



*Sunnyslope Water District*

# 2022 Annual Water Quality Report

*Your Sunnyslope Water District produces a Water Quality Report each year to share information on where your drinking water comes from, and how we treat and monitor it for quality and safety. Transparency is part of our regulatory requirements, and we welcome the opportunity to show you how we deliver reliable, high-quality water to your tap. Look inside! >>>*

*Este informe contiene información importante sobre el agua potable de nuestra comunidad. Traducirlo o hablar con alguien que lo entienda. Para ver esta información en español, por favor visite [sunnyslopewater.org](http://sunnyslopewater.org), o llame al (831) 637-4670 para obtener ayuda.*



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Sunnyslope  
Water District  
3570 Airline Hwy.  
Hollister, CA 95023



## Sunnyslope water quality testing

### 2022 by the numbers

# 14,865

total tests performed

throughout our water treatment, transmission, and distribution system



# 105

substances tested; all health-related contaminants detected were at trace levels, well below legal safety limits

# 114

locations tested (homes, schools, treatment plants, fire hydrants, water lines, wells, pump stations, tanks, etc.)



# 0

Water quality violations in 2022 –and for the last 26 years for both health-related and non-health-related contaminants



## Summary: Sunnyslope 2022 Water Quality report



As part of our regulatory requirements, Sunnyslope Water District produces this consumer confidence report to summarize the results of the more than 14,000 water quality tests we conduct annually. We continually test your drinking water to not only meet, but exceed all state and federal standards for quality and safety. *Sunnyslope had no water quality violations in 2022—or at any time in the last 26 years for either primary (health-related) or secondary (aesthetic taste/smell) contaminants.* Any health-related contaminants detected were at trace levels, well below the concentrations allowed by the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) for health and safety.

At Sunnyslope, we are wholeheartedly committed to providing you with safe, reliable, high-quality drinking water. We value our customers and want you to be informed. If you have any questions about this report or your water service, please call us at (831) 637-4670. To view comprehensive water testing results, please visit [sunnyslopewater.org](http://sunnyslopewater.org). You may also contact the USEPA for information about contaminants, health effects, and the Safe Drinking Water Act at [water.epa.gov/drink](http://water.epa.gov/drink), or call their Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1 (800) 426-4791.

Drew Lander, P.E.  
General Manager, Sunnyslope Water District



### Drought update: mandatory watering restrictions rescinded

Thanks to heavy winter rains this year, water conservation mandates implemented in May 2022 have been rescinded. Record amounts of rain and snow across the state have replenished reservoirs. As a result, our county received 100 percent of its imported surface water allocation for 2023, something that hasn't happened for six years. In 2022 we received zero water allocation, and in 2021 we received just 25 percent of our normal allocation.

While drought danger has receded for now, it is important that we continue to conserve water to prepare for inevitable droughts to come. Our three-year drought followed by this year's heavy rainfall is emblematic of the radical swings we can expect due to the climate crisis: extreme storms and flooding followed by hotter, drier, and more frequent droughts. Regardless of rainfall, California and the West have reached a point where water supply management is critical if we are to meet the demands of both humans and the environment, as well as recharge our groundwater basins and repair ecosystems.

The State Water Board is exploring strategies to mitigate future droughts, including recycling, desalination, and increasing water storage capacity. While these strategies can lessen impacts, water conservation remains the most important and viable solution to ensuring water reliability. As a community we have done a good job of conserving water during the drought. Our continued daily water awareness will help secure our future water supply. *For conservation ideas, please see back page and visit Water Resources Association San Benito County at [wrasbc.org](http://wrasbc.org).*



## Where does my water come from?

### Sunnyslope water comes from two sources:

#### 1. Imported surface water

During non-drought years, approximately 70 percent of water supplied by Sunnyslope is surface water which is pumped from the San Luis Reservoir, located near Los Banos on Highway 152. The water travels via the Pacheco Tunnel and Hollister Conduit to the local Lessalt and West Hills Water Treatment Plants.

Each year, water agencies like the San Benito County Water District (SBCWD, our water supplier) are allocated a percentage of their federally contracted surface water allotment, dependent on rain and snowfall, San Luis Reservoir water levels, regulations to protect water quality and wildlife, and other factors. During wet years the SBCWD stores excess surface water in our groundwater basin and at the local San Justo Reservoir for future use.

We depend upon imported water because it improves the quality of our hard well water, and reduces demand on local groundwater to keep it at healthy levels. Due to the drought, in 2022 the Hollister Conduit was turned off and we received zero surface water allocation from the San Luis Reservoir (after receiving only 25 percent of normal in 2021). As a result, we had to reduce surface water usage to 62 percent, and source all of it from the stored water at our local San Justo Reservoir (see sidebar).

All our surface water originates as snow or rain in the Sierra Nevada range. Runoff enters rivers that flow into the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta (the largest estuary on the West Coast), and into 20 reservoirs that are part of the massive Central Valley Project (CVP), a complex network of infrastructure that supplies drinking water to nearly two-thirds of the state's population as far south as Los Angeles. The Delta is California's most crucial ecological and water resource, and it is in trouble. State agencies, environmental groups, and researchers are seeking strategies to restore the overtaxed Delta ecosystem and its beleaguered wildlife and fisheries.

#### 2. Local groundwater

Sunnyslope Water District owns and operates five wells which supply approximately 30 percent of our potable water during normal years when we receive our full allocation of surface water from the CVP. Since we received no water allocation at all in 2022 we had to use 38 percent ground water to meet the needs of our community.

Healthy groundwater levels are critical to get us through periods of drought, and for economic and environmental sustainability. Decades of imported surface water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta has allowed our local groundwater basin to stabilize from historically low levels in the 1970s, putting us in a much better position than many municipalities that depend solely on surface water. However, the future availability of imported water is uncertain, so it is important that we conserve as much water as possible to maintain our underground aquifers.

**Our local San Justo Reservoir, (shown here in April 2021) stores extra imported surface water from the San Luis Reservoir. The Hollister Conduit which transports San Luis water to our treatment plants was turned off in August 2021 due to the drought, and did not come back online until February 2023. As a result, all treated surface water distributed to the Hollister area during 2022 was from our local San Justo Reservoir.**

**San Justo has been closed to the public for fishing and all recreational activities since 2008 to isolate the devastating infestation of non-native, invasive zebra mussels that have taken over the reservoir. This creates unique water treatment challenges because minerals readily dissolve into non-oxygenated water, affecting appearance, taste, and smell.**

**To meet the challenge, Sunnyslope Operators program the SCADA system at the West Hills Water Treatment Plant to continually analyze real-time levels of pH, oxidation, and dissolved solids. They continually adjust treatment parameters to ensure that customers receive high-quality water 24 hours a day.**

**This photo taken on March 30, 2023 shows a full San Luis Reservoir—a stark contrast to approximately six months ago in 2022 when it was less than a quarter full. The climate crisis has brought radical weather swings between flooding and drought, making it harder to ensure a reliable water supply.**

*Photo by Brian Washburn*





## Sunnyslope Water District Drought Timeline

**1974-77** California has driest three-year period in recorded history.

Agricultural and municipal water demand causes groundwater overdraft, highlighting Hollister's need for imported water.

**1977** Residents approve funding for the San Felipe Project, a pipeline to deliver surface water to the Hollister area from the Central Valley Project's (CVP) San Luis Reservoir near Los Banos.

**1986** San Justo Reservoir is built three miles southwest of Hollister to store additional water from San Luis Reservoir.

**1986-1992** California and much of the west experiences the longest drought in recorded history (to be eclipsed later), spurring new conservation regulations.

**2007-2017** Ten-year drought is the longest in California history. CVP reduces water allocations to farms and cities, including Hollister. State mandates 20 percent reduction in water use per person by 2020.

**2014** California passes Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

**2015** Statewide 25 percent reduction in water use mandated due to drought.

**2018** State sets more stringent water efficiency goals for water suppliers: reduce per person indoor daily water use to 55 gallons by 2022, and 50 gallons by 2030.

**2021** Drought emergency declared. San Benito County's water allocation is cut by 75 percent. Stage one voluntary water restrictions go into effect.

**2022** Third year of drought. San Benito County receives zero water allocation. Stage two mandatory water conservation regulations are enacted.

**2023** Relentless winter storms fill reservoirs and cause widespread flooding, underscoring the extreme weather swings of climate change. Water allocations return to normal and conservation mandates are rescinded; regardless, water agencies must plan for inevitable future droughts.

## How is my water treated?

Highly qualified Sunnyslope Water staff continually test water throughout our entire purification and distribution system to ensure water quality and safety. We also regularly send water samples to independent offsite labs to verify our treatment processes. Certified operators at our two water treatment plants closely monitor every stage of treatment and document findings over time. Sensors and instruments constantly measure water properties such as pH, oxidation, temperature, total organic carbon, and many more parameters. Sensors connected to our SCADA electronic operating system allow operators to continuously control every aspect of the plant.

At the **Lessalt Water Treatment Plant**, untreated surface water first passes through special sand filters that remove iron and manganese. Water then flows through activated carbon filters to remove microscopic organic contaminants. After that, microfilters remove remaining microscopic particles, and pH is adjusted to improve taste and prevent pipeline corrosion. As a final safety measure, we slightly chlorinate the water to eliminate any remaining bacteria and viruses.

Due to the drought, the Hollister Conduit which transports imported surface water to our plants was turned off for over 17 months, from August 2021 to February 2023. As a result, the Lessalt plant was closed for the entirety of 2022 and Sunnyslope operated only the West Hills Water Treatment Plant, treating stored surface water solely from our local San Justo Reservoir (see sidebar, page 3).

At the **West Hills Water Treatment Plant**, carbon removes microscopic organic materials in the water, which is then chemically treated to separate out particles in a settling tank. Water subsequently enters a sand filter which captures bacteria and microscopic particles. Technicians then adjust pH levels and chlorinate the water as a final safeguard.

Unlike surface water from rivers, lakes, and reservoirs, **groundwater** from Sunnyslope's five wells is naturally clean, and requires no treatment except for slight chlorination. Soil filters out pollutants as water percolates down to the underground aquifer. Every day we perform chlorine residual tests at every well and at 15 different sampling stations throughout the distribution system to ensure water quality. Groundwater, which is naturally harder than surface water, is blended with surface water as needed, dependent upon surface water availability.

## Drought impact on water hardness

Hard water used to be an issue in the Hollister area when our water came solely from local wells, but that changed as our two local treatment plants began delivering mostly surface water imported from the San Luis Reservoir (the Lessalt plant began



**Sunnyslope Maintenance Operator Basilio Hernandez tests a backflow device which prevents contamination from entering the drinking water system. As one of our cross connection specialist, Basilio tests all industrial sites annually to protect public health and our water supply.**



### Sunnyslope Water service area

Sunnyslope provides potable water to the eastern half of Hollister, including Ridgemark and some urban parts of San Benito County—about half the local population, or 7,400 households. In addition, projects are underway to consolidate three local water providers into our system by 2026—Tres Pinos Water District, Best Road Mutual Water Company, and the Stonegate water system—which will keep fees lower by spreading costs over more customers.

operating in 2008, and West Hills came online in 2017). However, when drought decreases our surface water allocation—or eliminates it, as it did in 2022—Sunnyslope has to use more groundwater to make up the deficit, which increases water hardness temporarily. Thankfully, our local San Justo Reservoir provides stored surface water to mitigate water hardness during times of drought.

When our county receives normal surface water allocations, Sunnyslope's water hardness ranges between 100-110 ppm, or 5.8 to 6.4 grains per gallon—about the same hardness found in most California rivers and lakes. Water is considered hard if the amount of dissolved calcium carbonate is above 130 parts per million (ppm), or eight grains per gallon. Above 180 ppm can cause scale on faucets and appliances.



### What causes water to have an odor, or appear tinted?

Water treatment requires chlorination as a final step to kill bacteria and viruses. If you detect a chlorine odor, let the water stand in an open container for five minutes, install an undersink filter, or use a water filter pitcher. Other unpleasant odors can come from garbage disposals, or dry drain traps under unused sinks. Unplug and clean the garbage disposal, or run water to fill your drain trap. To clean drains, pour one cup of baking soda down the pipe followed by one cup of vinegar. When bubbling stops, slowly pour in boiling water.

On rare occasions, water can temporarily have a slight yellow or brown tint, noticeable in a white tub or sink. The color is usually from small amounts of dissolved iron and manganese, which is harmless. Water can also look tinted when pipe sediment becomes suspended during high-velocity flow. This can happen during water main flushing or firefighting activities. Tinted water is perfectly safe to drink. If you find it bothersome, please do not try to flush your lines as that will only waste water and bring more

tinted water into your home. Wait an hour or so, and then check the tap closest to the main line in the street—the problem will most likely be corrected.

Water can also look cloudy or milky due to dissolved air bubbles in the pressurized system—this clears quickly as bubbles dissipate. *If you have concerns about your water, please don't hesitate to call us at (831) 637-4670.*

**Sometimes dissolved manganese can cause water to have a slight yellow or brown tint. This water is perfectly safe to drink. Do not waste water by trying to flush your lines, which will only bring more tinted water into your home. Check again in an hour or so and the problem should be corrected.**



Sunnyslope Water  
**2022**

### By the numbers



**23** employees:

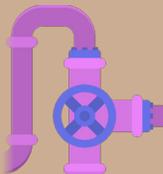
...provided water service to **25,100** customers



...maintained and operated **2** treatment plants,

**5** wells, and

**85** miles of buried water mains



...exercised **604** of total **2,750** water valves

...replaced **290** of total **6,850** water meters



...flushed **598** of total **940** fire hydrants

...responded to **161** water emergency calls



## 2022 Sunnyslope Water testing results

Sunnyslope Water tests regularly for 105 contaminants and substances. For brevity, this table does not include undetected substances, or those that were found in negligible trace amounts. We continually test for primary regulated contaminants which affect health, as well as secondary substances that affect aesthetics but do not impact safety. Unless otherwise noted, results shown are averages of tests completed from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022. To read the table, start with "Substance tested" on the left and read across. "MCL" is the highest level allowed for the substance, and "PHG/MCLG" is the goal level. The range for groundwater and surface water shows the lowest and highest amounts measured. "Typical sources" tells where substances originate. The "Violations" column shows that Sunnyslope has no water quality violations; in fact, we have greatly exceeded government requirements for all substances.

Substance tested	Unit of measurement	MCL (max. allowed)	PHG or MCLG	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range	Surface water Average	Surface water Range	Violations	Typical sources*
<b>Disinfection by-products and residuals in distribution system (health-related)</b>									
Arsenic <sup>1</sup>	ppb	10	0.004	.35	ND-2.1	1.13	ND-2.25	none	2
Fluoride <sup>1</sup>	ppm	2	1	0.24	0.18-0.35	0.05	ND-0.11	none	2
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	2.6	1.3-4.1	.32	ND-0.63	none	2,3
Chromium VI	ppb	10	0.02	9.43	2.3-14	NA	NA	none	2
Gross alpha	pCi/L	15	0	2.58	2.58-2.58	1.85	1.67-2.03	none	1
Uranium	pCi/L	20	0.43	3.27	2.5-4.1	1.15	ND-2.1	none	1
<b>Secondary regulated substances (not health-related)</b>									
Color	CU	15	NA	6	5-10	12.5	12-13	none	4
Manganese	ppm	50	NA	ND	ND	0.47	0.13-0.81	none	2
Turbidity	NTU	5	NA	0.43	0.26-0.82	2.9	1.4-5.5	none	5
Total dissolved solids	ppm	1,000	NA	796	750-830	318	310-320	none	2
Specific conductance	micromho	1,600	NA	1,360	1,300-1,400	582	570-600	none	6
Chloride	ppm	500	NA	123	97-150	94	87-100	none	2
Sulfate	ppm	500	NA	226	196-260	38	35-41	none	2
Boron	ppb	1,000	NA	0.48	ND-1.00	ND	ND	none	2
<b>Additional water quality information (not health-related)</b>									
Hardness	ppm	NA	NA	402	370-430	110	100-120	none	2
Calcium	ppm	NA	NA	66	60-72	21	18-24	none	2
Magnesium	ppm	NA	NA	58	53-69	14	13-15	none	2
Sodium	ppm	NA	NA	122	100-140	68	64-71	none	2
Silica <sup>2</sup>	ppm	NA	NA	29	25-32	NA	NA	none	2
Potassium	ppm	NA	NA	2.9	2.5-3.3	3.95	3.6-4.3	none	2
Alkalinity	ppm	NA	NA	284	250-300	86	83-90	none	2
pH		NA	NA	8.0	8.0-8.1	7.6	7.4-7.8	none	2

Substance tested	Unit of measurement	MCL (maximum allowed)	PHG or MCLG	Number of detections	Violations	Typical sources*
<b>Microbiological contaminants in distribution system (health-related)</b>						
Total coliform	samples	2 positives per month	0	0	none	7
E. coli	samples	1	0	0	none	8

Substance tested	Unit of measurement	MCL (max. allowed)	PHG or MCLG	Average for site with highest readings	Range across all sites	Violations	Typical sources*
<b>Disinfection by-products and residuals in distribution system (health-related)</b>							
Trihalomethanes	ppb	80	NA	38	1.8-82	none	9
Haloacetic acids	ppb	60	NA	12	2.3-21	none	9
Chlorine	ppm	4	4	0.85 across all sites	0.10-2.02	none	11

Substance tested	Unit of measurement	MCL (max. allowed)	No. of sites sample	No. of sites over notification level	90th percentile	Violations	Typical sources*
<b>Customer tap sampling (health-related)</b>							
Lead	ppb	15	41	2	0	none	10
Copper	ppm	1.3	41	0	0.26	none	10

1. Fluoride and arsenic were tested in 2020. 2. Silica was tested in 2011. The State Division of Drinking Water does not require annual testing of these substances because concentrations do not change frequently.

### \*Typical sources key

1. Decay of natural and man-made deposits
2. Erosion of natural deposits
3. Runoff and leaching from fertilizers and septic tanks
4. Naturally occurring organic materials
5. Soil runoff
6. Substances that form ions when in water
7. Naturally present in the environment
8. Human and animal fecal waste
9. Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
10. Internal corrosion of household plumbing
11. Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

### Definitions

**CU – Colorimetric units** are used to measure the concentration of colored compounds in solutions

**Haloacetic Acids/ Trihalomethanes** Chemical byproducts of chlorination as chlorine breaks down organic substances.

**MCL – Maximum Contaminant Level** The highest amount of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the MCL Goal or Public Health Goal as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect water appearance, taste, and odor.

#### MCLG – Maximum Contaminant Level Goal

The amount of a contaminant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety and are set by the US Environmental Protection Agency.

**Micromho** Unit of electrical conductance.

**NA – Non-Applicable** Category is not applicable in this situation.

**ND – Non-Detects** Laboratory analysis did not detect a contaminant at the reporting limit.

**90th percentile** In 90 percent of sites tested, results were less than or equal to the level listed.

**NL – Notification Level** The amount of a contaminant which triggers treatment or other requirements.

**NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit** A measure of the cloudiness of water. Water in excess of 5 NTU has cloudiness just noticeable to the average person.

**pCi/L – Picocuries per liter** A measure of the radioactivity in water.

**PHG – Public Health Goal** The amount of a contaminant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. The California Environmental Protection Agency sets PHGs rather than the USEPA.

**ppb – Parts per billion** One per 1,000,000,000, a measurement of concentration on a weight or volume basis. One part per billion concentration is equivalent to one drop of ink in a 14,000-gallon swimming pool.

**ppm – Parts per million** One per 1,000,000, a measurement of concentration on a weight or volume basis. One part per million concentration is equivalent to four drops of ink in a 55-gallon drum.

**Trihalomethanes/ Haloacetic Acids** Chemical by-products of chlorination as chlorine breaks down organic substances.

## Drinking source water assessment

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) requires Drinking Water Source Assessment Programs to evaluate the vulnerability of water sources to potential contamination. All water sources on the planet are vulnerable to contamination, largely due to human development. Assessments are required any time a new water source or treatment process is brought online.

**Groundwater** Assessments for Sunnyslope Wells 2, 5, 7, 8 and 11 were updated in March 2009. These sources are considered most vulnerable to contamination from agricultural drainage, septic systems, sewer collection systems, and agricultural wells.

**Surface Water** An assessment for Lessalt and West Hills Water Treatment Plants was updated in 2017. This source is considered most vulnerable to contamination from recreational activities, government agency equipment storage, road/streets, septic systems, sewer collection systems, grazing animals, farm machinery, orchards, row crops, grass lands, hay, pasture, wells, irrigation, housing greater than one house per half acre, streams, rivers, and fault lines.

*A copy of the summaries of these completed assessments may be viewed at the Sunnyslope Water district office.*

## Some people may be more sensitive to contaminants

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons, such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy; persons who have undergone organ transplants; people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders; some elderly; and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These individuals should seek advice from their health care providers.

USEPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## Lead and copper testing

To further safeguard our community, Sunnyslope Water also performs lead and copper testing outside the treatment and distribution system at high-risk schools and homes in our district. These heavy metals can leach into water when service lines or home plumbing include lead pipes, or copper pipes with lead solder. As defined by federal and state laws, high-risk is defined as schools constructed before January 1, 2010, and homes with plumbing installed between January 1983 and June 1986.

Results of lead and copper testing in the Hollister area have always been below the notification level set by the State Water Resources Control Board. If lead concentrations exceed an action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb) or copper concentrations exceed an action level of 1.3 ppm in more than 10 percent of customer taps sampled, actions must be taken to control corrosion or replace the system.

*If your home falls into the high-risk category and you'd like your water tested free of charge, please call us at (831) 637-4670.*

## Drinking water regulations

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) prescribe limits for the amount of certain contaminants in drinking water. The State Board also establishes limits for contaminants in bottled water to provide the same protection.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, please see the contacts below.

The sources of tap water and bottled water include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water are:

**Microbial contaminants** such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

**Inorganic contaminants** such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

**Pesticides and herbicides** that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

**Organic chemical contaminants** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.

**Radioactive contaminants** that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production, and mining activities.

## For more information. . .

... on water contaminants and regulations, please visit the **US Environmental Protection Agency** at [water.epa.gov/drink](http://water.epa.gov/drink), or call their Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800) 426-4791.

... on California's water infrastructure, competing water demands, and resultant environmental issues, please visit the **Water Education Foundation** at [watereducation.org](http://watereducation.org).



The West Hills Water Treatment Plant provided all of our local drinking water last year after the Lessalt plant was shut down during the drought. Lessalt reopened in February 2023 when we once again began receiving imported surface water from the San Luis Reservoir.

# Know your local water agencies: what we do and how we work together

*Cooperative partnerships and cost-sharing agreements allow local agencies to provide reliable, high-quality water to the Hollister area in the most efficient, cost-effective manner possible. Our most important partnership is with you, our water consumers—your water conservation efforts are vital to maintain the sustainability of our community's water supply.*

**Sunnyslope Water District** provides potable water to the eastern half of Hollister, including Ridgemark and some urban parts of San Benito County—about 7,400 households, or half the local population. We also provide wastewater treatment services to the Ridgemark area. Sunnyslope operates and maintains the West Hills and Lessalt Water Treatment Plants, which are owned by the San Benito County Water District. These treatment plants also supply water to the City of Hollister Water Utility.

**The City of Hollister Water Utility** provides drinking water to Hollister residents west of Memorial Drive. They also operate the Hollister Water Reclamation Facility which treats and recycles our local wastewater (except for the Ridgemark area, which Sunnyslope treats) so it can be used for groundwater recharge, agriculture, and landscaping.

**The San Benito County Water District (SBCWD)** is a federal water contractor with the Bureau of Reclamation. They manage water supply throughout the county for urban, agricultural, and industrial use. As our local Groundwater Sustainability Agency, they monitor the county's groundwater basin, and also oversee surface water imported from the Central Valley Project through the San Felipe Distribution System. They own the Lessalt and West Hills Water Treatment Plants which Sunnyslope operates. For information about our county's water supply and system, please visit [sbcwd.org](http://sbcwd.org).

**Water Resources Association San Benito County (WRASBC)** and **Hollister Urban Area Water Project (HUAWP)** are programs developed cooperatively by Sunnyslope Water, the City of Hollister, and the San Benito County Water District. WRASBC promotes public water conservation to protect our local groundwater (see below). HUAWP is an integrated, long-term master plan to improve local drinking water quality and sustainability, and provide infrastructure for our water supply.

## Rebates and free stuff to help you conserve water

**Get paid to replace your lawn** Property owners can receive \$200 to \$2,000 (\$2.00 per square foot) for replacing their existing, irrigated turf with drought-tolerant plants and permeable hardscape. *Program available only while funding lasts.*

**Free home/yard water survey** Save money by having an expert check for leaks and inefficiencies. Learn how to program your irrigation controller for maximum economy and productivity.

**Free hose nozzles, shower heads, and aerators** WRASBC can install these high-quality devices during your home survey, or call the number below for pickup at their office.

**Irrigation hardware rebate** Receive a rebate up to \$100 on qualifying water-wise hose timers, rain sensors, and rotator nozzles and sprinklers.

**Free toilet or toilet rebate** Get a free high-efficiency toilet to replace your circa 1992 or older model, or get a \$75 rebate to buy your own. WRASBC will also recycle your old toilet.

*Please visit [Water Resources Association San Benito County at wrasbc.org](http://Water Resources Association San Benito County at wrasbc.org) for program details, or call Shawn at (831) 637-4378.*



## Sunnyslope Water District

*Providing reliable, high-quality, cost-effective water and sanitary services to our community, to protect human health and the environment*

3570 Airline Hwy, Hollister, CA 95023  
(831) 637-4670 • [sunnyslopewater.org](http://sunnyslopewater.org)  
Open Monday-Friday, 8 am to 5 pm

### Free 24-hour emergency service:

If you think your water meter is leaking, or you see water gushing in the street, it is an emergency. Do not hesitate to contact us, day or night! Our on-call staff will return your call immediately.

The public is welcome to attend Sunnyslope Water District board meetings, held every third Tuesday of the month at 5:15 pm. To attend remotely via Zoom, please click on our homepage link.

### Elected Board of Directors

Dorothy (Dee) Brown, President  
Ed Mauro, Vice-president  
Mike Alcorn  
Jerry Buzzetta  
James Parker

### General Manager

Drew Lander, P.E.

