

LA County's Water System

More than 200 local agencies manage and deliver water across LA County. While every agency operates on its own, they often cross geographic boundaries, like when water comes from the Sierra Mountains to LA County. Two-thirds of the water in LA County is imported, meaning that it is sourced from areas outside of the County like the Colorado River and the Eastern Sierra. The remaining one-third is produced locally through groundwater, recycled water and stormwater.



Key Components

LA County's water system includes diverse infrastructure that works together to ensure safe, reliable water for our region.



Conveyance

Hundreds of miles of aqueducts and pipelines and dozens of pumping plants all work together to get water safely from distant sources to our communities.



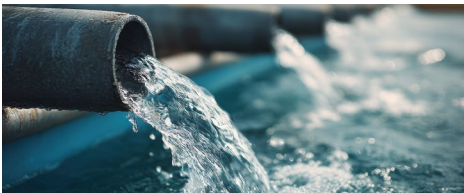
Supply & Storage

Reservoirs, stormwater capture projects, groundwater basins and wells help to capture and store water for future use.



Wastewater & Recycled Water Systems

Water reclamation facilities and recycled water distribution systems clean wastewater so it can use it again.



Drinking Water Purification

Purification facilities and groundwater remediation plants clean water to make it safe to drink.



Flood Management

Dams, spreading grounds, storm drains, channels and flood control basins capture and store rainfall, help prevent flooding, and replenish groundwater.



Coastal Groundwater Management

Seawater intrusion barriers, monitoring wells and water quality testing and control systems help protect coastal aquifers.

Challenges

Our water infrastructure faces growing challenges driven by climate change, aging facilities and dependence on imported water.



Climate Change: More frequent and intense storms, as well as cycles of drought, wildfire and flooding strain both imported and local water supplies.



Aging Infrastructure: Aging dams, pipelines, groundwater facilities and reclamation plants need upgrades to meet modern water quality and climate-resilience standards.



Groundwater Quality: Many groundwater basins are overdrawn or face contamination, and some communities still lack consistent access to clean drinking water.



Limited Local Water Capture: Much of our region's stormwater and recycled water still goes unused, requiring expanded infrastructure to increase local water supply.



Planning and Investment

Investing in water strengthens our economy, protects public health and improves quality of life—all while ensuring we have the water resources we use every day.

- **Economic:** Water infrastructure projects create jobs, boost local spending and drive long-term economic development. Every \$1 invested in water infrastructure in California supports \$1.93 in economic output nationally.
- **Public Health:** Every community has a right to safe, reliable drinking water. Upgraded systems ensure clean drinking water for all, protecting health and water quality for generations to come.
- **Quality of Life:** Strong water systems preserve our quality of life, from cleaner water in our taps and along our coast to improved public spaces, ensuring that our pipes, pump stations and storage facilities remain resilient against climate extremes.

