

5 THINGS TO KNOW!

Planning for a Resilient Water Future

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Water is essential to our daily lives and the foundation of a thriving economy. To secure a resilient and reliable water future, the State of California requires water suppliers serving more than 3,000 customers to prepare an Urban Water Management Plan (Plan) every five (5) years. These plans are critical to long-term planning and ensuring water reliability for decades.

In Orange County—home to more than 3.2 million people and a \$333 billion economy—this task is both significant and complex. MWDOC plays a key leadership role in helping cities and member agencies throughout Orange County develop and update their Plans.

These plans serve as blueprints, outlining how agencies will deliver safe, reliable water for the next 25 years. By anticipating future demands, identifying potential challenges, and exploring new supply options, agencies can avoid costly shortages, protect water quality, and invest wisely.

Through MWDOC's Shared Services Program, local agencies gain access to expert resources and technical support—making it easier to plan for a water-resilient future for Orange County families.

Check out how these plans support a resilient water future:

1

PLANNING FOR A RESILIENT FUTURE.

MWDOC helps guide a comprehensive, collaborative planning process that looks out to the year 2050. These long-term Plans integrate the latest climate science, water use trends, and regional strategies to ensure Orange County's future water reliability.

2

TAKING A GOOD LOOK AT FUTURE WATER NEEDS.

Each plan includes a detailed analysis of projected water needs for every water agency's service area. It considers local population growth, employment trends, and state-mandated water conservation requirements to ensure agencies are well-prepared.

3

DIVERSIFYING WATER SOURCES & FUTURE SUPPLIES.

Orange County relies on a diverse water portfolio—local groundwater and purified water from the innovative [Groundwater Replenishment System](#), imported water, and recycled water. Agencies are continually working to expand local supplies and maintain a reliable mix.

4

DROUGHT-PROOF ORANGE COUNTY.

A core focus of the Plans is drought resilience. By identifying vulnerabilities and developing contingency plans to augment supply or manage demand, water agencies ensure Orange County is prepared for dry years and unpredictable climate conditions.

5

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR WATER FUTURE.

Residents can participate in local water planning by reviewing draft Plans, attending public meetings, and sharing their input. Public participation ensures that the plans reflect local values and priorities—especially when it comes to reliability and affordability. New Plans will become available on your water agency's and MWDOC's websites in Spring 2026.

