# SAN JOSE WATER SJW Happenings

### San Jose Water Supports Operation Gobble



California Water Association (CWA) established the Operation Gobble program with the purpose of partnering water utilities with non-profit organizations across the state to donate to families facing hardship in honor of the Thanksgiving holiday. SJW will host its annual Operation Gobble event on November 21, donating Safeway gift cards to Mandas Amino Y Amistad (M.A.Y.A) Services on behalf of State Senator Dave Cortese; to the Afghan Coalition on behalf of State Senator Dr. Aisha Wahab; to East Palo Alto Senior Center and Fondo de Solidaridad de Mountain View on behalf of State Senator Josh Becker; to Catholic Charities on behalf of Assemblymember Gail Pellerin; to Sunnyvale Community Services on behalf of Assemblymember Evan Low; and to West Valley Community Services on behalf of Assemblymember Marc Berman. Watch the event <u>livestream on Facebook</u>.

Learn more about how we're joining local non-profits, community organizations, and other philanthropic entities to support several initiatives this fall. We're honored to give back through a combination of donated time, treasure and talent.

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# Water Quality Corner: Service Line Inventory

In our recent webinar, Director of Water Quality, Suzanne DeLorenzo, explained the EPA's Lead and Copper Rule (LCR), shared results from SJW's 2024 Service Line Inventory, and described how SJW is preparing for Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) in 2025. SJW has never found a lead service line in its system and remains dedicated to maintaining a lead-free drinking water system that meets and exceeds regulatory standards. Visit

<u>sjwater.com/servicelineinventory</u> to view an interactive map and look up service line materials by address.

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#### California's water workforce is aging. Promoting the next generation of workers is essential!

Travis Hinkle, SJW Distribution System Supervisor, provides an insider's perspective on the rewarding and essential roles within water management in a recent CalMatters article. Travis highlights the urgent need for skilled professionals in California's water industry. Travis's story is more than just a personal account; it's a call to action for supporting educational and training programs that prepare individuals for a career in water utilities. His insights emphasize the importance of proactive recruitment and training to address the impending workforce shortage as current professionals retire.

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#### SJW's Habitat Restoration for the Santa Cruz Kangaroo Rat in the Los Gatos Creek Watershed

For the first time since 1947, the elusive Santa Cruz kangaroo rat (Dipodomys venustus) has been discovered in the Upper Los Gatos Creek Watershed. Along with the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, SJW is exploring habitat management strategies and restoration strategies through its Forest Health Program to create and enhance the habitat on SJW land and within Midpen's Sierra Azul preserve. These actions are essential to maintaining the open areas that the kangaroo rat relies on for burrowing and food storage. With restoration efforts continuing into 2025, conservationists are optimistic about the future of the Santa Cruz kangaroo rat. This ongoing work not only aims to preserve this rare species, but also ensures the protection of the broader ecosystem in which it plays a vital role.



#### SJW Team Wins at Institute of Asset Management North American Excellence Awards

SJW has won the Institute of Asset Management (IAM) North American Excellence Awards, in the category of Digital Innovation! SJW was recognized for our innovative Enterprise Asset Management (EAM) System implementation for our Distribution Systems department. This award honors innovative advancements in asset management in the face of current challenges. Congratulations to our Asset Management team, which includes Andy Yang, Hannah Lin, Erina Szeto, Brad Shacter, Quang 'Q' Tran, Darien Young, and Tam Huynh. Also, a special thanks to other key project players including Travis Hinkle, Jane Leinberger, Madeline Ramirez, and Totran Mai.

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#### Bottled Water Gets the Boot: A Look at San Jose Water's Emergency Water Distribution Unit

As the landscape of Silicon Valley changes, efforts to manage emergencies also need to advance. The acquisition of our first Emergency Water Distribution Unit (EWDU) is a step forward in ensuring the readiness of SJW and the communities we serve. David Fernandez, SJW's Director of Emergency Management, Security, and Business Resiliency, and Jake Walsh, SJW's Interim Vice President of Engineering, tell Water Finance & Management about our fully self-contained mobile water distribution station for accommodating high-volume public engagement at a moment's notice.



#### Leading the Charge for Clean Water and Operational Excellence

SJW President, Tanya Moniz-Witten, recently shared her approach to building resilient teams, delivering excellent customer service, and leading with empathy in a Valiant CEO Magazine feature. Since joining SJW in March of this year, Tanya has made it a priority to participate in various department meetings, head out on ride-alongs, be out in the field, and help man our call center. As a servant leader, her priority is to find out what each member of the company needs to succeed and also realize how we can improve.

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#### SJW Named one of the Largest Corporate Philanthropists in Silicon Valley

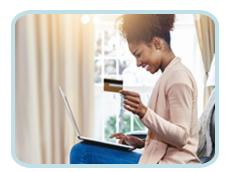
SJW has been named to Silicon Valley Business Journal's list of Largest Corporate Philanthropists in Silicon Valley. With donations totaling \$250,000 in 2024 to local nonprofits, community organizations, and other philanthropic entities, SJW has been included in the annual ranking of the Bay Area's most generous businesses for several years, highlighting the company's community support for programs including Happy Hollow Park & Zoo, Martha's Kitchen, Guadalupe River Park Conservancy, Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley, and the San Jose Public Library Foundation.





#### 158 Years of San Jose Water!

Incorporated on November 21, 1866, Donald McKenzie, John Bonner, and Anthony Chabot founded San Jose Water. With two wooden tanks at the San Jose Foundry at First and San Antonio Streets, SJW started providing water to about 400 local residents. Today, SJW has more than 230,000 connections serving about one million people. We're proud to be part of our vibrant community and look forward to the next 158 years!



#### Pay Your Bill Online

We offer a secure and easy way to make bill payments online. Use your credit or debit card to submit payments at a time that works best for you. Our Billing and Payment page has a quick link to our Pay by Credit Card feature. For questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

#### More Info >>



#### Third-Party Notification

Want to make sure someone other than you knows about a water-shutoff before it happens? You can designate a friend, family member or neighbor to receive a copy of any disconnection notice due to non-payment. Before the water is shutoff, they will be notified. Please note that the person you designate is NOT financially responsible for your bill.

#### More Info >>

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