



Leisure Village to Save 180 Million Gallons of Drinking Water A Year

Camrosa Water District
Monday, May 4, 2009

After 10 years of engineering, planning and construction, the final phase of a three-phase water recycling project at Leisure Village in Camarillo is complete. The joint venture with Camrosa Water District, a leader in supplying recycled water in Ventura County, Calleguas Municipal Water District and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, will save the retirement community 577 acre-feet of water or about 180 million gallons of drinking water per year.

Because of the project, Leisure Village is now using recycled water for all its landscaping needs including its 18-hole golf course and 186 acres of green belt. Approximately 15,000 feet of recycled water pipeline was installed to supply recycled water from Camrosa's Water Reclamation Facility to the community. The cost of the retrofit project will be paid for with water savings.

"By using recycled or 'non-potable' water instead of the more expensive imported 'potable' drinking water to keep its landscapes green, Leisure Village is less vulnerable to possible water shortages, rationing and the full extent of rising water prices," says Frank Royer, general manager, Camrosa Water District. "Recycled water is in abundant supply and is currently about one-third the cost of potable water."

Leisure Village's progressive approach will help other Camrosa customers and Ventura County residents as well. Switching to recycled water to meet their irrigation needs lessens the overall demand for imported drinking water and helps us deal with impending water allocations," says Royer.

For Leisure Village, the decision to use recycled water was a relatively easy one. "Besides the obvious conservation benefits, home values and aesthetics also played a role in our decision. Our golf course and beautiful landscaping is what attracts many people to our community," says Robert Scheaffer, general manager of Leisure Village. "The property needs to remain attractive.

"The retrofitting effort was completed ahead of schedule and on budget because of the teamwork between Z Pipeline Construction, Omnis Engineering and our Leisure Village irrigation staff. With the help of Camrosa, Calleguas, and Metropolitan Water Districts, we were able to combine and complete the final two phases of the project," continues Scheaffer.

"May is Water Awareness Month," says Royer. "It's the perfect time to acknowledge a project that promotes water sustainability and conserves a resource that is becoming increasingly more regulated."

The official celebration of the completion of the project's final phase will be Thursday, May 14 at 11:00 a.m. in the Leisure Village assembly room. Representatives from water districts, local government and Leisure Village will be attending. Leisure Village residents are also invited.



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