

Why We Recycle

Water is one of our most precious natural resources. By recycling water for non-drinking purposes such as landscape irrigation and industrial use, we can better manage California's limited water supply.

Central San has been recycling water since the 1970s and today

produces more than 500 million gallons of recycled water every year. Recycling water is good for the environment and provides an economic benefit to the community by ensuring a reliable, drought-proof water supply for our local businesses and parks.

Recycled Water Fill Station



Central San offers recycled water at no extra charge for our residential customers. This water is ideal for hand-watering trees, gardens, and lawns. Bring your own water-tight containers to the self-service fill station, located at our Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility at 4797 Imhoff Place, Martinez.

Before using the fill station for the first time, you'll need to read and complete the Residential Recycled Water Fill Station Use Application/Agreement and receive a brief training on the use of recycled water. Download the form at:

centralsan.org/recycledwater

For current fill station hours and information, call 925-335-7717.

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Water Recycling

Protecting Our Future
by Protecting Our
Resources



Central Contra Costa Sanitary District
5019 Imhoff Place, Martinez, CA 94553
(925) 228-9500 centralsan.org/recycledwater



How we recycle water

Central San's recycled water is produced from wastewater we collect from homes and businesses throughout Central Contra Costa County. This water flows through underground pipes to our wastewater treatment plant where it undergoes a rigorous cleaning process.

Most of this cleaned water is safely released into Suisun Bay, but a portion is diverted to our recycled water plant where it undergoes additional filtration and disinfection (see diagram below).

Ensuring water quality

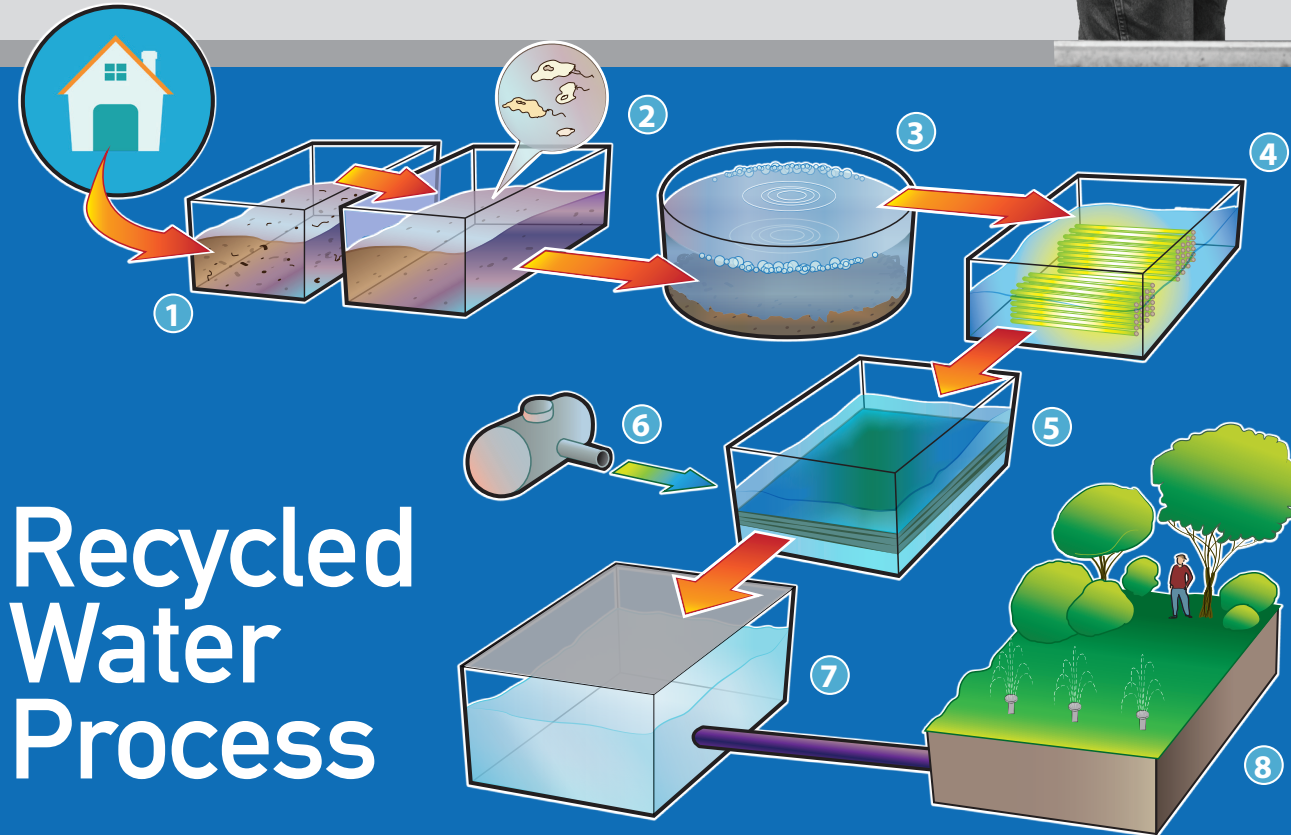
Thanks to its advanced treatment including disinfection with both ultraviolet light and chlorine, recycled water is safe for non-drinking uses. We monitor and test our recycled water in our onsite laboratory to ensure it continually meets all federal, state, and regional water quality standards.



Who uses our recycled water

We distribute our recycled water via 14 miles of pipeline to commercial and institutional customers in parts of Martinez, Concord, and Pleasant Hill. This water is used for industrial processes as well as irrigation for golf courses, parks, college campuses, street medians, and more.

We also offer recycled water at no extra cost for landscape use at our residential recycled water fill station (*details on reverse*).



- 1 Wastewater travels through underground pipes to our treatment plant. During primary treatment, solid matter is screened and settles out of the water.
- 2 Secondary treatment uses beneficial bacteria to digest and remove organic particles.
- 3 Secondary clarifiers remove 96% of the remaining particles through settling and mechanical separation.
- 4 The water is disinfected with ultraviolet light.
- 5 In our recycling plant, the water passes through a sand and anthracite filter, similar to those used for purifying drinking water.
- 6 Chlorine is added to disinfect the water a second time.
- 7 Now ready for distribution, the recycled water is stored in a covered reservoir.
- 8 Recycled water is pumped to customers for irrigation and other purposes.