

## Additional Information

*If you would like to know more about recycled water, you can find information at the following sites;*

California Department of Public Health – Recycled Water: Regulations and Guidance  
<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/drinkingwater/Pages/Lawbook.aspx>

United States Environmental Protection Agency – Guidance for Water Reuse  
<http://www.epa.gov/nrmrl/pubs/625r04108/625r04108.pdf>

Water Reuse -  
[www.athirstyplanet.com](http://www.athirstyplanet.com)

You can also contact the North Marin Water District at:  
**415-892-8043**



THE CITY OF  
**NOVATO**  
CALIFORNIA



**NOVATO RECYCLED  
WATER PROGRAM**

### City of Novato

922 Machin Ave  
Novato, CA

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Novato Public Works



## Recycled Water in Novato

In an effort to conserve water and to continue providing safe and well-irrigated green spaces in our parks, The City of Novato, in partnership with the North Marin Water District (NMWD), has begun conversion of public irrigation systems from potable water to recycled water. This brochure provides information about the safety of recycled water.



If you have questions, please contact  
City of Novato

**415-899-8280**

## Why Recycled Water?

Recycled water is a safe, effective, and reliable water supply available to help meet future water supply needs of our community. Today, Novato relies on the Russian River for our water supply, but this source has been impacted by changed conditions that help protect fish and our environment.

Recycled water is wastewater treated to tertiary recycled water standards (also referred to as advanced water treatment) which is the highest level of treatment defined by the State of California (referred to as Title 22). This level of treatment allows for unrestricted reuse in virtually all recycled water applications. Recycled water goes through four steps before it is considered tertiary, they are; primary treatment, biological treatment (secondary), filtration, and disinfection (tertiary). These steps are necessary before recycled water is used for landscape irrigation.

Recycled water meets strict Federal, State, and County health and safety requirements. While not approved for drinking, it is second in purity only to potable water. Of the three quality standards for recycled water in California, NMWD's is of the highest quality. Recycled water that meets guidelines is safe, reliable, and used in thousands of applications throughout the United States and the world. The quality of the water is such that it could be used to supply a lake for boating and swimming.

## Recycled Water Locations

It will take several years for recycled water to be fully integrated into our city's infrastructure, but currently we are using recycled water in the Hamilton area at the parks and landscapes, including South Hamilton Park, Dunphy Little League field, Amphitheater Park and many of the roadside landscapes and islands, including the Meadow Park landscapes.

Additionally, reclaimed water is used at Hamman Little League field and the perimeter lawns adjacent to the field.

### But is it Really Safe?

Recycled water provided by NMWD is treated to a very high level and certified safe for contact for all people including children. In over 80 years of use of recycled water in California, there have been no documented cases of any ill effects from proper use. There are 15 parks in Marin, as well as 13 schools, already using recycled water and around 400 others throughout the state.

### How to Tell if Recycled Water is Being Used

Other than a slight chlorine odor, there is no visible way to tell if water is reclaimed or not. For this reason all areas using recycled water are clearly marked with signage and with purple covers on all irrigation supply valve boxes

## For Pets

Recycled water is near in quality to drinking water and would be safer than if your pet drank from a pond or ditch. It has been carefully treated and has been disinfected. As a result of this treatment, recycled water is ideal for use on landscapes, especially lawns.

Recycled water is regulated by the California Department of Public Health (DPH). This agency establishes and enforces the standards for recycled water. Both NMWD and the City must meet stringent requirements when using recycled water. In addition, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board issues water recycling permits based on the established DPH regulation.

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