



Planning Our Water Future: Our Water System Master Plan



Citrus Heights Water is taking important steps today to ensure our community continues to enjoy safe, reliable water for decades to come. One of the most important tools guiding this work is our Water System Master Plan—a long-range, 25-year roadmap that will identify what to do and when to do it.

Citrus Heights Water's last major plan was completed in 1998, and a lot has changed since then. Many of the capital improvements from that plan are now complete, and our community's water use has decreased significantly due to State-mandated regulations and less water used by customers—today's demands are nearly 50% lower than they were in the early 2000s. Updating the plan now ensures our planning reflects today's realities and prepares us for the years ahead.

The new roadmap looks at everything involved in keeping water flowing to your tap: pipes, groundwater wells, pressure zones, meters, water demand, and evolving regulations. It also explores ways to make the water system more reliable, such as adding aboveground water tanks or drilling new groundwater wells.

The Water System Master Plan is still in progress, and we expect to complete it this year.

As the plan moves forward, Citrus Heights Water will continue sharing updates and engaging the community. Together, we're building a stronger, more resilient water system—one designed to serve our customers today and into the future.

In This Issue

- Our Water System Master Plan
- Two-Way Wells
- Our Key Pillars
- In the Community
- Water Efficiency

Two-Way Wells That Help Provide Reliability

Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) wells are special “two-way” wells that help improve reliability during dry years or emergencies. Unlike a traditional well, which only pumps water out of the ground, an ASR well can both store water underground and recover it later when it's needed most.

Here's how it works: When water supplies are plentiful—think lots of rain or snow—clean, treated drinking water is injected through the ASR well into the underground aquifer. The aquifer serves as a natural storage reservoir, safely holding the water until it's needed.

Later, during dry periods or times of peak demand, the same well pumps the stored water back into the distribution system. This reduces reliance on surface water from Folsom Lake when supplies are limited.

ASR wells increase local water supply, provide an emergency backup, improve resilience, and make the entire water system more flexible and reliable—ensuring clean, dependable water for the community in wet years and dry years alike.



Our Key Pillars



Pipe Planning Progresses

Many of Citrus Heights Water's pipes are nearing the end of their lifespan. Proactive pipe replacements will start to ramp up around the year 2030. We have plans in place to make sure the system stays reliable. [Learn more at chwd.org/Project2030.](http://chwd.org/Project2030)



Investing in Groundwater for a More Reliable Supply

Groundwater is essential to Citrus Heights Water's supply, especially in dry years. With grant funding, two advanced wells are being added to boost storage and enhance reliability by supplementing the supply from Folsom Lake.



Leading Regional Partnerships

Citrus Heights Water is partnering with surrounding water agencies to purchase supplies and materials in bulk to reduce costs.



In the Community



Citrus Heights Water had a wonderfully busy time out in the community this past year. From education to celebration, we've been connecting with customers across our service area.

Our Customer Advisory Committee continued its important work, offering valuable input on long-term planning, while our WaterSmart Classes helped residents learn practical ways to be more water efficient at home and in their landscapes.

The annual Student Poster Contest showcased the creativity of young artists in our local schools.

Discover Watersmart Living!



Citrus Heights Water's free classes are full of hands-on tips, creative ideas, and expert guidance to help you get more out of every drop. Whether you want to refresh your landscape, be more efficient with your water use, or simply spark new inspiration, our in-person sessions make it easy to learn practical techniques that truly work. We invite you to join us for our upcoming classes!

MONTH	WATERSMART WORKSHOP
March	Here Comes the Sun: Spring Planting
April	Don't Stop Tree-lievin: Planting Smart for Long-Term Tree Care
August	Stayin Alive: Keeping House Plants Thriving
September	Earth Worm and Fire: The Art of Worm Castings

To view our full schedule, access videos, resources, or catch up on earlier classes, [visit chwd.org/WaterSmart.](http://chwd.org/WaterSmart)

Ready, Set, Grow!

Did you know we live in U.S. Department of Agriculture Hardiness Zone 9b? With its mild and long growing season, it's the perfect time to jump start your garden by planting these hardy crops now.



Vegetables

- **February:** Hardy beets, carrots, and chives are great additions to the garden.
- **March:** As the weather starts to warm up, plant celery, Swiss chard, and white potatoes.

Flowers

- **February:** Add Salvia, Primroses, Marigold, and pansies to your garden to provide color that thrives through winter's final weeks.
- **March:** As early spring emerges, consider planting red yucca, petunias, and cosmos.

Herbs

- Planting herbs like rosemary, parsley, and cilantro in garden beds or indoor pots will give them a strong start before spring.

Stay in the Know!

Sign up for Citrus Heights Water news, sent right to your inbox. [Visit chwd.org/join.](http://chwd.org/join)



Smart Irrigation Controller Program

Still using an older sprinkler timer? You may qualify for a free smart irrigation controller. To learn more about the program, [visit chwd.org/review.](http://chwd.org/review)



Water Efficiency Rebates

Citrus Heights Water offers rebates of up to \$75 for ultra-low-flush toilets and high-efficiency clothes washers. Customers may also receive up to \$150 when installing a pressure-reducing valve. [Apply at chwd.org/rebates.](http://chwd.org/rebates)

Keep The Connection Flowing

Follow us on social media @citrusheightswaterdistrict for program updates, tips, and other community highlights.

