



Recycled Water Mobile Reuse Program

FAQ's

What is recycled water?

Recycled water is wastewater that has been processed through primary, secondary, and tertiary treatment, and a disinfection process. It meets strict standards of the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Drinking Water.

How safe is recycled water?

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 effects in the United States related to the proper use of recycled water that meets regulatory standards.* The Ventura Water Reclamation Facility treats recycled water to The State Water Resources Control Board Title 22 regulations consistently and by certified personnel. Recycled water is strictly monitored to ensure it meets water quality standards for all non-potable uses.

If you accidentally drink recycled water, there is no need to panic. Consult your doctor if you experience any adverse symptoms or feel unwell.

Is recycled water safe for plants?

Yes. Recycled water contains many of the same minerals found in fertilizers, so it is good for your plants. Recycled water tends to have a higher salt content than drinking water. We advise you to direct the recycled water to the roots of the plants and not the foliage. This will protect them from potential leaf burn.

What can I use recycled water for?

Recycled water shall be used only for approved uses as defined in Wastewater Change Petition WW0083 which includes landscape irrigation and dust control. Currently recycled water is used to water the golf courses along Olivas Park Drive, landscape areas along the Marina Park area and for irrigating City trees.

Can I use recycled water on fruit and vegetable gardens?

Yes, you can water fruit trees, vegetables, and herbs with recycled water. Just remember to wash all edibles with drinking water prior to consumption. Recycled water available at the Fill Station may not be used for drinking, cooking, food processing, bathing or showering, filling swimming pools or spas, or household plumbing use.

How can I get recycled water to use on my landscaping?



Sign up for training on our website or call 667-6500. Bring your Ventura Water bill to the training and you will be able to fill out a permit. You can take the completed and signed permit to City Hall, Treasury Department Room 107, pay the fee (\$75 residential / \$300 commercial) and have proof of payment stamped on your permit. Bring stamped permit and approved container to the Fill Station located at the Ventura Water Reclamation Facility, 1400 Spinnaker Drive, Ventura, CA 93002. An attendant will help to fill your container with recycled water.

Do I have to be a Ventura Water customer to use the residential recycled water fill station?

Yes, you must show proof that you are a Ventura Water customer at the training. Bring a copy of your latest Ventura Water bill to complete the application.

Where is the fill station?

The fill station is located at the Ventura Water Reclamation Facility, 1400 Spinnaker Drive, Ventura, CA 93002.

What are the hours of Operation?

Training Sessions will be held at 9:00 am every Tuesday, Thursday and alternating Saturdays at the Ventura Water Reclamation Facility.

The Fill Station will be open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Hours of operation and training availability may change depending on demand and usage.

What equipment do I need to use the fill station?

Containers: Your containers must have tight-fitting lids, not leak, and be safely secured in your vehicle so they won't slide or tip over when you brake. The minimum size container is five gallons and the maximum load is 300 gallons. Required stickers will be provided at training for containers.

Where can I get containers?

Containers can be found at local hardware and industrial supply stores. You can do an internet search for water containers and even order online.

How much water can I get at one time?

The maximum load is 300 gallons, but you can come back as often as you like when the fill station is open.

Why do you limit loads to 300 gallons?

Water is heavy! One gallon of water weighs 8.34 pounds, so 300 gallons of water weighs about 2,500 pounds. Many vehicles cannot safely transport more than that. Driving a vehicle with a container loaded and sloshing liquid can impair the handling of your vehicle and require additional stopping distance. You



are responsible for ensuring that your containers are secured, your vehicle is capable of carrying the volume of recycled water you've acquired and that you comply with all rules of the road. Overloading vehicles is unsafe and could cause a traffic accident.

Is there a service that will deliver recycled water to my home?

No, there are no delivery services available.

Can I pick up recycled water for my neighbor?

Yes, if that person is also a permitted Ventura Water user with a current permit. A Recycled Water Mobile Reuse Log must be filled out at each fill with the use area description along with a Recycled Water Users Site Logbook listing the site contact of the area using recycled water. You cannot resale recycled water and you cannot charge your neighbor for the recycled water.

Can I pick up recycled water for a business at the residential fill station?

Only approved commercial users can pick up water for businesses. The Commercial fee is \$300 per year.

Can I store containers of recycled water at my home?

No, there is no storage of recycled water on-site. Water collected at the Fill Station must be used the same day and in compliance with permit regulations.

Can I pump recycled water through my irrigation system?

No, and it is illegal to do so. No cross connections shall be made between drinking water systems and recycled water systems/equipment. Tanks, pumps, hoses, and equipment that contain recycled water must not be connected to any above- or below-ground, hard-piped irrigation systems, even if those systems are disconnected from your drinking water system. Any such connection violates the state's drinking water regulations and the Recycled Water Mobile Reuse Permit you sign in order to use the fill station, and your city's water code. Violators may be subject to fines and loss of fill station privileges. This is a human health concern. We do not want you or your neighbors to end up drinking recycled water due to an illegal interconnection between the drinking water supply and recycled water supply. If a cross connection is discovered, contact VWRF @ 805-797-1514 immediately and remove the potable lines from service. If potable lines are exposed to recycled water, contact the Ventura County Health Department for acceptable re-certification for drinking water use.