Serving the Community and Protecting the Bay since 1939

Recycled Water Training

h2o works
San Leandro Wastewater Treatment
Basic Information About Recycled Water Use

To be reviewed by every permittee at the first visit of each calendar year
What Is Recycled Water?

It is wastewater that receives extensive treatment so it can be used for many non-potable uses such as landscape irrigation, surface washing, dust control, food crop irrigation, and much more.

Recycled water has been used in agriculture since the 1880s and in California municipalities since 1912. There has never been a documented disease incident or other adverse public health effect in the United States related to the proper use of recycled water that meets regulatory standards.

The water we distribute is tested daily to ensure it meets strict regulatory requirements.
What Is Recycled Water Suitable For?

Irrigating lawns and food crops.
What Is Recycled Water Suitable For?

Wash your car, outdoor furniture and hard surfaces. Runoff must be directed to landscaped area or to a sanitary sewer cleanout and **NOT** to a gutter or storm drain.
What Is Recycled Water NOT Suitable For?

- Drinking
- Cooking or use in the kitchen
What Is Recycled Water NOT Suitable For?

- Bathing or spraying pets
- Bathing or showering
What Is Recycled Water NOT Suitable For?

- Filling swimming pools or spas
- Filling or cleaning children’s toys
What Is Recycled Water NOT Suitable For?

Discharging to the street gutter or storm drain – the chlorine is harmful to plant and animal life in natural water bodies.
Do NOT Connect Recycled Water Into Existing Irrigation

Tanks, pumps, hoses and equipment that contain recycled water must not be connected to buried irrigation systems, even if those systems are disconnected from your drinking water. If an illegal connection is made, people can get sick.
When Using Recycled Water:

Use only manual application methods (hoses, buckets, sprinkling cans, etc.). Some people use small electric pumps to move water from their containers through a hose to a handheld wand or oscillating sprinkler. Remember, if you use a hose or piece of equipment for recycled water, it becomes dedicated to recycled water usage ONLY.
When Using Recycled Water:

- Due to the salt content of recycled water, it’s best to direct the water to the root of the plants rather than the delicate foliage.
- Prevent spraying onto drinking water fixtures or food handling areas.
- If you must dispose of recycled water, discharge it to a landscaped area or to the sanitary sewer via an onsite cleanout.
Health and Safety Guidelines:

- Practice good sanitation habits. Wash your hands with drinking water after using recycled water, especially before eating or smoking.
- You may use recycled water for irrigating vegetables and fruit bearing plants. Wash vegetables/fruits with drinking water prior to cooking or consuming.
- All equipment (hoses, containers, etc.) that come into contact with recycled water shall be dedicated for use only with recycled water.
Get Your Water Home Safely – Important Things To Know
Water Is Heavy!

One gallon of water weighs 8.3 pounds. A full 55-gallon barrel weighs over 450 pounds. A 275-gallon tote, fully loaded, is about 2,300 pounds. Verify your vehicle’s gross weight limit prior to picking up large volumes of water.
It Is Illegal To Overload Your Vehicle or Transport an Unsecured Load

Local police and CHP monitor the west end of Davis Street and will issue citations to illegally loaded vehicles. If the weight exceeds GVWR, vehicle load, or tire weight ratings, the driver can be cited for driving an unsafe vehicle due to the unsafe load.
Know Your Vehicle’s Load Capacity

Look for it on a label inside the driver doorframe or in the owner’s manual, or ask a dealer or trusted mechanic.

• Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) is the combined weight of the vehicle, all passengers, and all cargo (including the water). GVWR also applies to trailers. So if the trailer can hold 900 lbs, but it weighs 250 lbs, you can only safely load 78 gallons of water.

• Look for recommended tire pressure and load rating on tire sidewalls. Know the maximum safe load weight for trailer tires, too – especially if the trailer is intended for “light duty.”
Know Your Vehicle’s Load Capacity

Most pickups, mini-vans, and sport utility vehicles have a “vehicle load” or “cargo” rating, which is specific to the cargo area and differs from GVWR. Examples: Toyota Tacoma: 1300 lbs (equal to 155 gallons of water); Ford F-350 4x4 Crew Cab Dually: 5,000 lbs (602 gallons of water).
Poorly Balanced Weight Affects Vehicle Handling

Too much weight on the steering axle can cause difficult steering and damage the axle and tires. Under-loaded front axles (caused by shifting weight too far to the rear) can also make it difficult to steer safely.
Secure Your Containers So They Won’t Move When You Brake or Turn

Picture a panic stop. Are your tie-downs strong enough? Always tie down in at least two directions. Consider doubling the number of straps that prevent containers from moving forward toward passengers.
The Strength of Tie-Down Straps Should Be at Least 1.5 Times the Load

That’s the federal standard for commercial cargo securement systems. Learn from the pros!
Get a Container You Can Fill Based on Your Vehicle’s Load Capacity

Sloshing water is dangerous. If your vehicle is unable to carry a heavy load then filling your tote halfway is not an appropriate solution. The load weight shifts when accelerating, turning and stopping. Use smaller containers to suit your payload capacity.
Containers Must Seal Tightly

Water splashing out of your vehicle can be hazardous to other drivers. Bring your own containers, which must be a minimum size of one gallon, *made specifically to hold liquids*, have watertight lids, and be secured for safe transport. Maximum fill is 275 gallons per trip, but there is no limit to the number of trips.
Helpful web site: recycledh2o.net

State Waterboard Drought Issues:

Recycled Water How-To Video With Assemblywoman Baker – Part 1:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O0ttL7d2ShY

Recycled Water How-To Video With Assemblywoman Baker – Part 2:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g4in7juqn18
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