Governance and Board of Directors

The District Act outlines the structure, function and operations of the District's Board of Directors, which governs the District and directs the Board Appointed Officers. The Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors is comprised of seven members each elected from equally-divided districts drawn through a formal process. The purpose of the Board, on behalf of Santa Clara County, is to provide Silicon Valley safe, clean water for a healthy life, environment and economy. The directors serve overlapping four-year terms, a structure created pursuant to the adoption of the District Act. Elections are held in November of even number years.

Evolution of the Santa Clara Valley Water District



Today's Santa Clara Valley Water District is the result of the consolidation of four agencies over time, as shown above. The water district's products and services have grown along with its increased levels of responsibility for critical water resource and environmental management functions.

District Overview

The Board elects a new chair and vice-chair annually in January.

The Board sets direction for the District through its policy governance structure. Through adopted policies, the Board determines the District's mission and goals and outcomes to be achieved for the good of the public. Specifically, the Board's Ends policies are the outcomes expected to be achieved by the organization for its customers. These include ensuring a safe, reliable source of water; flood protection; and environmental stewardship. The CEO dedicates resources to implement programs and projects that achieve the Board's Ends policies.

In meeting the Board's Ends policies, the CEO and other Board Appointed Officers (BAOs) are solely accountable to the Board for organizational performance, which is monitored quarterly. The Board annually reviews and updates Ends and Executive Limitations policies to ensure they reflect the Board's collective values and perspectives. The Board's Policies can be viewed at **http://www.valleywater.org/About/BoardPolicies.aspx**

Board directorial districts

History Timeline

For 80 years, the water district has improved and expanded its products and services to meet the growing needs of Santa Clara County residents

Early 1900s

Nearly 14,000 acres of orchards and vineyards are under irrigation in Santa Clara Valley. Local farmers begin noticing a significant drop in well water levels.

1920s

Concern over land subsidence from overpumping the groundwater basin leads farmers and business leaders to push for the formation of the Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation Committee.

1929: The Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation District is formed by the State Legislature.

1930s

Calero, Almaden, Guadalupe, Vasona, Stevens Creek and Coyote reservoirs are completed. Recharging of the underground aquifers begins.

1931, 1937 and 1938: Floods occur in the midst of drought and land subsidence.

1940s

Explosive post-war population growth.

1940-46: Major drought. Land subsidence worsens in north San Jose due to overpumping. Voters pass construction bonds for Lexington and Anderson dams for water storage and percolation.

1940, 1942 and 1943: Floods occur in the midst of drought and land subsidence.

1950s

Increased growth shifts county's water use from primarily agricultural to domestic and industrial. The South Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation District builds the Chesbro and Uvas dams.

The Central Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation District is annexed to the Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation District. Water conservation education begins in earnest.

1952: The County Board of Supervisors forms the Santa Clara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District to protect the county from flooding and supplement local water supply with imported water. The "Christmas Week" floods of 1955 leave thousands homeless. The Guadalupe River alone floods 8,300 acres, the worst flood on that river in recorded history.

1960s

1960: The county's population swells to 642,000.

1962: President John F. Kennedy and Gov. Edmund G. "Pat" Brown dedicate the San Luis Dam and Reservoir west of Los Baños.

1965: The state of California begins delivering water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta to Santa Clara County via the South Bay Aqueduct. Slowly, the addition of imported water to recharge efforts begins to reverse land subsidence; by 1969 it is halted for the first time in 40 years. Rinconada Water Treatment Plant begins drinking water treatment and distribution operations in Los Gatos.

1968: The Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation District and the Santa Clara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District merge to manage water supply and flood programs for most of the county.

1970s

The Santa Clara Valley Flood Control and Water District changes its name to the Santa Clara Valley Water District. Penitencia Water Treatment Plant comes on line.

1976-77: Historic drought years reduce deliveries from the State Water Project; Delta water is too salty to be percolated into local aquifers, but is still used by the treatment plants. Conservation efforts achieve a 22 percent drop in water usage.

District Overview

1980s

Environmental mitigation for project impacts becomes a normal part of every construction project. Underground storage tanks are discovered leaking and potentially contaminating drinking water. The Santa Teresa Water Treatment Plant begins operation. Severe flooding occurs; voters approve funding for much-needed flood protection projects through benefit assessments.

1980: The South Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation District is renamed the Gavilan Water District.

1987: South county voters approve annexing Gavilan Water District to the Santa Clara Valley Water District. The federal Central Valley Project, San Felipe Division, begins delivery of imported water to the county from San Luis Reservoir just as the valley enters a seven-year drought period.

1990s

The county's population nears 1.7 million. The 1987-93 drought drives the District to seek new sources of water through recycling, water banking and aggressive water conservation.

1995: Flooding in the county highlights the need for flood protection, especially on the Guadalupe River in downtown San Jose.

1997: The District completes the IWRP long-term water supply planning process and initiates the Water Treatment Improvement Project (WTIP) to address increasingly stringent state and federal water quality standards.

1998: Flooding occurs on San Francisquito Creek and in the county. Changing community priorities, a growing commitment to staff diversity, strict state and federal regulations and an evolving environmental ethic lead the District into the 21st Century.

2000-17

The District takes a lead role in the fight against MTBE water contamination, addresses perchlorate contamination of more than 1000 South County well and partners with local wastewater agencies to increase recycling. The first phase of the WTIP is completed and the second phase launched.

2000: County voters endorse the Clean, Safe Creeks and Natural Flood Protection Plan (Measure B) and approve a special tax to ensure continuity of flood protection and stream stewardship services for 15 more years.

2005: The 15-year, $346 million Downtown Guadalupe Flood Protection Project is completed, protecting an estimated 95,000 people from flooding and restoring critical endangered species habitat.

2006: Santa Teresa Water Treatment Plant delivers the District's first ozonated water, providing customers better-tasting, more healthful tap water.

2007: Assembly Bill 2435 passes, ending county oversight of the District's budget and other procedural holdovers from the 1968 merger. Penitencia Water Treatment Plant begins delivering ozonated water to customers.

2009: District Board calls for 15% mandatory conservation in response to continuing water shortage; recession drives significant District budget reductions.

2010: Board called for 10% mandatory conservation in July, then 10% voluntary conservation in September. District implements protest procedure in accordance with proposition 218. New Board directorial boundaries are drawn. Directorial boundaries changed from five to seven.

2012: County voters endorse the Safe, Clean Water (Measure B) and approve a special tax to ensure continuity of flood protection, dam maintenance and stream stewardship services for 15 more years.

2014: The Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center is completed, producing 8 million gallons a day of purified recycled water to enhance the quality of recycled "purple pipe" water used for non-potable purposes and demonstrating technologies that can be used to purify water to augment drinking water supplies.

2015: Entering the fourth year of drought, the Board adopted a resolution calling for a county-wide water use reduction of 30% compared to 2013. The resolution also included a two day per week watering restriction. In November, the Board extended that call to June 2016. The District began a large scale modernization of the Rinconada Water Treatment Plant, the second-largest of the District's plants.

2016: Mid-year, the Board voted to reduce the water use reduction target to 20%, compared to 2013 water use, and increased the days per week watering restriction to three days. The implementation of flouridation was completed in December 2016 for the South, East and North San Jose, and Milpitas.

2017: In January, the Board adopted a resolution continuing the 20% water use reduction target and three day per week watering restriction. The District continues to make substantial progress towards designing seismic retrofits at four of its major dams including Anderson and Calero dams.

Board Committees

Committees made up of Board members that advise the Board on an assigned subject purpose – ongoing basis.

Board Policy and Planning Committee: Provides support to the Board in areas of:

1. Board planning process;
2. Board Committees' principles and structures;
3. Board and organization performance monitoring; and
4. Other tasks as assigned by the Board

Board Audit Committee: Assist the Board, consistent with direction from the full Board, to identify potential areas for audit and audit priorities, and to review, update, plan and coordinate execution of Board audits.

Board Ethics and Conduct Committee: Consider initiation of investigation of allegations against a Board member In accordance with Board Governance Policy GP-6.

Capital Improvement Program Committee: Provide a venue for more detailed discussions regarding capital project validation, including recommendations on prioritizing, deleting, and/or adding projects to the CIP, as well as monitoring implementation progress of key projects in the CIP.

Recycled Water Committee: Develop a long term proposal for how the District can work together with other local agencies on recycled water opportunities within the district boundaries, to establish a collaborative process to facilitate policy discussion and sharing of technical information on recycled water issues.

Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee: Support the Board in achieving its policy to provide a reliable water supply to meet current and future water usage by making policy recommendations related to demand management.

Board Ad Hoc Committees

Committees are made up of Board members that advise the Board on an assigned subject/purpose, limited in scope and duration.

FAHCE Ad Hoc Committee:

1. Track the progress of the District and other parties (Settlement Parties) of the FAHCE Settlement Agreement in completing requirements enabling dismissal of the water rights complaint and commencement of restoration program; and
2. Identify and recommend actions the Board can take to ensure expeditious completion of the requirements defined in Purpose 1.

Homeless Encampment Ad Hoc Committee: Discuss homelessness and encampment issues, and bring discussion and recommendations back to the Board.

Pacheco Reservoir Exploratory Ad Hoc Committee: Receive and discuss information on issues related to the LAFCO consideration of dissolution of Pacheco Pass Water District, the reorganization of its responsibilities and assets, as well as information related to the dam integrity and potential reservoir operating parameters for downstream aquatic habitat.

Board Advisory Committees

Committees made up of constituents/elected officials that are formed and managed in accordance with Board resolution.

Agricultural Water Advisory Committee: To assist the Board with policies and issues pertaining to agricultural water supply and use as well as in the annual review of groundwater production charges.

Environmental and Water Resources Committee: To assist the Board with policies and issues pertaining to water supply, flood protection and environmental stewardship.

Santa Clara Valley Water Commission: To assist the board with policies and issues pertaining to water supply, flood protection and environmental stewardship, as well as in the annual review of groundwater production charges.

Joint Committees

Committees made up of Board members and other agency staff that are formed to advise the Board and/or in accordance with agreements, contracts, etc.

Joint Recycled Water Advisory Committee with the City of Sunnyvale: Develop a long term proposal for how the District and City of Sunnyvale can work together on recycled water opportunities, to establish a collaborative process to facilitate policy discussion and sharing of technical information on recycled water issues.

Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee with the City of San Jose/Santa Clara/TPAC: Required per a term in the City–District 40-year Integration Agreement. The Committee shall tender its advice to the District's Board of Directors and the City Council of the City of San José with respect to policy matters relating to the production, distribution and use of recycled water from facilities under administration by these agencies.

Joint Recycled Water Policy Committee with the Cities of Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, and Mountain View:
Develop a long term proposal for how the District and the Palo Alto Regional Water Quality Control Plant (RWQCP) partner agencies, other stakeholders, and interested parties, can work together on recycled water opportunities, to advance common interest, and to establish a collaborative process to facilitate policy discussion and sharing of technical information on recycled water issues.

Joint Water Resources Committee with the Cities of Morgan Hill and Gilroy:
Advance common South County water interests and receive input from stakeholders and interested parties when undertaking the following:

1. Reviewing current practices and future needs for groundwater management in the Llagas groundwater sub-basin;
2. Facilitating policy discussion and sharing of technical information on water supply planning for South County;
3. Identifying the current and future demand for recycled water as well as jointly identifying funding sources for implementation of the So. Co. Recycled Water Master Plan;
4. Facilitating policy discussion and sharing of technical information on furthering development and use of recycled water in South County; and
5. Facilitating policy discussion and sharing of socio-economic information on homelessness in South County

San Felipe Division Reach One Committee: Discuss the Initial Asset Evaluation Report, attempt to reach a joint recommendation for a Condition Level, and discuss policy issues.

External Monitoring Committee

Committee made up of members of the community nominated by the Directors

Safe, Clean Water Independent Monitoring Committee: Annually reviews the implementation of the intended results of the program and reports its findings to the Board, which makes the Committee report available to the residents and voters of Santa Clara County.

ISO Certified Quality and Environmental Management System

ISO Certified Quality and Environmental Management System

The certification of the Santa Clara Valley Water District's integrated Quality and Environmental Management System (QEMS) to the internationally-recognized International Organization for Standardization, or ISO, demonstrates our commitment to continual improvement, customer satisfaction, delivery of quality programs and services to the community, and operating in an environmentally responsible manner.

ISO is the world's largest developer of voluntary international standards, which are state of the art specifications for products, services, and good practices, helping make industry more efficient and effective.

We have an extensive history of ISO commitment and experience, having first been registered to ISO 9001 in 2002 for quality management systems and to ISO 14001 in 2004 for environmental management systems.

The District is currently certified to ISO 9001:2008 standards for quality products and services and to ISO 14001:2004 standards for environmental protection through pollution prevention. In Fiscal Year 2018, the District will pursue certification to new ISO requirements: ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015.

ISO certification validates that our processes continue to be effectively implemented by our employees to improve efficiency, reduce waste, and produce consistent results for our customers.

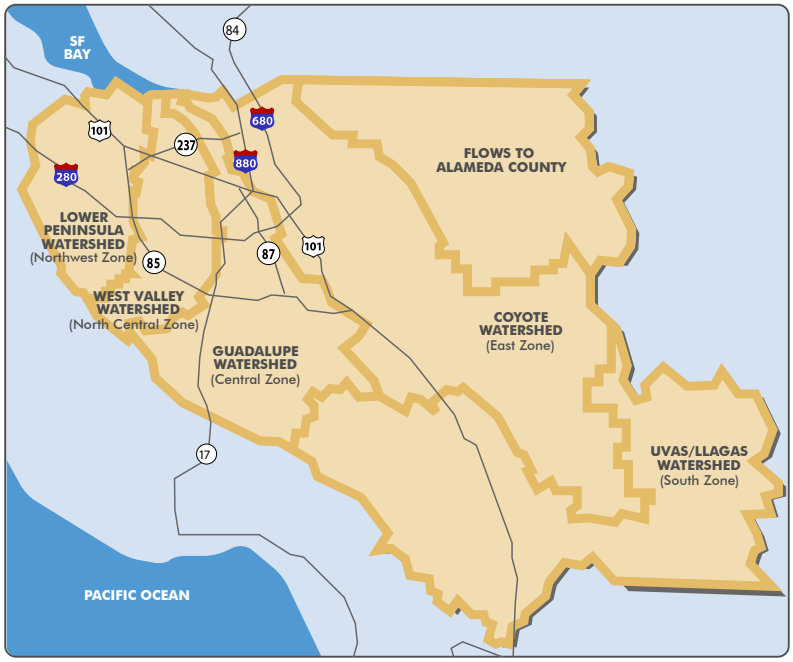
We believe that maintaining ISO certification is important because it reinforces our focus on quality, customer satisfaction, and continual improvement; a reflection of Silicon Valley's culture of innovation and excellent customer experience.

For additional information regarding the District's ISO certification, please visit **http://www.valleywater.org/About/QEMS.aspx**

Major water utility zones of benefit in Santa Clara County

As part of the District's core water supply function, two major water utility zones form the basis for establishing District water charges. Zone W-2 encompasses the Santa Clara Valley groundwater basin north of Metcalf Road. It includes those groundwater producing facilities that benefit from recharge with local and imported water. Zone W-5 comprises the entire Llagas groundwater basin from Metcalf Road south to the Pajaro River. Water charges are set separately for each zone, reflecting District activities carried out in each.

Watershed areas and flood control zones of Santa Clara County



More than 800 miles of creeks flow through Santa Clara County. The District works to protect both the natural attributes of these waterways and the communities that surround them as part of its watershed stewardship core function. Fifty-one years of working for flood protection has reduced the intensity and frequency of flooding in Santa Clara County.