



Water Watch

www.amwc.us

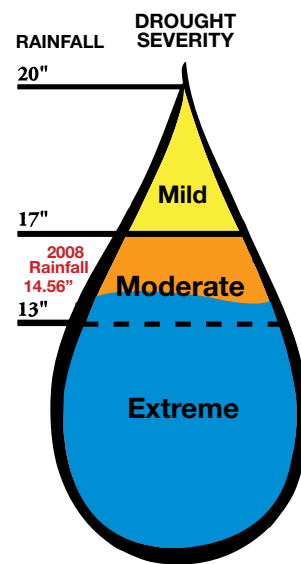
Atascadero Mutual Water Company March 2008

Rainfall as of March 1

Thankfully we have received significantly more rainfall than last year's meager 7.60 inches, the fourth lowest rainfall in AMWC's 93-year history. The Salinas River has been running for several weeks now, which is a good indicator of our water resources being replenished.

The rainfall year begins July 1 and ends June 31. The lowest rainfall year on record was 1975-1976 with only 6.67 inches and the highest was 1982-1983 with 38.84 inches of rain. AMWC has been measuring daily rainfall at its shop on Sycamore Road since 1915.

	Rain Year	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Total
	2007/08	0.00	0.26	0.00	0.43	0.03	3.21	9.20	1.43					14.56
Historical Rainfall 1915 - 2008	Min	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.67
	Average	0.01	0.03	0.20	0.64	1.65	3.08	3.91	3.74	2.96	1.31	0.30	0.04	17.60
	Max	0.30	1.19	2.67	5.89	6.92	9.38	16.62	12.16	13.10	7.21	2.77	0.93	38.84



2008 Rainfall as of 02/29/08

9TH Annual Water-Conserving Landscape Awards

Atascadero Mutual Water Company is sponsoring its 9th Annual Water-Conserving Landscape Awards contest. The purpose of this contest is to help educate the community of the need for wise and efficient use of our water resources. Landscape water use accounts for approximately 60% of the total water pumped by AMWC. It increases the daily demand from approximately 3 million gallons per day for indoor use to over 12 million gallons per day on a hot summer day. In order to live within the limits of our existing water supply, we must place greater emphasis on efficient landscape water use.

As a water conserver, you can assist by helping to identify local landscapes that incorporate water efficiency and innovative design. We want to recognize and reward those who have made the effort to landscape their homes and/or businesses in a manner that is compatible with our local environment and resources.

Water-conserving landscapes should include the following criteria:

- General Appearance
- Integration with Natural Surroundings
- Plant Composition
- Judicious Use of Turf (Not to exceed 20% of landscaped area)
- Hardscape and Mulch Use
- Correct Implementation of Irrigation System

To nominate landscapes within the Atascadero Mutual Water Company service area that meet the above criteria, call 461-4628 or email jlien@awmc.us. A panel of judges will evaluate the nominees, and the winners will be announced May 7th at the AMWC Annual Shareholders Meeting.

The nomination deadline is Friday, April 25th.



Water-Conserving
Landscape Award
Winner - 2007

Water-Conserving
Landscape Award
Winner - 2006



Water-Conserving
Award Winner - 2005



Sustainable Landscape Workshop Series

Once again, the Atascadero Mutual Water Company and the North County Partners in Water Conservation will offer a free summer workshop series designed to maximize outdoor water efficiency and prevent high summer water bills.

Seating is limited. Visit www.amwc.us for additional information and to register or call 461-7217 x17.

Landscape Design Strategies

Join local landscape designer and Atascadero resident Christy Edstrom O'Hara to learn how to implement simple changes to your landscape by exploring design strategies and innovative use of materials. You will learn to strategize a design that works best for your needs through colorful slides and examples from participants' own landscapes. Space is limited.

*April 19th, 6:30 -8:30 pm
AMWC Office, 5005 El Camino Real*

Drip Irrigation: A Hands-On Approach

Drip irrigation saves water, time and effort! Learn how to design, build and operate water-saving drip systems. This workshop will be both outdoors and indoors.

*April 24th, 6:00-8:00 pm
AMWC Office, 5005 El Camino Real*

*June 28th, 9:30-11:30 am
Paso Robles Library, Paso Robles*

Bird Walk in the Watershed

Join Roger Zachary, "Birdman of Atascadero" and local Audubon field trip leader as we walk along the de Anza Trail section of the Atascadero Mutual Water Company's property. We will be "birding" in mixed oak woodland and riparian woodland along the Salinas River. We should be able to identify approximately 30 species. Space is limited.

Saturday, May 31st, 7:30 - 11:30 am

Home Sprinkler Systems & Landscape Irrigation

Over 50% of the water used in the North County is used for landscape irrigation, which places significant stress on our limited water resources. This workshop focuses on the design and maintenance principles of overhead sprinklers and irrigation controller programming, and provides you with the information you need to more efficiently operate your landscape irrigation system.

*June 5th, 6:00-8:00 pm
AMWC Office, 5005 El Camino Real*

*July 12th, 9:30-11:30 am
Paso Robles Library, Paso Robles*

Plant Selection for North County Landscapes

See and learn about 75 plants that once established will survive without water. Choosing the right plants will help reduce ongoing maintenance and the use of water, fertilizers, and pesticides and help make your landscape a place you can continually enjoy.

*August 12th, 6:00 - 8:00 pm
AMWC Office, 5005 El Camino Real*

*August 16th, 9:30 - 11:00 am
Paso Robles Library, Paso Robles*

