

Utility Conservation Plan Implementation

Electricity Supply.

The RID purchases wholesale electricity from Western Area Power Authority (WAPA) to deliver to its residents. Power is transmitted through an RID owned 7-mile inter tie line, beginning at a PG&E recloser located near the Mattole River bridge in Whitethorn and terminating at the RID's sub-station on Shelter Cove Road. Electricity is distributed to customers through 4.5 miles of underground cable in the flat, lower elevations of the Cove and over 37 miles of pole line in steep areas. The RID's generator building located in the sub-station contains three emergency generators that are used to power the entire community during Cove wide power outages. The existing supply lines have a ceiling load capacity and due to the recent spikes in demand, which occur between 5:00 p.m. to 11 p.m., the District is calling on customers to help conserve as much energy in this critical peak period. To assist customers, the following suggestions are ways to help reduce spikes and conserve energy:

1. Install alternative energy systems whenever feasible.
2. Convert high demand electrical appliances such as water heaters and ranges to propane appliances.
3. Set timers to use power at low demand times from midnight to 6 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and avoid the peak time of 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.
4. Have an electrician check your house for electrical problems if you experience high usage as this may be caused by a short circuit.
5. Use high efficiency appliances and light bulbs.
6. Disconnect appliances, like freezers, when not in use.
7. Change water heater electrical elements at least every two years for maximum efficiency.

Water Supply.

We provide the community of Shelter Cove with clean drinking water obtained from Telegraph Creek, Rick Spring and water wells located throughout the sub-division. The district maintains 11 storage tanks (welded steel) ranging in size from 0.03 MG to 1 MG. The distribution system consists of approximately 44 miles of water main of varying size. The majority of the distribution system is asbestos cement (AC) pipe, but some above ground cross-country steel and polyvinyl chloride (PVC) is also present. We are asking residential customers to keep their water consumption low to help slow down the schedule for supplementing our water supply from other available sources. This could be as simple as taking the following steps:

1. Making sure your house has no leaks.
2. Choosing drought resistant plants in your yard or for example installing a Japanese Zen garden made with white sand and rocks.

3. Installing a well-maintained irrigation drip system.
4. Mulching your garden to stop excessive evaporation.
5. Running the dishwasher or washing machine only when it is full.
6. Choosing appliances that conserve water.
7. Taking showers instead of baths and taking shorter showers.
8. Turning off the tap while brushing your teeth.
9. Refrain from washing your vehicle throughout the dry summer months.
10. Make sure you install a spring shutoff trigger device on the end of your water hose so you have more control when spraying water.
11. Do not over water your garden.
12. Use a broom to clean sidewalks instead of washing down using a water hose.

Sewer Service.

Our wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) is state of the art and serves the lower portion of Shelter Cove. The service includes wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal. RID's collection system incorporates both gravity mains and nine lift stations. The WWTP consists of coarse screening, two oxidation ditches, two clarifiers, and chlorination/de-chlorination facilities. The wastewater outfall pipe discharges into an Area of Biological Significance located in the Pacific Ocean. We ask customers to refrain from using your toilet as a trash basket as some of these items cannot be easily processed by our plant. Pharmaceuticals, when flushed down the toilet, tend to persist even in highly treated wastewater. Continual, multi-generation exposure of aquatic life to multiple pharmaceuticals is proving to have negative consequences. Agencies throughout the state are working together to educate the public about where to safely dispose of unwanted medication. Local disposal information can be obtained by calling Humboldt Waste Management Authority @ 441-2005 or found on the web @ <http://www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org>

To help with this effort to reduce accumulations of medications and to eliminate the possibility of them entering our wastewater treatment system and our waterways, the Fire Department is collecting these products for appropriate disposal in official sites. Remember, the more waste sent down the toilet the more water has to be used to process it.