

City of Palo Alto

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Service Area

Located in north Santa Clara County, Palo Alto is the only municipality in California that operates six utilities - electric and fiber, water, gas, waste water collection and treatment, storm drainage and refuse. The utility's service area includes approximately 40 residential accounts (about 100 people) outside of the City's boundaries (in Los Altos Hills and Portola Valley).

System

Profile

Area Size	26 square miles
Service Population	65,408
Number of Accounts	20,141
Number of SFPUC Connections	5
Connections To SFPUC Mains	Palo Alto Pipeline, BDPL 3 and 4
Avg. Day Demand (mgd)	11.71
Avg. Day Purchases From SFPUC (mgd)	10.99
% Demand Met With SFPUC Supplies	93.8%
Maximum Local Water Production (mgd)	0.72 – Currently 7 emergency wells, one more to be constructed by 2012 (EC Park)
Alternative Supply Sources	Recycled Water, Local Groundwater
Interties With Other Agencies	East Palo Alto CWD, Mountain View, Purissima Hills WD, Stanford University
Local Storage (mg)	10.5 (one 2.5 MG reservoir to be constructed by 2012)
Days of Storage	0.8 – Currently, Palo Alto water system can independently supply 2.5 hr of the 8 hr criteria under max. day demands for emergency use, assuming all existing 5 reservoirs are full, and 5 standby wells are operational – Source 1999 Study, Fig. ES.3

Summary

The City of Palo Alto's primary source of water is the SFPUC, via 5 turnouts, 3 off the Palo Alto Pipeline and 2 off BDPLs 3 and 4, that in most years provide 100% of Palo Alto's potable water supply. Palo Alto has 9 pressure zones, 6 storage tanks, 5 booster pump stations in the Foothills which pump water to the higher elevation pressure zones, and 2 booster pump stations to support pressure zones 1 and 2.

Local groundwater wells do not meet secondary drinking water standards for iron and manganese without additional treatment. To improve the capacity of the local water distribution system for providing water during an emergency event, Palo Alto has begun a program to rehabilitate the 5 existing wells, construct 3 new wells, and construct a new

2.5 million gallon emergency water storage reservoir. The new and rehabilitated wells would be used only for emergency supplies.

Palo Alto replaces potable water with recycled water to irrigate a golf course and a city park, to fill a duck pond, and some uses at the water quality control plant. Recycled water use that does not replace potable water includes the Emily Renzel Marsh enhancement project and additional process uses at the water quality control plant.

Water Supply and Demand

Supply by Source	Actual FY 06-07 (ccf)	Actual FY 07-08 (ccf)	Actual FY 08-09 (ccf)	Actual FY 09-10 (ccf)
San Francisco Water	6,361,100	6,205,790	5,677,018	5,362,816
Local Groundwater	0	0	0	0
Recycled Water	417,000	415,025	324,323	352,532
Other	0	0	0	0
Total	6,778,100	6,620,815	6,001,341	5,715,348
mgd equivalent	13.89	13.57	12.30	11.71

Demand by Sector

Residential	3,582,243	3,536,215	3,309,616	3,074,287
Commercial/Industrial	1,516,299	1,576,218	1,574,190	1,149,537
Other	799,061	829,236	835,642	641,834
Dedicated Irrigation	0	0	0	440,629
Unaccounted for	880,497	679,146	281,893	409,061
Total	6,778,100	6,620,815	6,001,341	5,715,348
mgd equivalent	13.89	13.57	12.30	11.71

Per Capita Use	Actual FY 06-07 (gpcpd)	Actual FY 07-08 (gpcpd)	Actual FY 08-09 (gpcpd)	Actual FY 09-10 (gpcpd)
Residential	118	114	107	96
Gross (Less Recycled Water)	210	200	184	179

Facilities and Distribution

Storage Reservoirs

Designation	Type	Capacity (gallons)	Designation	Type	Capacity (gallons)
Mayfield	Concrete	4,000,000	Dahl	Steel	1,000,000
Boronda	Concrete	1,500,000	Montebello	Steel	1,500,000
Corte Madera	Steel	1,500,000	Park	Steel	1,000,000
			Total		10,500,000

Wells

Name	Capacity (mgd)	Status
Eleanor Pardee	1.44	Operational; new
El Camino Park	1.44	Operational; new
Fernando	1.01	Currently being refurbished; existing
Hale	2.09	Currently being refurbished; existing
Library	0.86	Operational; new
Matadero	1.01	Currently being refurbished; existing
Peers*	2.45	Currently being refurbished; existing
Rinconada	4.75	Currently being refurbished; existing
Total	15.05	

Note: All wells are designated Emergency/Standby at this time.

Interties

Name	No.	Diameter (in.)
East Palo Alto	1	6
Mountain View	2	6
Stanford	2	8
Purissima Hills WD	2	8, 12