

#### CURRENT NEWS

February 2011

PASADENA WILL EXPERIENCE a water shortage emergency from March 18 through March 27 due to a temporary shutdown of a major regional water pipeline. During that 10-day period, the Metropolitan Water District is cutting all water deliveries to foothill cities as it performs a seismic upgrade of its Weymouth Treatment Plant in LaVerne. Our city's water supply will be cut by 40 percent.

"Pasadena would normally use 250 million gallons over that 10-day period, but we'll only have access to 150 million gallons worth of groundwater and reserves," said PWP Water Conservation Manager Nancy Long. "We'll have only enough water for health and hygiene, which means non-essential outdoor water use will have to be restricted."

Pasadena City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, February 28, 7:30 p.m., at City Hall

Council Chambers, 100 N. Garfield Ave., to determine appropriate action. PWP will recommend that City Council declare a Level 4 Water Shortage during the shutdown, whereby these mandatory restrictions on water use would be enforced (PMC 13.10):

- No outdoor landscape watering of any kind (sprinklers, smart controllers, hose, drip, watering can)
- Fix leaks within 24 hours
- No filling of lakes, ponds, pools or spas
- No new water service

City staff would patrol for violations and respond to water-waste reports, charging fines starting at \$200 for small businesses and \$400 for larger businesses.

The shutdown could continue longer due to construction delays. Check for City Council action and daily updates during the shutdown at www. PWPweb.com/shutdown or call 626-744-8888.

# LIVE WIRE DIALOGUE

"MWD PLANNED the pipeline shutdown during a typically rainy month for a reason," said PWP Water Conservation Manager Nancy Long. "We certainly hope that Pasadena gets that natural irrigation."

But in case it doesn't rain, PWP will ease current watering restrictions from March 11-17, the week before the shutdown and proposed watering ban.

"For that week only, we're advising property owners to water as much as their landscapes will tolerate and to mulch to prevent evaporation during the watering ban," she said. "Once they are well watered, most lawns and garden beds will do just fine for the next 10 days." If necessary, customers can use storebought water jugs or a personal reserve of tap water, stored in advance, on their most delicate plants.

Long also provides these additional tips to help Pasadena businesses prepare for the shutdown:

- Plan ahead: reschedule or postpone landscaping and construction projects.
- Tell landscape workers and facilities managers to turn off sprinklers on March 17 and keep them off until the shutdown ends.
- As always, conserve water indoors.

During the shutdown, March 18-27, PWP is asking City Council to ban all outdoor watering. "It's crucial that everyone preserve our limited supply for essential indoor uses, regardless of weather conditions," Long said. "There will be no drinking water to spare on plants."





#### DEAR SCOTT



With an MBA from Loyola Marymount, PWP Customer Relations Manager Scott Ushijima has served the city of Pasadena since 1993.

Won't Pasadena's new water treatment plant give us more water supply for outdoor irrigation during the pipeline shutdown?

The Monk Hill Water Treatment Plant is expected to open in March or early April, but at press time the exact date is uncertain. Therefore, PWP must plan for a shutdown without relying on these sources; eliminating outdoor watering is the only way we can preserve our limited supply for essential uses.

#### What should I do if I see a downed power line?

This is a dangerous situation. PWP's troubleshooters respond very quickly to power lines downed by storms, fallen branches or accidents. For power emergencies in Pasadena, call (626) 744-4673 or (626) 441-1054 immediately. Never touch the line, and never touch another person, animal, vehicle, tree branch or object that is touching a power line. High voltage can cause fatal electrocutions. You should also instruct your family members or employees to stay completely clear of power lines when trimming trees, working on a roof or gutters, fixing an antenna or satellite dish, painting, carrying a metal ladder or using a pool broom or skimmer. Never try to save an animal or remove an object tangled in a power line. If a power line falls on your vehicle, stay inside and call 911 for

emergency assistance. If you need to flee the vehicle for safety, jump clear and avoid touching the vehicle and the ground at the same time. Keep your feet together and hop away to minimize contact with the energized ground.

### Is PWP making progress toward its environmental goals?

PWP's long list of green successes is highlighted in Pasadena's 2010 Green City Report, recently published at www.cityofpasadena.net/greencity. The annual document shares Pasadena's progress on its Green City Action Plan, which lays out 21 specific goals in the areas of energy and water, waste reduction, urban design, urban nature, transportation and environmental health, based on the United Nations Urban Environmental Accords. In 2010, PWP helped customers cut energy use by 22,000 megawatt hours, cut peak demand by 4.45 megawatts, and helped customers install 100 new solar systems for a total of 2 megawatts citywide. PWP also pushed for a 15 percent drop in water use, crafted a 25-year watersupply plan, moved forward on a citywide recycled water system, and created an on-line package of water-saving tips, videos and landscaping guides. The report also details our next steps and tips for living and working green. Take a look!

#### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

**Rebates & Conservation** 

**Billing & Service** 

Water Emergencies

**Power Emergencies** 

626.744.6970

626.744.4005

626.744.4138

626.744.4673





## TECHNOLOGY SPOTLIGHT

COMMUTERS TOUCHING DOWN at the Metro Gold Line's Lake Avenue Station may not know it, but they're walking underneath a technological marvel. Created by PWP and the city's Public Works Department, and



The building-integrated solar panels at the Lake Avenue Metro Station are a first for Pasadena, providing light-filled shelter as bus stop canopies, in addition to clean energy to the grid.

operational since this past fall, the station's bus shelter canopies on both sides of Lake Avenue at the 210 Freeway is the first building-integrated photovoltaic (BIPV) system in Pasadena.

Considered the wave of the solar future, building-integrated PV projects incorporate solar power-generating materials during design and construction, in place of typical materials used for roofs, skylights or façades. By saving on building supplies, BIPV offsets the upfront costs of incorporating a solar PV system into any

development project. The system then generates enough electricity to partially or fully power the structure, lowering or eliminating the facility's monthly electric bills.

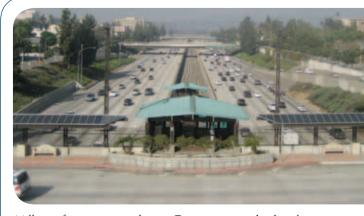
Part of the original architectural plans for the Lake Avenue Station, the BIPV system was designed as a demonstration site in support of solar energy. "When the Gold Line was first developed, the architect wanted to incorporate a solar energy feature along the Gold Line route in a high-traffic area," explains PWP Solar Program Manager Mauricio Mejia. "The Lake Avenue Station was a perfect choice, because it's visible to thousands of commuters every day who pass under it on the 210 Freeway."

The canopies north of the station elevators incorporate 208 PV modules, while matching "dummy" panels were installed for aesthetic balance on the southern canopies. The northern section was chosen, Mejia explained, because it avoided shading from two nearby buildings south of the freeway.



In addition to providing shade and shelter to pedestrians, the system is expected to generate 30,000 kilowatt-hours of clean energy annually, Mejia said, which is the equivalent power use of six typical Pasadena homes. All energy from the BIPV is fed to PWP's citywide power grid, but counts as a 25 percent offset of the station's power use.

The system can be monitored via a link at www.PWPweb. com/solar, he said, allowing students, residents, commuters and developers to study how weather conditions affect energy generation.



Millions of commuters on the 210 Freeway pass under the solar demonstration project at Lake Ave. Metro Station which generates 30 kW of clean energy each year.



### TIPS FOR BOTTOM-LINE SAVINGS

YOU CAN NOW RECEIVE A CREDIT on your bill when your solar PV system generates more electricity than your facility consumes. To opt in, download the enrollment form at www.PWPweb.com/solar. Even if you have a current net metering agreement, you may be eligible for a higher compensation rate; customers are encouraged to re-enroll!

Your rate depends on whether you choose monthly/bimonthly or annual calculations and whether you own "renewable energy credits or attributes" — the environmental benefits from your solar PV system. (In some solar lease or purchase power agreements, your vendor may retain ownership of these credits.)

If you choose to be compensated at the end of each regular billing cycle (monthly or bimonthly) you'll receive a higher rate. This includes PWP's Energy Charge rate for that billing cycle plus a flat incentive of 6.6¢ per kilowatt-hour plus a 2.5¢ per kilowatt-hour premium for renewable energy credits or attributes.

With annual net metering, your compensation would be calculated at the end of a 12-month period. You would receive a credit for any surplus electricity at a rate equal to PWP's average Energy Charge plus a 2.5¢ per kilowatt-hour premium for renewable energy credits or attributes.

For a full explanation of net metering benefits or advice and resources on "going solar," visit www.PWPweb.com/solar





INSIDE: How you can shortage emergency March 18 through 27



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