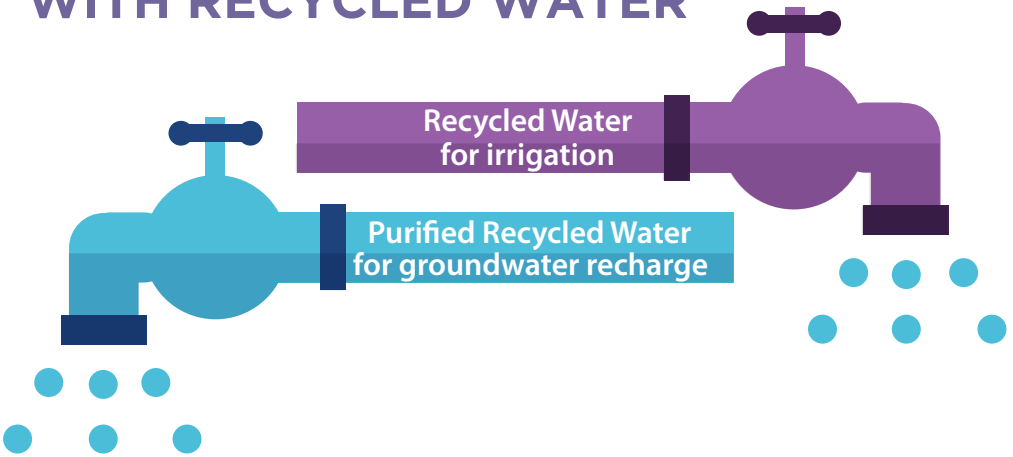


# EXTENDING WATER RESOURCES WITH RECYCLED WATER



Did you know that local agencies in Santa Cruz County have been recycling water for over 10 years? Recycling helps extend our water resources.

Water that goes into the region's wastewater collection system gets treated through two stages: primary and secondary levels that include physical, biological and chemical treatment processes. The water is then discharged out to the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Instead of wasting this water it can be further filtered to make recycled water. It is then distributed through a separate purple piping system.

Scotts Valley Water District (SVWD) has utilized recycled water since 2002. Scotts Valley uses the water for construction projects, to irrigate city parks, schools and large residential and commercial landscapes. This water supply reduces SVWD's pumping of groundwater water by 10-15% a year from the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin. In addition to irrigating in Scotts Valley, extra secondary treated water is piped to the Pasa Tiempo Golf Course, where they further treat and use about 40 million gallons a year on their greens.

Since 2009, the Watsonville Wastewater Recycling Facility has delivered recycled water to farmers along the coast of South Santa Cruz and North Monterey Counties. Every year, the facility recycles over a billion gallons of wastewater! The City of Watsonville and Pajaro Valley Water partner to provide recycled water to 5,000 acres of coastal farmland that is experiencing the effects of seawater intrusion.

Soquel Creek Water District is currently developing Pure Water Soquel (PWS). An upgrade and expansion of the City of Santa Cruz's recycled treatment facility will be built at the existing wastewater treatment plant. Recycled water will be used for irrigation and construction projects. The recycled water will also be pumped to the PWS Purification Facility to go through reverse osmosis, ultraviolet light, and advanced oxidation. The purified water will be used in recharge wells to replenish the Mid-County groundwater basin and create a freshwater barrier to prevent seawater intrusion.

Along with water conservation, the use of recycled water is an example of water agencies taking action to extend our limited local water supplies. The recycled water saves groundwater, helps prevent seawater intrusion, and significantly reduces wastewater discharges into the Monterey Bay.

## Find out more about water recycling in our community:

- Visit the Soquel Creek Water District Learning Center featuring Pure Water Soquel: 831-475-8500 x142
- Attend a public tour of the recycled water treatment plants: City of Scotts Valley 831-438-0732 or City of Watsonville Wastewater Plant 831-768-3170