

Sunnyslope County Water District

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WATER SOFTENERS NO LONGER NEEDED!

Sunnyslope County Water District in partnership with the City of Hollister and the San Benito County Water District have completed the upgrade to the Lessalt Water Treatment Plant. This project included a pump station and pipeline that now delivers high quality drinking water to the Ridgemark Area and the residents of the Quail Hollow and Oak Creek Developments. **WATER SOFTENERS ARE NO LONGER NEEDED** by these customers of Sunnyslope County Water District.

The Hollister Urban Area Water Project (HUAWP) is a collaborative effort approved in 2013 between the City of Hollister, Sunnyslope County Water District, and the San Benito County Water District to improve drinking water quality, protect the groundwater basin, and help meet wastewater discharge requirements.

Completion of the Lessalt upgrades is a milestone in a long-term effort to improve water quality for our drinking water customers, and to help protect our local groundwater basin. Sunnyslope County Water District is urging our customers in the Ridgemark, Quail Hollow, and Oak Creek Developments to **bypass your water softeners or to stop adding salt to your water softeners**. We want you to experience the improved water quality without using your water softeners. Customers who demolish their water softeners on average save \$168 per year on water savings and on salt purchases. The Water Resources Association continues to offer a \$300 rebate for customers who demolish their water softener and a \$250 rebate for those who transition to an offsite water softener regeneration service after removal of their old softener.

Upgrading the Lessalt Treatment Plant allows us to reliably treat 2 million gallons of water per day (mgd). This is the first step in a long-range plan that has been in the works for many years. The \$6.8-million project was completed on schedule and within the original budget. Surface water imported from the Central Valley Project (CVP) is treated to drinking water standards at the Lessalt Plant and distributed to Ridgemark, Sunnyslope and the City of Hollister customers.

It is critical our water customers eliminate the use of water softeners for the District to meet the State's wastewater treatment and discharge regulations for salt. Water softeners are adding a tremendous amount of salt that is discharged to the District's sewer and then is percolated into the ground at the wastewater treatment plant.

For more information about improved water quality, the Hollister Urban Area Water Project, and how to bypass or remove your water softener, you can call Don Ridenhour at 637-4670, Shawn Novack at 831-637-4378, and visit the website at www.hollisterwaterproject.com. You can also email them at info@hollisterwaterproject.com.

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