

Recycled Water: A Proven, Reliable Resource



More and more communities throughout the United States and the world are using recycled water for non-potable (non-drinking) purposes. It is a water resource that is growing in popularity because it is a sustainable way to preserve precious, and scarce, drinkable water for higher purposes.

Nationwide, recycled water is used at more than 1,600 sites within 22 states. There are more than 150 cities in California that use recycled water, including Santa Rosa, Windsor, Rohnert Park, San Francisco, Redwood City, Santa Clara County, Los Angeles, and San Diego.

Here are just a handful of examples of the many ways Santa Rosa and other nearby communities are tapping into this valuable resource and making it work for them.



In addition to irrigating thousands of acres of farmlands and vineyards – including 350 acres of Gallo Wineries' grapes – today you will find our recycled water is being used to irrigate Oakmont Golf Course, Finley Park and the playing fields at A Place to Play sports complex.

The Geysers geothermal plant uses our system's recycled water to generate electricity for over 85,000 homes in the North Bay area and that number will increase as the amount of water going to The Geysers increases. By injecting recycled water to replenish underground steam wells, the City of Santa Rosa has established a safe, clean, and environmentally advanced method of recycled water reuse.



City of Santa Rosa

Santa Rosa has been using recycled water for over 40 years. In one of the largest recycled water systems in the world, about 98% of the City's tertiary-treated recycled water is used to irrigate approximately 6,400 acres of agricultural lands and public and private urban landscaping, and for the Geysers Recharge Project to generate electricity.



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The purpose of Santa Rosa’s Recycled Water Program is to provide treatment, reuse and disposal of recycled water in a reliable, practical manner that provides the best use of water resources, while protecting public health and the environment. Expanding urban reuse is a high priority for the City because of its dual benefits:

- 1) increasing the area’s water supply options and
- 2) providing an environmentally friendly method of disposing the area’s wastewater.



City of Rohnert Park

The City of Rohnert Park has been using recycled water to offset potable water supplies since 1988. Approximately 510 acres of land are irrigated with recycled water, saving more than three million gallons per day of drinking water. An extensive system distributes recycled water to golf courses, city parks, school grounds, commercial properties and Sonoma State University. The University uses recycled water for landscape irrigation and fire suppression.



Town of Windsor

The Town of Windsor’s Vintage Greens is among the first residential developments in Northern California to be equipped with dual piping, which enables homeowners to use recycled water outside and potable (drinking) water indoors. This gives residents

a tremendous opportunity to conserve a precious resource and significantly lower their water and sewer bills. Before the development of Vintage Greens, the Town of Windsor estimated it was already saving 275 million gallons of drinking water a year by irrigating 400 acres of golf course, vineyards, parks, pasture, and fodder croplands with recycled water. At Windsor High School, recycled water is used for landscape irrigation and for toilet flushing.



Paramount’s Great America Amusement Park, Santa Clara County

In Santa Clara County a network of more than 100 miles of recycled water pipelines delivers recycled water for landscaping, playing fields, golf courses, landscape medians, cemeteries, industrial processing, dual-plumbing, agriculture and other non-drinking water purposes. Among notable Santa Clara businesses utilizing recycled water is Paramount’s Great America amusement park, which uses the water for landscape irrigation and decorative fountains.



**RECYCLED
WATER
PROGRAM**

For more information, call (707) 543-4200 or visit www.SRCity.org/RecycledWater