

We Put a Lot of Energy into Getting Water to Your Home



Pristine, oak-studded hills make the Diablo Valley a desirable place to live. But this rolling landscape means water must be pumped as high as 1,000 feet above sea level to provide adequate water pressure. That takes a lot of energy—and a lot of money. This year, more than \$2 million in energy costs will go toward moving water from our treatment plants to your tap.

Our treated water service area is divided into eight energy zones, based on elevation. Generally, zones with higher elevations require additional costs of infrastructure and power to pump water. Each zone

pays a specific rate based on the pumping costs. The amount the customer pays depends on the rate for their zone and how much water they use in a billing period.

We are now going through a comprehensive rate structure study, which includes updating our energy charges to accurately reflect the cost of service. Your current energy charge is listed on the enclosed billing statement as “Energy for water delivery.” To view the current energy zone rates or to find out about the rate structure study, visit www.ccwater.com/rates.



Backflow Prevention Keeps Your Drinking Water Safe



When water leaves our treatment plants, it's safe, clean and ready to be consumed. Despite more than 60,000 connections in our distribution system, the water remains safe because we require a backflow prevention device on any connection that has the potential for contamination due to reverse flows.



Water flows readily when you turn on the tap because the pressure in our distribution system pushes it through the pipes. A sudden change in water pressure can cause water to flow backwards, potentially allowing contaminants to be drawn back into the public drinking water system.

Backflow prevention devices prevent this reverse flow from occurring. State law requires homes and businesses where plumbing systems are exposed to potential contamination due to backflow (e.g., fire sprinkler systems) or from cross-connection to a non-drinking water system (e.g., wells for irrigation) have a backflow prevention device. District customers who have these devices pay a small monthly fee to fund our routine maintenance and testing of their device. Customers who don't have a secondary water source connected to their plumbing or a potential backflow contamination source are not required to have a backflow prevention device and do not pay the associated maintenance and testing fees. The backflow prevention charge is listed, only when it applies, on the enclosed billing statement as "Backflow prevention (Chk Valve)." If you have any questions about our backflow prevention program, call **925-688-8044**.