Meet Long Beach Water

Long Beach Water Department (LBWD) delivers high quality and safe drinking water to the city of Long Beach and manages wastewater collection in an environmentally responsible manner while continually providing exceptional customer service.

As a recognized leader in water use efficiency and innovation, LBWD contributes to creating a sustainable community, develops collaborative partnerships, and fosters a quality workforce.

To learn more, visit lbwater.org

QUICK FACTS

• Established in 1911
• Serves nearly 500,000 people in 50 square miles
• 24/7, 365 days a year water and sewer customer emergency response
• Today’s water supply portfolio consists of approximately 50% groundwater, 40% imported water, and 10% recycled water
• Compared to other cities like us, our Long Beach community enjoys some of the lowest rates in the state for the exceptional water and sewer services they receive

WATER QUALITY

Our Groundwater Treatment Plant continues to lead in innovation and is consistently recognized by the Partnership for Safe Water and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for being in the top 1 percent of all water distribution systems in the country. The plant has the capacity to produce 62 million gallons a day of high-quality drinking water.

Our water quality meets and exceeds all state and federal drinking water standards. By consistently and reliably producing high-quality water to provide our community, we contribute to a healthy, thriving and vibrant city.

Each year, we publish an annual water quality report that details our exceptional water quality. To read the report go to lbwater.org/annual-water-quality-report.

INFRASTRUCTURE

• Compared to the annual industry standard of 100 main breaks for utilities of our size, Long Beach Water only experiences about 30 main breaks per year
• We have strategically installed SmartCovers throughout the city to prevent sanitary sewer overflows and protect our public and environmental health and safety
• End-to-end, our water and sewer mains span 1,600 miles; which is roughly the distance between Long Beach and Houston, Texas

GOVERNANCE

Long Beach Water is governed by an independent 5-member Board of Water Commissioners. Visit our website to view our Board meeting schedule and latest agenda.

As a recognized leader in water use efficiency and innovation, LBWD contributes to creating a sustainable community, develops collaborative partnerships, and fosters a quality workforce.

Commissioner Art Levine
Commissioner Robert Shannon
Commissioner Harry Saltzgaver
Commissioner Gloria Cordero
(MWD Director for Long Beach)
Commissioner Frank Martinez

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CREATING A CULTURE: SUSTAINABILITY IS THE LONG BEACH WAY OF LIFE

We’re proud of our commitment to sustainability to keep our Long Beach lifestyle strong. Sustainability is the Long Beach way of life!

With an average water use of fewer than 95 gallons per person per day, Long Beach is a leader in water use efficiency.

LBWD provides a wide array of innovative customer support programs and initiatives to help our residents and businesses be water use efficient including:

**LAWN-TO-GARDEN (L2G)**

*Intended Participants:*
Single-Family Homeowners, and Commercial customers

- Provides rebates for the conversion of lawns to water-wise landscapes
- Homes are featured on an annual Lawn to Garden Tour

**DIRECT INSTALL GARDENS (DIG)**

*Intended Participants:*
Single-Family Homeowners in disadvantaged communities

- Provides direct lawn to water-wise landscapes conversion at no cost to the homeowners
- Addresses disproportionate pollution impacts through installation of 25 trees that provide carbon capture and expand our urban forest
- Done in partnership with Conservation Corps of Long Beach, a program connecting at-risk youth to their communities through work, education, and conservation.

**NATIVE PLANT PARKWAYS**

*Intended participants:*
Property Owners

- Simplifies turf removal for parkways (the narrow landscape area between the sidewalk and the street) by providing a free planting kit voucher to homeowners
- Partnership with California Native Plant Society who curates the kits to create native landscapes

Learn more at lblawntogarden.com

L2G has converted over 3.65 million square feet of turf to save over 120 million gallons of water!
THE DIME PILOT PROGRAM WILL RETROFIT ABOUT 1,000 UNITS AND PRODUCE YEARLY WATER SAVINGS EQUIVALENT TO:

**OLYMPIC SIZE 30 SWIMMING POOLS.**

**CERTIFIED BLUE RESTAURANT (CBR) AND CERTIFIED BLUE HOTEL (CBH)**

**Intended Participants:**
Restaurants and Hotels

- Certifies establishments as ‘blue’ when water efficiency requirements are met
- Assists two highest-water using industries in Long Beach in becoming more water efficient
- Certified restaurants are promoted through LBWD social media and City-wide events including a biannual Certified Blue Restaurant Crawl

Learn more at lbwater.org/blue

**DIRECT INSTALLATION FOR MULTI-FAMILY EFFICIENCY (DIME)**

**Intended Participants:**
Multi-family rental units in disadvantaged communities

- Year-long pilot program
- Provides direct installation of water efficient appliances at no cost to the renter or owner
- Contractors will identify and repair existing leaks
- Opportunity for LBWD to build a sense of community with tenants living in multi-family buildings who typically don’t receive a water bill or direct communications

**THE DIME PILOT PROGRAM WILL RETROFIT ABOUT 1,000 UNITS AND PRODUCE YEARLY WATER SAVINGS EQUIVALENT TO:**

**30 OLYMPIC SIZE SWIMMING POOLS.**

**EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

**K-8 STUDENTS**

- Education program partnership between City of Long Beach Water, Energy Resources and Environmental Services Bureau to educate and inspire K-8 students and their families to save water, energy and reduce waste
- Science-based, live performances in local schools plus teacher, parent and student resources
- Program consistent with the City’s climate change action and adaptation initiatives

**HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

- LBWD supports two schools each year in the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD)’s Solar Cup program that teaches high school students to build and race solar-powered boats
- Supports learning of conservation of natural resources, engineering concepts and problem solving
- Offers paid summer internships in Engineering Bureau for Solar Cup team members, providing hands-on work experience in utility industry
BUILDING THE FUTURE

LBWD WATER RESOURCES PLAN

- Provides an adaptive management strategy to ensure Long Beach will have a reliable supply of water in the future.
- Prioritizes the most viable and cost effective water supply projects
  - Maximizing sustainable production of local groundwater
  - Recycled water for groundwater augmentation
  - Recycled water for industrial uses

Long Beach Water Supply Portfolio

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IMPORTED WATER | LOCAL GROUNDWATER | RECYCLED WATER | AUGMENTED GROUNDWATER

INCREASING RECYCLED WATER USE THROUGH ADVANCED TREATMENT

1. LONG BEACH WATER RECLAMATION PLANT
   Wastewater is transformed into tertiary treated recycled water

2. ADVANCED WATER TREATMENT FACILITIES
   Technologies such as reverse osmosis and ultraviolet light purify tertiary treated recycled water

3. OUR RECYCLED WATER USES TODAY
   Tertiary treated recycled water is used for:
   - Parks
   - Golf courses
   - Landscaping
   - Oil production

4. FUTURE USES FOR RECYCLED WATER
   Advanced treated recycled water will be used for:
   - Industrial non-potable water processes
   - Groundwater supply augmentation

BUILDING THE FUTURE