

# MMWD Historical Highlights

**1872** Marin County Water Co. builds Lake Lagunitas, the oldest reservoir in the system.



## 1872

**1877** Marin's first telephone line is completed, running six miles from the Marin County Water Co. in San Rafael to the lake keeper's house at Lake Lagunitas.



**1880** Lake keeper begins recording rainfall at Lake Lagunitas.

## 1900

**1912** MMWD chartered as the first municipal water district in California.

**1917** MMWD's park ranger program is formed, making it one of the oldest ranger programs in California.

**1916** MMWD begins supplying water to its customers.



**1919** Alpine Lake completed. Alpine Dam—the district's only concrete dam—is enlarged in 1924 and 1941.



**1920** The "Sugar Line" is built to carry water from Alpine Lake to Point San Quentin and then by barge to C&H Sugar Co. in Crockett.

## 1920

**1924** MMWD builds corporate office at 874 Fourth Street in downtown San Rafael.

**1929-1934** First recorded drought in Marin.

**1933** The Civilian Conservation Corps begins building picnic grounds, trails, fire breaks, bridges and other improvements on the watershed.

**1948** Bon Tempe Reservoir built.



## 1940



**1958-1962** Bon Tempe and San Geronimo Water Treatment plants are built to meet higher water quality standards.

**1954** Kent Lake built. Peters Dam is enlarged in 1982, doubling the reservoir's capacity.

## 1960

**1962** MMWD headquarters move from San Rafael to current location in Corte Madera.

**1960** Nicasio Reservoir built.

**1975** Recycled water pilot plant built.

**1976** First water imported from the Russian River.

**1979** Soulajule Reservoir, the seventh and last reservoir, built.



**MOST OF OUR WATER'S GONE**

**1976-77** Marin suffers its worst drought on record.

## 1980

**1981** MMWD builds recycled water plant and pioneers new uses for recycled water beyond landscape irrigation. Plant capacity is doubled in 1990.

**1987-92** Third recorded drought in Marin.



**1995** Watershed volunteer program established.

**1995** State issues order establishing higher water flows into Lagunitas Creek to protect fishery resources.

**1995-1997** MMWD develops vegetation and fisheries management plans for the Mt. Tamalpais Watershed and Lagunitas Creek to help restore habitat and protect threatened and endangered species.



## 2000

**2007** MMWD adopts Water Conservation Master Plan

**1997** MMWD embarks on a 15-year Fire Flow Master Plan, a large-scale, community-wide plan to enhance the fire-fighting capacity of the water system.

## 2012

**2012** MMWD celebrates its centennial.

