



Your Water's Journey From Source to Tap

Clean water is more than turning on the tap. Get to know the massive water system that delivers for you.

22,000

acres of
watershed lands

3

treatment
plants

908

miles of
pipeline

97

pump
stations

130

storage
tanks

115,000

water quality
tests annually

62,000

water
meters

245

District
employees

191,000

customers
served

1

Collected on the watershed and hills of west Marin

Rain fills five reservoirs on the Mount Tamalpais Watershed and two in the west Marin County hills. District staff steward these 22,000 acres, leveraging outside funding sources to keep consumer costs low while working to reduce wildfire intensity and promote forest health. The costly work is critical to help foster a resilient, healthy watershed – the foundation of 75% of the water produced for our customers. To reliably serve all of central and southern Marin, we maintain a partnership with Sonoma Water to purchase fresh drinking water from the Russian River.

2

Flows from our seven reservoirs

Using either gravity or energy-intensive pump stations, water is pumped from our reservoirs to one of our treatment plants. Trained Marin Water staff consistently test source water in our reservoirs, and employees at our treatment plants monitor flows into - and out of - the treatment facilities as part of a carefully choreographed operation used to ensure a ready water supply for residents in even the most far-flung portions of our service area. Although water use fluctuates daily, and is trending downward overall, the District's costs to deliver that water are fixed.

3

Treated and tested

Raw local reservoir water is treated at one of our treatment plants. Specially trained technicians monitor a host of complex processes that create more than 20 million gallons of clean drinking water each day. The District's testing regiment goes well beyond the water leaving our treatment plants. Annually, Marin Water staff conduct approximately 115,000 water quality and process control tests - from watershed to faucet - to ensure your water is safe to drink.

3a

Imported water blended

Imported water from the Russian River travels south to Marin County and is blended with the District's reservoir water. The Russian River water supply originates from rainfall that flows into Lake Sonoma and Lake Mendocino, and is naturally filtered through 80 feet of sand beds adjacent to the river.

4

Travels through our extensive network

Water travels through a portion of our vast distribution network, which includes 908 miles of pipeline - an outsized infrastructure footprint compared to other Bay Area water districts that serve much more densely populated communities. Marin's scenic hills are part of what makes this such a picturesque place to call home, but this topography also means an extra boost is required to supply water to homes and businesses. About 90% of our water must be pumped at least once before it reaches the tap, and some of the water we deliver is pumped up to six times. A fleet of staff experts monitor and maintain our extensive pipeline network, executing the District's Capital Improvement Program to ensure continual investments in this critical system.

5

Delivered to your tap

Water flows from our main water line toward the customer's property, passing through one of 62,000 water meters before being delivered to the customer's taps, ending the District's work. The customer is responsible for the portion of pipes within their property's boundaries. The entire journey - from rainfall to faucet - takes about 24 hours. For Marin Water, serving our customers is all in a day's work.

