



California County Café – Office Hours

– Specializing in Drought Resilience

4/16/2025



Welcome and Setting Intention

Office Hours - An opportunity for an informal conversation about the issues and questions that are on your mind.

- ✓ Join the conversation - share your questions, experience and learn from other perspectives and experiences.
- ✓ Make a connection - use the chat to connect with other participants.
- ✓ County focused - While all are invited to join, this gathering will focus on supporting county staff.



County Café Gathering - Year One Review

Orit Kalman - Facilitator

Year One Review:

Topics Covered to Support County DRP Development

- Drought and Water Shortage Task Force formation
- Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment and related local data to inform the planning process
- Short term response Actions – leveraging partnerships with CBOs
- Short term response planning (phases, triggers)
- Considerations for consolidation opportunities
- Outreach to promote engagement and reporting of dry wells
- Technical assistance providers and funding opportunities

Thank you to all the speakers throughout the C3 series!

Sierra Ryan, County of Santa Cruz
Kyle Ericson, El Dorado Water Agency
Courtney Howard, County of San Luis Obispo
Kamie Loeser, Butte County
Jenny Nunez Rodriguez, Madera County
Sean Hembree, Tuolumne County
Jeremy Shepard, Placer County Water Agency
Karen Bender, County of El Dorado
Adrian Combes, South Tahoe PUD
Denise England, Tulare County

Brendan McGovern, Napa County
Jason Johnston, Santa Barbara County
Sabrina Snyder, Yolo County
Lee Ann Hennessy, Sutter County
Tien Tran, Community Water Center
Amber Fisette, Mendocino County
Amir Mani, EKI Environment & Water
Tami McVay, Self Help Enterprises
Cyril Barmore, RCAC
Jennifer Strauch, USDA



<https://water.ca.gov/-/media/DWR-Website/Web-Pages/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency/Urban-Water-Use-Efficiency/SB-552/County-Drought-Resilience-Planning-Assistance-Program>





Your Questions

Orit Kalman - Facilitator

The Survey Says:

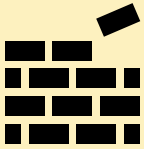
Topics related to Drought Resilience Plan development



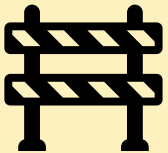
Outreach and Education: Ideas for reducing barriers to reporting lack of water access and messaging about the value of the DRP given it's an unfunded mandate



Constraints related to local Health and Safety Code



Building regional capacity: Ideas to address the lack of workforce capacity for wells drilling/deepening and water hauling during water shortages



Barriers to systems and DW consolidation: We hope to discuss at the May 28th meeting with presentation from the SWB



Declared Drought Emergency: Coordination of the DRP with Emergency Response Plans

FAQ: What resources are available to the Counties to support outreach for domestic wells?

Educational materials to direct domestic well owners towards.

- DWR: Be Well Prepared, Save Our Water
- SWRCB: GAMA – Domestic Well Owners
- EPA: Private Drinking Water Well
- RCAC: Individual Well Program
- CWC: Drinking Water Guide for Domestic Wells




BE WELL
prepared



Examples across counties:

Domestic Wells Resources

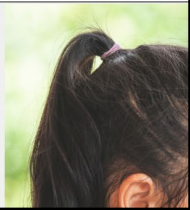


SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

About UsProgramsPublic Records

Household Well Assistance

NEW HOMEPROGRAMSWATER RESOURCESDROUGHT RESPONSEHOUSEHOLD WELL ASSISTANCE



How Can The County Help Your Household Well?

Santa Cruz County has secured funding for several programs that can help household wells that have been impacted by drought.

Dry Well Assistance:

Well Sounding Services:

Water Quality Assistance:

Maintenance of Well Completion Reports:

How Can You Help Your Household Well?

There are many actions that you can take right now to help your household well adapt to Climate Change.


Get familiar with your well components:

Perform general maintenance on your well:

Conserve water:

Be aware of emergency resources:

Know what risk factors might affect your well:



NAPA COUNTY
CALIFORNIA

Groundwater AgencyLocal GroundwaterGet InvolvedFAQsDocuments & Resources

Do-It-Yourself (DIY) Groundwater Monitoring

Home » Departments » Planning, Building & Environmental Services » Natural Resources Division » Groundwater Sustainability » Local Groundwater » Resources for Well Owners

Resources for Well Owners

Dry or Damaged Wells

- Has your well run dry? [Report it here.](#)
- [What to do if your well is no longer producing water](#)
- [Well and Treatment System Contractors](#)

Well Owners Guide PDF

A [printable guide](#) that covers well construction, maintenance, and water quality protection for private well owners in Napa County.

Be Well Prepared

Learn about the Department of Water Resources program, which empowers domestic drinking water well users by providing the information and resources they need to maintain a safe and reliable household water supply.

Do-It-Yourself Groundwater Monitoring

ButteCountyCALIFORNIA

GOVERNMENTDEPARTMENTS SERVICES COMMUNITY HOW DO I... Search...

Private Water Wells: Residential & Ag

Public Water Systems

Water Sampling

Water Well Maintenance & Care

Home » Departments » Departments M to Z » Public Health » Environmental Health » Drinking Water » Water Well Maintenance & Care

Water Well Maintenance & Care

Like any other aspect of property ownership, wells require regular, ongoing maintenance. Well-maintenance is important to the health of your family and property. Once a well is installed, maintenance of your well and regular testing of your water will help ensure your water is of high quality and safe to use. It is your responsibility to maintain your well, monitor your water quality and help protect the quality of drinking water in Butte County. Regular maintenance will not only ensure the safety of your water but will also alert you to any problems that need attention and ensure the continued efficient operation of your well.

Access the [Butte County Water and Resource Conservation](#) page for more information.

Water Well Resources



FAQ: What can be done to address limited or lack of reporting on domestic well/State Small Water System related issues?

- *Distrust of potential misuse of information (fear of enforcement, impact to property value, family dynamics, etc.)*
- *Lack of awareness and knowledge about available reporting process and opportunities to receive support*
- *Limited local resources to address identified issues*

THE BENEFITS OF REPORTING

- ✓ **Be proactive** and attend to issues ahead of drought and water shortage emergencies
- ✓ Enhances **local long-term planning** and future water shortage resilience of the community
- ✓ Allows the State to **prioritize regions in need** as funding becomes available

ADDRESSING REPORTING ISSUES

- ✓ Partner with trusted third parties (SHE, RCAC) to promote reporting and connection to resources
- ✓ Provide Incentive Programs (free well testing kits)
- ✓ Outreach and Education
 - Provide links to local and state resources on a dedicate webpage
 - Clarify how the data is being used for (Well Completion Reports, Internal County Databases, GSPs)

REPORTING RESOURCES

- ✓ My Dry Well → mydrywell.water.ca.gov
- ✓ County website and Community Based Organizations partners (SHE, RCAC)

The Survey Says:

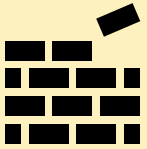
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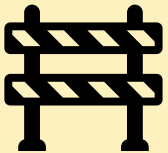
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County Discussion Opportunities

May 28, 2025, 9-10am : California County Café Gathering

Past Webinars on Water Shortage Vulnerability Scoring and Tool

→ **small water systems** scoring [recording](#) & [presentation](#)

→ **domestic wells & state small water systems** scoring [recording](#) & [presentation](#)

Resources:

- General questions on developing short-term response actions – Reference the [DWR County Drought Resilience Plan Guidebook](#)
- For specific questions about your county – Reach out to DWR at CountyDRP@water.ca.gov



Closing – Thank you!

Next steps – we will follow up with an email to counties for future gatherings, invitation to share in upcoming gathering.