

The Purified Water Project



Ensuring a Reliable Groundwater Supply

Valley Water is expanding its ability to replenish groundwater with purified water, a drought-resilient and locally controlled water source.



Project Background

Valley Water must meet future water demand and identify a sustainable water supply to combat the effects of future droughts and climate change. The Purified Water Project will help reach those water supply goals, which include meeting at least 10% of water demand in Santa Clara County through recycled and purified water. The project will allow Valley Water to develop the use of purified water to supplement existing drinking water sources in a manner that minimizes environmental impacts.

The Purified Water Project is proposing to build an advanced water purification facility at the former Los Altos Treatment Plant site, located on San Antonio Road in the City of Palo Alto. Purified water would be conveyed through nearly 20 miles of underground pipe to Valley Water groundwater recharge ponds in the City of Campbell.

When completed, this project will be capable of providing about 10 million gallons per day of high-quality, drought-resilient water to replenish our groundwater supply for potable use in the county.

What is purified water? How is it different from recycled water?

Water has always been nature's renewable resource. Purifying and recycling water simply speeds up that natural process. Recycled water generally refers to municipal wastewater that has been cleaned and meets requirements for industrial and irrigation use. Purified water is highly treated municipal wastewater that has gone through additional advanced treatment and disinfection to meet and exceed state and federal drinking water standards.

<https://beheard.valleywater.org/purifiedwaterproject>

For more information, contact your neighborhood liaison, **Jiana Escobar** at **408-630-2266** or by e-mail at jescobar@valleywater.org

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Each year, record-setting temperatures and extreme weather alert us to the impact of climate change. It has never been more evident that California's changing climate and frequent droughts threaten our natural resources. As the water resource manager for Santa Clara County, Valley Water is committed to securing and maintaining a safe, reliable water supply for our community in a sustainable manner that protects our environment. That's why replenishing our groundwater supply with advanced purified water is a key component of that commitment. Building off the success of the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center, Valley Water will expand our water reuse efforts through water purification technology to provide a drought-resilient water supply for generations to come.

