



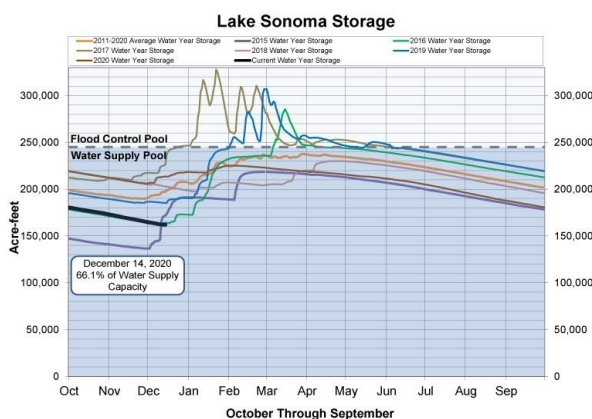
## E-News

### Sonoma-Marín Saving Water Partnership Newsletter Winter | 2020



*Saving water ensures  
a thriving ecosystem*

#### ***Current Water Supplies are Below Average***



With the lack of sustained, productive rainfall so far this season, Lake Sonoma and Lake Mendocino are both below average. The past 3 years were all record dry years and so far this season we are pushed even further below the curve. Compared to 2019 at this time, Lake Sonoma is behind by 16% with 160,000 acre feet of storage compared to 190,000 a year ago and Lake Mendocino is behind by 47% with

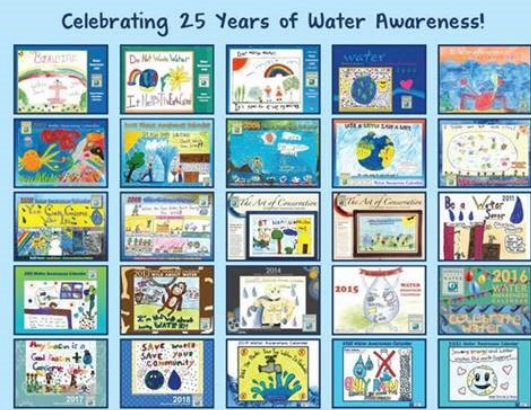
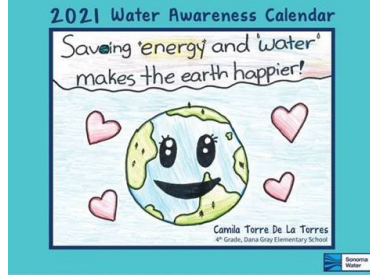
30,000 acre feet compared to 57,000.

[Check out current water supply levels here](#)

#### ***Celebrating 25 Years of Water Awareness Calendars***

After 25 years of the Water Awareness Poster Contest and Calendar,

we are saying farewell as we welcome a new program titled, *A Call To Action*, which will encourage students to carry out a project that addresses a local environmental challenge. More details to come in 2021.



Check with your [Partnership office](#) about getting a copy of your own.

## ***Santa Rosa Water Offering FREE Home WaterSmart Survey Kits***

The City of Santa Rosa is now offering their water customers free, contactless delivery of their Home WaterSmart kits to customers interested in reducing their indoor water use.

Each do-it-yourself kit includes instructions, a Home WaterSmart Survey form to document the check-up, a flow bag for determining the flow rates of fixtures, dye tabs to test toilets for leaks, literature on how to find and fix leaks, and information about other Water Use Efficiency rebates and programs.

To request a kit, please call Water Use Efficiency at (707) 543-3985 or email [watersmart@srcity.org](mailto:watersmart@srcity.org).



[Click here to find out more](#)

## ***Eco-Friendly Garden Tour Goes Virtual!***



The 2021 Eco-Friendly Garden Tour will take place online and will include video tours of ecological, sustainable gardens throughout Sonoma and Marin counties. We are excited to partner with Brown Barn Films in production of the garden videos.

The tour will be posted on the Sonoma-Marín Saving Water Partnership [website](#) on May 15<sup>th</sup> 2021.

The Sonoma-Marín Saving Water Partnership is still looking for inspiring low water use gardens to include on the Tour. Now through the end of January, nominate a garden!

Please [send an email](#) for further information or if you have any questions about participating.

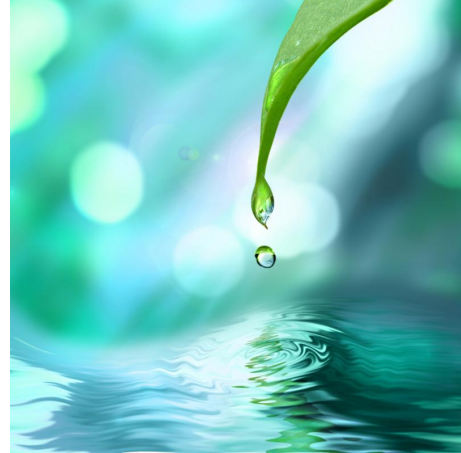
[Check out 2020's virtual tour here](#)

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## ***Winter Water Use Impacts Sewer Rate Calculations***

Sewer service [providers](#) with volumetric based rates calculate the volumetric portion of the sewer charges based on your winter water usage. High winter water use will result in higher volumetric based sewer charges for the entire year.

Using less water during the winter months can keep the volumetric portion of your sewer charges lower. Be sure to turn off your outdoor irrigation, fix leaks and resist the urge to take those long, hot showers on those cold winter mornings.



Water conservation is not seasonal, conservation is a way of life!



**Sonoma-Marín Saving Water Partnership**

[www.savingwaterpartnership.org](http://www.savingwaterpartnership.org)

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