

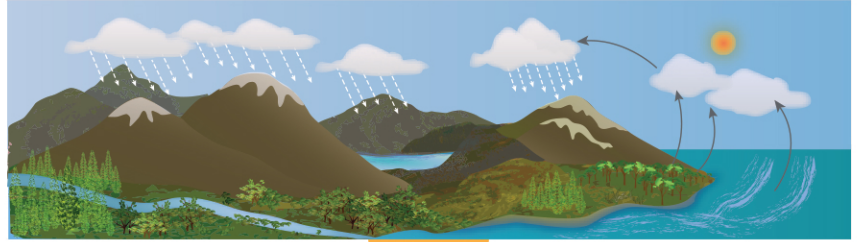
WHAT IS WATER INFRASTRUCTURE?

Water infrastructure is crucial to the prosperity of California. It refers to the pipes, pumps and facilities that are a vital part of capturing, storing, treating and delivering water to homes, businesses and the farms that grow our food throughout the state. As climate change continues to drive higher temperatures, limited precipitation and frequent weather extremes, water supplies will continue to be strained and require investing in and modernizing these vital systems.

The specific infrastructure that each water agency uses varies depending on geography and local water sources. No two agencies capture, store and deliver water in the exact same way. However, the basic features and components of water infrastructure systems are similar.

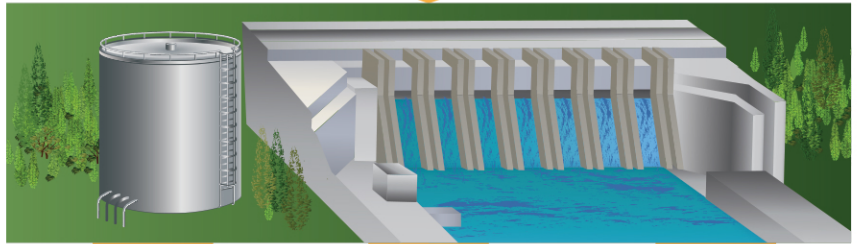
PRECIPITATION

Precipitation falls as snow or rain. **As snow melts, this water flows down from the mountains** and into rivers, streams and lakes (whether natural or man-made reservoirs).



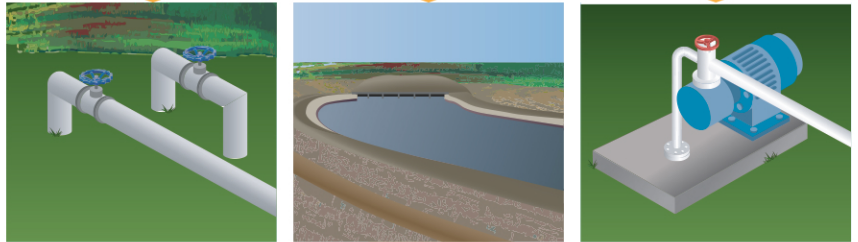
STORAGE

California's systems of **lakes, rivers and basins provide natural water supply storage**, while reservoirs in the form of dams or storage tanks create additional storage. Some regions also have natural groundwater aquifers that collect and store water underground.



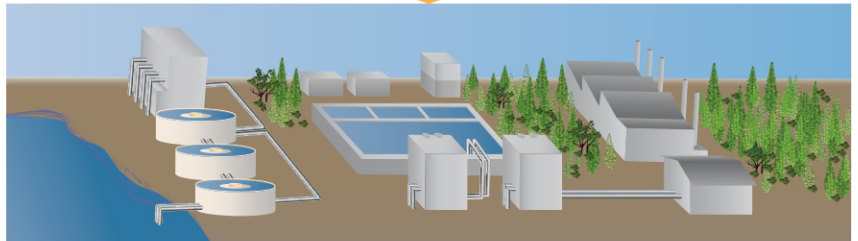
CONNECTION

Water agencies rely on a complex system of **pipes, pumps, canals and aqueducts** to connect all of our water supplies with our infrastructure systems in order to transport it from the source to the homes, businesses and farms that grow our food.



TREATMENT

Water quality and safety is of the utmost importance to California's water managers. Though the treatment methods vary, water managers use rigorous testing and monitoring processes to ensure our drinking water is safe to use.



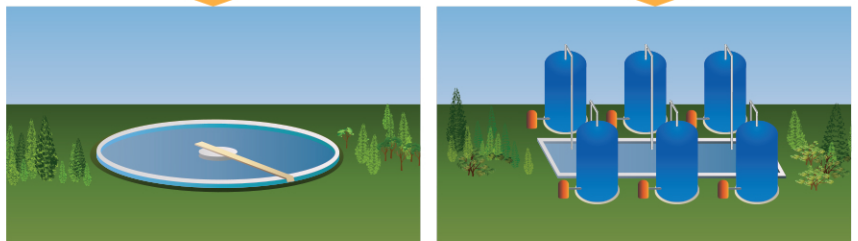
DELIVERY

Water managers use a network of pipes and pumps to deliver safe, reliable water supplies straight to our homes, businesses and the farms that grow our food.



REUSE

There are numerous water recycling and reuse options in California. Some regions have water recycling plants that can treat and integrate waste and stormwater back into the water supply. Some regions also have desalination plants that treat saltwater from oceans, wetlands and groundwater basins.



WATER INFRASTRUCTURE MATTERS

As climate change continues to drive water supply shortages, efficient water infrastructure systems are what will allow us to most effectively manage our state's limited water resources. Building and expanding the right water infrastructure projects will help mitigate the impacts of climate change on our water systems and maintain safe, reliable water supplies for generations to come.



EXPAND SUPPLY DIVERSITY

Capturing, creating and strengthening our supplies in wet years means we have more available to draw from in dry years.



MAINTAIN WATER QUALITY

Continuous testing and treatment of our sources ensures access to safe drinking water at any time.



IMPROVE EFFICIENCY

Upgrading and replacing aging water infrastructure systems helps prevent leaks and breaks, meaning less water wasted.



PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Sustainable management of our water supplies helps mitigate the impacts of drought on our environment.

DID YOU KNOW?
California's main water infrastructure system, the State Water Project, was designed for a state with 20 million people, but our population has since **doubled** in size.

Regional and local water agencies have been making necessary investments in California's water systems and facilities for decades. We need to continue modernizing and investing in our water infrastructure to adapt to California's changing climate and growing population.



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