Connecting the Drops

WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

VICTORIA RECHARGE BASIN

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FAQs

What is a recharge basin and how will it help our water supply?
Recharge basins capture stormwater from precipitation and runoff and then allow it to seep into the groundwater aquifer below. The Victoria Recharge Basin Project is part of the larger Arlington Basin Sustainability Project that will eventually include additional production wells and a transmission pipeline. Upon completion, the project will stabilize the Arlington Groundwater Basin, improve groundwater quality, and allow optimal operation of the Arlington Desalter, bringing additional local water to Western Municipal Water District customers.

Where is the Victoria Recharge Basin Project located?
The Victoria Recharge Basin is under construction near the intersection of Victoria Avenue and Jackson Street in Riverside.

How is the stormwater recharged?
Recharge occurs naturally when rainfall collects and puddles on the ground. As it moves down through the soil from the surface, water fills the air spaces between soil particles and eventually replenishes or "recharges" the underground aquifer. The construction of a recharge basin is designed to mimic the natural hydrologic process.

How much water will this site recharge?
The Victoria Recharge Basin is estimated to recharge up to 1,800 acre-feet of water per year, which is equivalent to the average annual water supply needed for 3,600 homes.

Why is Western building this project?

Western is investing millions of dollars in local infrastructure projects to reduce dependency on imported water from Northern California. The Victoria Recharge Basin Project is part of the larger Arlington Basin Sustainability Project that will eventually include additional production wells and a transmission pipeline. Upon completion, the project will stabilize the Arlington Groundwater Basin, improve groundwater quality, and allow optimal operation of the Arlington Desalter, bringing additional local water to Western customers. These projects will also have the capacity to provide additional local water in case of emergencies, and will increase water reliability in the event of a temporary outage of imported water supplies.

What is the construction timeline?

Percolation tests were conducted in 2018 to aid in the design process. Construction will begin in summer 2018 and will take approximately nine months to complete. The Victoria Recharge Basin is anticipated to be operational in spring 2019.

What kinds of construction impacts can motorists and residents expect?

During construction, both Victoria Avenue and Jackson Street will remain open; however, there will be occasional street closures during movement of equipment and materials. Nearby residents and motorists will be notified in advance when construction activities may require temporary lane or street closures.

Construction vehicles and equipment may be staged along Jackson Street during construction. Vehicles and machinery are too heavy to park on-site as excess weight on the project site will compact the soil and damage the recharge basin. Motorists are asked to use caution and follow speed limits while driving near the construction site.

Neighbors may hear construction noise from vehicles and machinery during working hours of 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. A water truck will spray the site at least four times each day to reduce project-related dust during grading operations.

How much does it cost to build this recharge basin?

The Victoria Recharge Basin Project will cost $3.4 million and is included as part of the larger Arlington Basin Sustainability Project. To date, Western has received grants totaling $3 million from the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Proposition 84 funds administered by the Department of Water Resources, and the Bureau of Reclamation.

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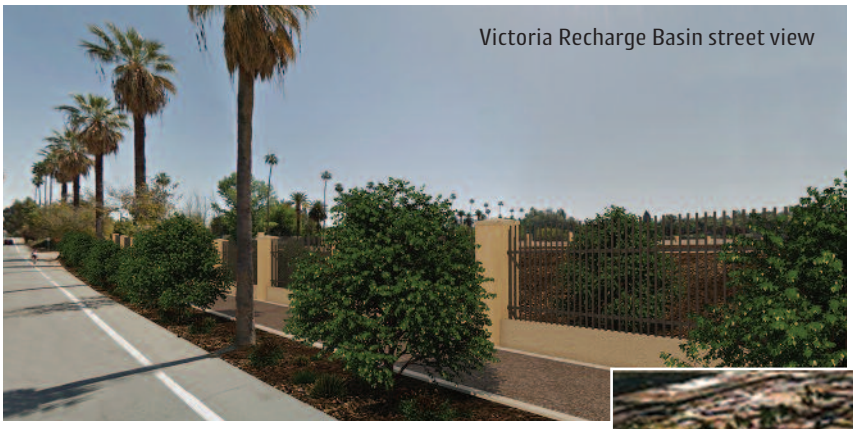
Victoria Recharge Basin street view


Recharge Basin rendering

What will the site look like?

The site has design been carefully designed to blend in with the community by meeting local architectural and landscaping codes. Please see the renderings for an idea of what it will look like when completed.

Will this basin cause an increase in mosquitos in the area?

No. When the Victoria Recharge Basin receives stormwater or run off water, the design will force the water to move too quickly to attract mosquitoes. The basin is designed on a slope to pool the water so it percolates more efficiently and ultimately drains into the underground detention basin. Western also will be working regularly with vector control to monitor and ensure mosquito infestations do not occur.

How was this site selected for the recharge basin?

This parcel was one of several sites examined as a potential recharge location for the Arlington Basin in a 2009 feasibility study. The study took into account existing infrastructure, such as proximity to the Mockingbird Reservoir, the Riverside and Gage Canals, and Western's non-potable water pipelines, as well as soil conditions, before concluding this was the ideal site.

Who will get the additional water supply?

Upon completion, the project will bring additional local water to Western customers throughout the service area including, Corona, Norco and Riverside.

For more information, please contact Lynne Butler at Western Municipal Water District at **lbutler@wmwd.com** or 951.269.2339.

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