

*Is CCWD infrastructure adequate to supply water to residents of Rancho Calaveras in a heat wave??*

*Read quotes from newspapers and CCWD...you decide.*

-*MyValleySprings.com website July 2006*

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### **Outdoor watering banned in Calaveras neighborhood**

"The tank serving 900 homes [in Rancho Calaveras near Jenny Lind] went dry Sunday night after demand for water exceeded the approximately 1.7 million gallons a day the water district can pump into the tank.

District staffers said they had been struggling for the past month to pump enough water from the Jenny Lind Water Treatment Plant on Silver Rapids Road to the tank that serves the western part of Rancho Calaveras."

Dana Nichols--Stockton Record, July 25, 2006

### **Water District Declares Emergency**

"A power surge over the weekend knocked out the water pump to residents in the Rancho Calaveras subdivision. The district says it has switched pumps but water is not coming into the system fast enough to meet demand."

Vanessa Turner--MyMotherLode.com, July 24, 2006

### **Hundreds of Rancho residents without water**

"The 1-million gallon tank supplying about 900 homes literally went dry... the CCWD board declared a water emergency and instituted mandatory rationing during a special Monday morning meeting.

The storage tank, located off Usher Drive, was already getting dangerously low on Friday, CCWD officials said Monday. Water was being pumped into the tank 24 hours a day since the heat wave began, but still was not keeping up with the demand, Operations and Maintenance Superintendent Bill Perley said.

Customers were using about 1.7 million gallons a day from the tank, which is the maximum rate water can be pumped into it, CCWD General Manager David Andres said.

Water had fallen to a level of 3 feet in a tank that can hold it to a 20-foot level when employees went through the area Saturday and again on Sunday asking residents to restrict their water usage.

Then a Sunday afternoon power surge knocked the area's treatment plant off line, halting the flow of water to the tank for about two hours, Andres said. Crews no sooner got the equipment operating again when a second surge hit, forcing the pumps to shut down again. All systems were functioning again Monday, but it's going to take some time.

**"We are feeding from our plant at the maximum we can, but our customers are using more water than allows us to recharge that tank," Andres said."**

Craig Koscho--Calaveras Enterprise, July 25, 2006

## **Valley Springs subdivision loses water**

**"Water service was restored last night to 900 homes south of Valley Springs, a day after a Calaveras County Water District water tank went dry because a power surge knocked out a district pump.**

**The homes at the Rancho Calaveras subdivision lost water about 9 p.m. Sunday. The outage affected about 2,000 people.**

**That service was restored starting at 9 p.m. yesterday. All customers had water by about midnight, said Bill Perley, CCWD's operations and maintenance superintendent."**

**"The outage combined with high water usage in the area drained the million-gallon tank dry, he said. Perley said he did not think this was the first time the subdivision had lost water."**

Chris Nichols--Union Democrat, July 25, 2006

## **Public Notice Regarding Water Shortage**

**"Due to the recent high temperatures and very high outdoor water use, delivery of water to a portion of Rancho Calaveras in CCWD's Jenny Lind service area has been strained.**

**Problems continue with bringing in as much water as is required to meet the high water demand. As a result, the CCWD Board has declared a water emergency for its Jenny Lind water service area."**

**"Until further notice, CCWD is asking its customers in the area of the Rancho Calaveras subdivision to suspend outdoor watering."**

CCWD Public Notice, July 24, 2006

## **Emergency Declaration**

**"This one-million gallon tank has been operating at 1.7 million gallons a day of outflow to customers during the recent heat wave, which is the maximum amount of water that can be pumped to the tank."**

**"CCWD has switched pumps and other systems to backup generator to eliminate power issues. However water is not coming into the system fast enough to meet demand."**

**"According to operations and maintenance superintendent Bill Perley, water is flowing into the affected service zone at a rate of 1.7 million gallons per day; usage is at least that high. If all outdoor watering is suspended, water levels in the local storage tank should return to normal in less than a day. When that occurs, it is anticipated that a modified conservation plan will be implemented severely limiting outdoor water use."**

CCWD Emergency Declaration, July 24, 2006

Wed, 26 Jul 2006

## **EMERGENCY WATER SITUATION**

For those of you who suffered through almost two days without water ... imagine what it would have been like if there had been a fire! CCWD is blaming this on the heat wave causing people to use excessive amounts of water which is true, and the power surges which caused a pump to fail, which is also true. However, the real problem is the system is inadequate for the amount of people that it serves. For years CCWD has been advised they need to improve Tank B which serves the afflicted area but they ignored the warnings. Now this area is prohibited from outdoor watering until further notice. When I moved here 17 years ago I, like many others, wanted a green spot in this barren land, so I planted and planted, and willingly paid the high prices for the water, without any warning from anyone. Since that time thousands more homes have been built, half of them have put in swimming pools or water features and beautiful landscaping that needs regular irrigation, which now will die at a tremendous cost to homeowners as well as the entire community. Is it fair for the people that are already here to suffer so some greedy contractors can just keep making their millions? I don't think so! We have an emergency situation on our hands and it has to be addressed now!

K. Crivello, Rancho Calaveras