

# on the WaterFront



Fall 2023

## SAVE WATER AND MONEY BY BECOMING A LEAK DETECTIVE



Did you know the average U.S. home wastes more than 10,000 gallons of water per year? That eye-popping EPA stat bodes well for residents looking for easy ways to reduce water waste and save money on their bi-monthly water bills.

So grab your Sherlock Holmes hat, and pull out your magnifying glass – here are three ways you can become a leak detective in your very own home:

- **Check for toilet leaks** – Characterized by water leaking into the overflow pipe, or from the toilet tank into the bowl, these clandestine leaks are by far the most common household water wasters (even new toilets can leak). Dye tablets are your friends in sussing out leaks here. Pick up free tablets from the Marin Water customer service lobby at 220 Nellen Ave., in Corte Madera during open public counter hours.
- **Watch your water meter** – Like a trusted informant, your water meter is eager to spill the beans on household leaks. Just turn off all water and watch the meter's low-flow indicator for telltale signs of water waste.
- **Install a Flume Smart Home Water Monitor** – Consider installing a Flume Smart Home Water Monitor on your existing water meter. The device, which is available at a discounted price for Marin Water customers, connects to your home WiFi, providing real-time information about water use, including potential leaks – all sent directly to your smartphone. Learn more by visiting [flumewater.com/marin](https://flumewater.com/marin).

Review the entire Leak Detective guide, watch a video about reading your meter and find other useful home water saving tips at [marinwater.org/HomeWaterSavings](https://marinwater.org/HomeWaterSavings).

## Call in the experts

Do you need assistance reading your meter or determining if you might have a leak? Schedule an appointment with our Conservation Assistance Program staff at [marinwater.org/CAP](https://marinwater.org/CAP).

## REMINDER:

## SEASONAL CHANGE SIGNALS TIME TO REDUCE IRRIGATION

As fall turns into winter, and the weather cools, it's a good time to consider reducing lawn and garden irrigation, and to let Mother Nature take a little pressure off your sprinkler system. In our region, irrigation can typically be reduced by 30% during September – and by 50% in October – before being turned off completely when Daylight Savings ends Sunday, Nov. 5.



Whether you're looking to reduce the guesswork, update an older model irrigation controller or are interested in installing a system of your own, new smart irrigation controllers could be just the solution you're looking for.

Marin Water offers discounts and rebates on smart irrigation controllers, which automatically adjust watering based on weather. Learn more about these money-and water-saving opportunities by visiting [marinwater.org/rebates](https://marinwater.org/rebates).



# WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT ON MT. TAM WATERSHED BOOSTS CAPACITY, SAFETY, RESILIENCY

This fall, Marin Water began construction activity to replace the Pine Mountain Tunnel, a 100-year-old former water conveyance apparatus that has been used since 1971 to store water in a remote portion of the Mount Tamalpais Watershed.

The project involves the installation of a pair of modern, seismically sound 2-million-gallon concrete water tanks along the west side of Concrete Pipe Road near Bolinas and Sky Oaks roads, as well as the decommissioning of Pine Mountain Tunnel to increase water storage reliability in Ross Valley and boost firefighting capabilities, among other benefits.

Built just seven years after Marin Water was established, the 1.5-mile Pine Mountain Tunnel was constructed in 1919 to convey water from Alpine Reservoir to Fairfax and San Rafael. But it has been used as a water storage facility for more than half of its life, as advancements in water-pumping technology negated its original purpose: to move water to surrounding communities using gravity.

Replacing the tunnel with modern storage tanks improves seismic safety, reduces water loss and increases water quality. It also provides for an increase in emergency water storage on the Mount Tam Watershed to bolster firefighting capabilities, and increases storage capacity in Ross Valley by 30%, ensuring greater storage reliability for Marin Water customers. For more information, visit [marinwater.org/PMTtanks](http://marinwater.org/PMTtanks).

## Marin Water's Capital Improvement Program

Learn more about Marin Water's efforts to maintain the massive water infrastructure system that ensures we're able to deliver fresh, clean water to customer taps every day at [marinwater.org/CIP](http://marinwater.org/CIP).



### FOLLOW US

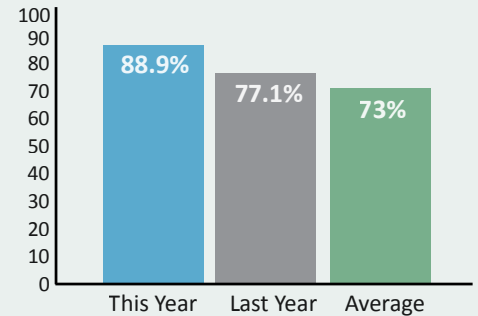


## About Our Water Supply

About 75% of the District's water supply comes from local reservoirs located on Mt. Tamalpais and in west Marin. The following chart displays storage, usage and rainfall data as of Sept. 1, 2023. For real-time data, visit [marinwater.org/WaterWatch](http://marinwater.org/WaterWatch).

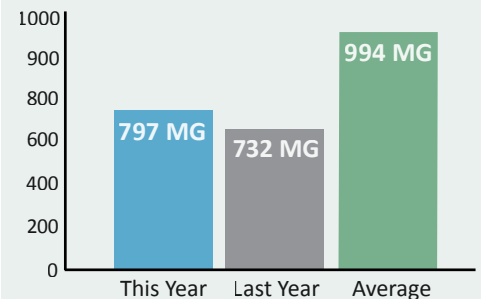
### Reservoir Storage

% of total storage capacity as of 9/01/23



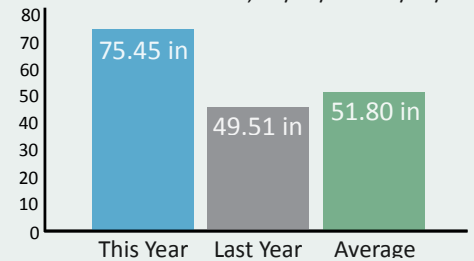
### Water Usage

Total April water usage (MG = millions of gallons)



### Rainfall Information

Total inches of rainfall, 10/01/22 to 9/01/23



## OUR MISSION

*Our mission is to manage our natural resources in a sustainable manner and to provide our customers with reliable, high-quality water at a reasonable price.*

- Board of Directors**  
 Matthew Samson  
 Monty Schmitt  
 Ranjiv Khush  
 Jed Smith  
 Larry Russell
- General Manager**  
 Ben Horenstein

Board of Directors meetings are on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. Learn more at [marinwater.org](http://marinwater.org).