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PUBLIC AGENCY

# QUAIL VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

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## Stage 3 Water Shortage Emergency UPDATE

9/13/2023

Thanks to all our water users, through your conservation efforts, we were able to make the water we had in storage last until the Montclair West Well pump and motor were replaced!

The Montclair West Well stopped producing water on Sunday and our storage tanks were only about two-thirds full. Staff responded to the well and diagnosed the failure to be a locked pump/motor.

On Monday, our staff, with the assistance of the crew from Shelby Pumps, the old pump was pulled from the well and a new pump installed. Once the pump was test run, District staff flushed and disinfected the well and allowed the disinfectant to sit over-night. On Tuesday, the well was again flushed to check the effectiveness of the disinfection and bacteriological samples were collected and delivered to the lab in Bakersfield.

Pace Analytical did a great job in getting our sample results back to us in a little over 24 hours. The analysis of the samples indicated that our disinfection was successful, and the water was safe to drink. Once those results were conveyed to WaterBoards, the District was given permission to place the well back in service so by 4:00 PM today (Wednesday), we began filling our tanks.

On Thursday, we will be lifting the Stage 3 Water Shortage Emergency restrictions. While the crisis has been averted, it will still take several days before the water tanks are again filled so your continued conservation efforts will be appreciated. It is anticipated that our water system will be back to normal operation by Monday. While the Stage 3 restrictions will be removed, Stage 2 Water Supply Shortage restrictions remain due to the continued drought.

Even though we recently received a heavy rain, and we also had a wet winter, we are still in drought conditions. Since the District relies solely on ground water for our water supply, drought is a long-term event. It has taken decades for the drought to impact our wells and it will take decades to reverse those effects. Along with the drought, our community has also grown, increasing the demands on our limited water supply.

Because of these issues, we can expect water conservation to remain a part of our lives for the foreseeable future.

Again, thanks for your help conserving water to lessen the impact of our pump failure and preventing a water supply outage!