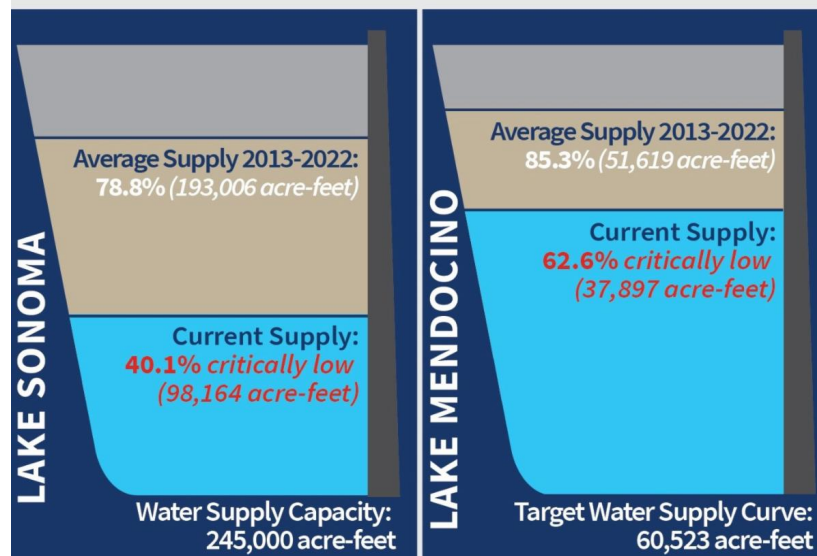




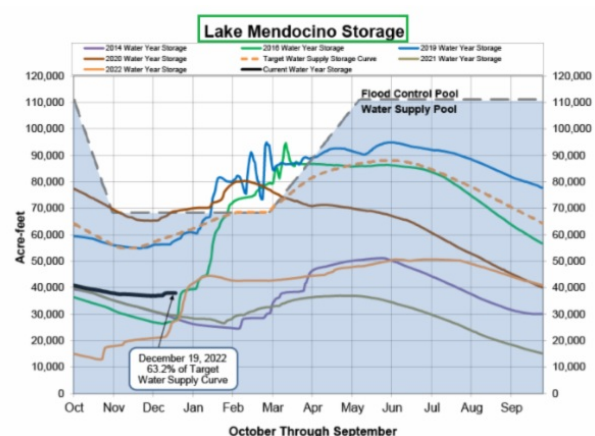
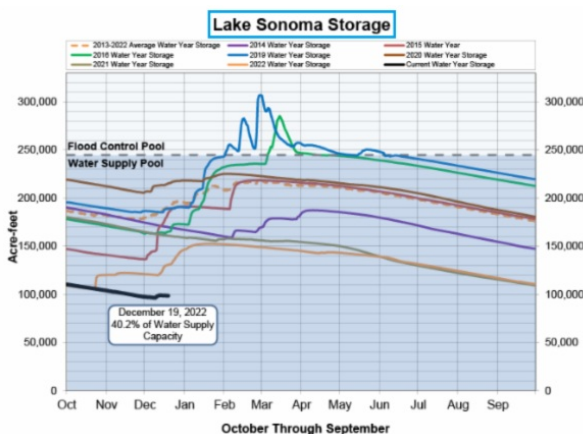
Quarterly E-News

Sonoma-Marin Saving Water Partnership Newsletter Winter | 2022

Water Supply Levels for December 22, 2022



Although our area has seen an increase in rainfall recently, the lake levels are still considered critically low. Lake Sonoma and Lake Mendocino both remain below average. The past 5 years have been record dry years and as of December 22, 2022, Lake Sonoma is at 40.1% of capacity which is nearly 95,000 acre feet below average for this time of year. Lake Mendocino is at 62.6%, which is nearly 19,000 acre feet below the Target Water Supply Curve.



Save the Date!



Save the Date!

2023 Russian River-Friendly Landscape Symposium

- Tuesday, February 7th, 8am-12:00pm
- Utilities Field Operations, 35 Stony Point Rd, Santa Rosa Ca 95401
- FREE
- More information coming on January 13, 2023

[Click here for
for event
updates](#)

Eco-Friendly Garden Tour Save the Date!

Good news, after a couple of years of virtual tours, the Eco-Friendly Garden Tour will be going back to in-person! Smelling flowers, seeing butterflies, and being able to ask garden hosts advice is something we have missed the most these past couple of years.

The 2023 Eco-Friendly Garden Tour will take place on **Saturday, May 13th, 2023**. The tour will feature California native and eco-friendly gardens throughout Sonoma and Marin counties.



[Click here to get tour
updates!](#)

Partnership receives 2 EPA WaterSense awards



The Sonoma-Marin Saving Water Partnership (Partnership) has received two 2022 WaterSense Awards for assisting people in saving water, a **2022 Sustained Excellence Award** for its ongoing success with

its Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper (QWEL) program, and a **2022 Promotional Partner of the Year Award** for its promotional activities in 2021 during a second year of drought.



[Click here to read more about EPA WaterSense awards](#)

Partnership receives SWAT award for Outstanding Public Engagement



The Outstanding Public Engagement Award recognizes water providers with programs focused on engaging and educating residential and/or commercial end users on smart and efficient technologies, best practices, and programs related to outdoor water conservation.

The Partnership received SWAT the award for the Water Smart Landscape Design Template Project which is a response to the devastating October 2017 wildfires in Sonoma and Napa counties (California).

The goal of the program is to assist the region in the rebuild process by streamlining the permit process while encouraging the installation of water efficient, climate appropriate and sustainable landscapes that comply with local Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance requirements.

[Learn More about the SWAT awards here](#)

Outstanding Public Engagement Award

Water Smart Landscape Design Template Project

Sonoma-Marín Saving Water Partnership
Sonoma and Marin counties, California



[Click here to check out the Landscape Design Templates](#)

Sonoma County Launches Rainwater Harvesting Rebate Program



***Rain, rain, don't go away!
Stay here for another day!***

Rainwater harvesting rebates are available for systems installed anywhere in Sonoma County. Rebates will be provided for both small and large rainwater capture systems, based on a limited-time, first-come, first-served basis.

**Click here for more information
and how-to video**

Thank you to all of our partners and sponsors!



Check out and like our new Facebook page

Join the Sonoma-Marín
Saving Water Partnership
on Facebook for more
water saving tips, drought
updates, available rebates
and MORE!



**Visit the Partnership
Facebook page**



Two Santa Rosa Water projects highlighted in EPA Water Management guide



EPA WaterSense program recently completed an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) technical guide to assist commercial, industrial and institutional (CII) facilities in identifying and implementing water efficiency best practices.

Santa Rosa Water is featured in the guide highlighting their work with two local commercial properties.

The guide is a great resource for engaging CII customers with the AMI data that we now have and all that it can do for them.

[Check out the Guide here](#)

Improving Water Management Using Advanced Metering Infrastructure Data: A Guide for Facility Managers

WaterSense

Case Study: Freeman Toyota and Santa Rosa Water

Santa Rosa Water in California offers customized assistance to help commercial customers eliminate water waste and improve water efficiency through comprehensive water audits by dedicated professional technical staff. The utility has worked with many local businesses to achieve water savings and reduce water loss due to breaks and leaks.

After Santa Rosa Water's WaterSmart Portal identified continuous use of approximately 140 gallons of water per hour for 48 consecutive hours at Freeman Toyota, Ryan Freeman immediately created a customer account to access water use data for all of the dealership's water meters. Ryan also contacted the utility's water efficiency team for assistance finding the leak.

An onsite water audit revealed several toilet leaks, but these were not wasting enough water to account for the volume of continuous use. After additional investigation, Santa Rosa Water and Freeman Toyota were able to isolate an issue with the facility's car wash. The car wash vendor was called in and discovered the recirculating water system was malfunctioning and running continuously. The leaking toilets and car wash recirculating system were repaired (see Figure 6), and these repairs reduced Freeman Toyota's water usage by 50 percent. "I appreciated getting a courtesy call from Santa Rosa Water after their system flagged a spike in water use on one of our meters. The onsite audit was informative and helped us quickly identify and resolve the issue," Ryan Freeman said.

The onsite survey also pre-qualified Freeman Toyota for Santa Rosa Water rebates. Based on the audit recommendations combined with water use statistics, Freeman Toyota decided to replace all of its urinals. Santa Rosa Water provided a rebate that covered the cost of the new fixtures.

"One of our managers now keeps a close eye on all of our water usage. This alerted us to the fact that our irrigation system was leaking water during the wintertime even though the system was turned off. We can now gauge our water use and identify issues as they arise, and we're working proactively to reduce our water use," Freeman said.




Image Courtesy Freeman Toyota

FREEMAN TOYOTA

Mar 1, 2022 - Mar 3, 2022




Figure 6: AMI data indicating that the car wash and toilet leaks were resolved on March 3.

City of Healdsburg Announces Development of Climate Mobilization Strategy

The City of Healdsburg is developing a Climate Mobilization Strategy to provide a framework of projects to pursue for the City to achieve greenhouse gas (ghg) emissions reductions. This will aid in the support of reaching regional climate goals.



[Click here for more information on the Climate Mobilization Strategy](#)



[Click here to subscribe to Smart Living Healdsburg to receive program updates](#)



Sonoma-Marín Saving Water Partnership
www.savingwaterpartnership.org