

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2022

# Helix Highlights



## East County Advanced Water Purification

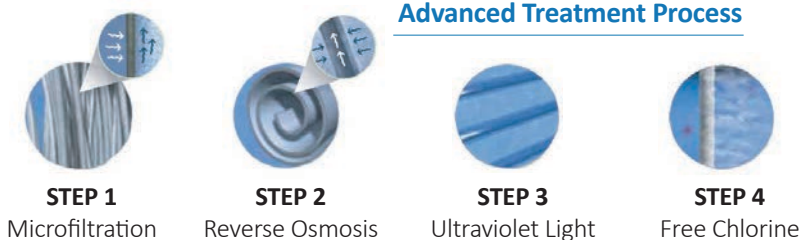
### Answers to common questions

When customers ask us about East County Advanced Water Purification, their first two questions are often if the project will affect water quality and if it will raise water rates. Here are the answers.

First, some background. This project will use proven technology to purify recycled water and provide up to 30% of east county's water supply. This is a local, drought-proof water supply. It is scheduled to go online in 2025 and is a collaboration between Padre Dam Municipal Water District, City of El Cajon, County of San Diego and Helix.

#### Water Quality

The four-step, advanced treatment process removes pharmaceuticals, chemicals, microplastics, bacteria and viruses, leaving water that meets state and federal drinking water standards, and is so pure that minerals need to be added back in for taste and a healthy pH level.



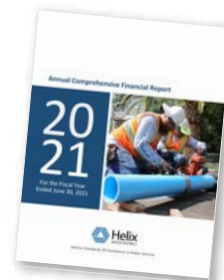
We'll blend the purified water with imported and local water in Lake Jennings, then treat it once more at Helix's R.M. Levy Water Treatment Plant. This technology is already used worldwide -- including in Orange County -- and the cities of San Diego, Oceanside and Santa Cruz are developing projects just like this one.

#### Water Rates

Helix customers won't pay more than they currently pay for this local, purified water -- because the price Helix pays for it is capped at the price we pay for imported water from the San Diego County Water Authority.

Moreover, most of the funding for the project is already in place -- multiple grants and low interest loans from the federal government, the State of California and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California -- and additional funding is in the works.

Join us for [Helix Water Chats](#) in March to learn more about East County Advanced Water Purification (see page 2)



#### Check Our Latest Financial Report

Our *Annual Comprehensive Financial Report* includes trends -- see how water rates, water use and other data have changed over the last 10 years.

[Go to hwd.com/district-documents](http://hwd.com/district-documents)

#### Fix a Leak Week

March 14-20 is Fix a Leak Week. We'll give you tips all week, and the week before, so you know how to find and fix costly toilet and irrigation leaks.

[Go to hwd.com](http://hwd.com) or [facebook.com/helixwater](https://facebook.com/helixwater)



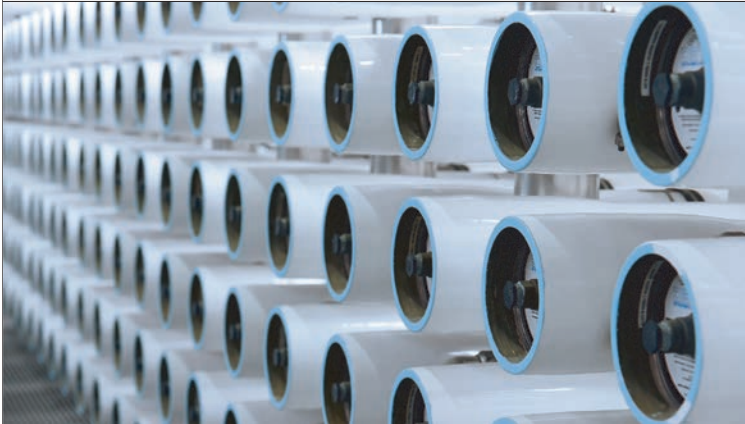
### What is that?



Have you ever seen this device on a water meter, and wondered -- what is that? It's a temporary water meter. We use these devices when customers need short-term water service -- at a construction site, for example -- so that we can track and bill for the water they use.

SPRING 2022

# What's Going On



East County  
Advanced Water  
Purification

March 3 @ 2 p.m. / March 8 @ 5:30 p.m.  
Join us on zoom.com for a presentation, discussion  
and answers to your questions.

Register at [hwd.fyi/waterchats](http://hwd.fyi/waterchats)

- Mar 1 / Lake Jennings Spring Photo Contest Opens
- Mar 4 / Scholarship Contest Entries Due
- Apr 29 / Water is Life Poster Contest Entries Due
- May 13 / WaterSmart Landscape Contest Entries Due ▶

Explore Contests and  
School Programs at [hwd.com](http://hwd.com)



Mar 5 & Apr 2 / New Moon Fishing  
From 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Apr 6 / National Walking Day  
Walk the whole lake from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and save \$10 on an annual walking pass

Apr 8-17 / Spring Break  
Lake open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday-Sunday

Apr 15-17 / Spring into the Weekend  
Egg deliveries to campsites, the Easter Bunny and kids crafts

[Learn more at lakejennings.org/events](http://lakejennings.org/events)



Mar 12 / Planting Water, Growing Soil Workshop  
Learn techniques to modify the contour of your landscape, plant  
sustainably and harvest water -- sponsored by the County of San Diego

Mar 15-20 / Lost Leprechaun Scavenger Hunt  
Help find the gold coins that lead Ms. Smarty Plants to her Lost Leprechaun pal

Mar 16 & Apr 20 / Ms. Smarty Plants Storytime  
Join Ms. Smarty Plants for storytelling and crafts in the Butterfly Amphitheater

[Learn more at thegarden.org/seasonal-workshops](http://thegarden.org/seasonal-workshops)

