Rules Governing the Use of Recycled Water

1. Permit to Use Recycled Water
   a) Prospective recycled water user must submit a Recycled Water Use Permit Application and Agreement (RW Use Permit Application).
   b) Following acceptance of the RW Permit Application, the user will be issued a Recycled Water Permit (RW Wallet Card) to be scanned every time recycled water is collected.
   c) Failure to comply with the program requirements and/or adhere to applicable State, County, local codes, or California Code of Regulations Title 17 and 22 will result in suspension or revocation of your RW Permit. Violations of such codes may also result in fines and applicable administrative fees.

2. Use of Recycled Water
   a) The proposed use of recycled water shall be overseen and verified by Regional San as the producer, and the California Division of Drinking Water (CDDW) and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) as the regulatory and enforcement agencies.
   b) Recycled water shall meet the requirements of disinfected tertiary recycled water as defined in the Water Recycling Criteria in the California Code of Regulations Title 22.
   c) The use of recycled water must comply with all requirements of applicable federal, state, and local statutes, ordinary regulations, and other requirements, including the California Code of Regulations Title 17 and Title 22.
   d) Although recycled water is highly treated, it is non-potable. Recycled water is never to be used for human consumption.
   e) Neither the treatment nor the use of recycled water shall cause pollution or nuisance as defined by the California Code Section 13050.
   f) The use of recycled water shall not cause degradation of any potable water supply.
   g) Working with recycled water is safe if both common sense and the appropriate regulations are followed. Personnel shall exercise good hygiene when working around recycled water, e.g., wash hands before eating or drinking.
   h) Recycled water shall be managed so as to prevent ponding and conditions conducive to the proliferation of mosquitoes and other disease vectors, and to avoid creation of a public nuisance or health hazard.
i) The quantity of recycled water used shall be controlled to avoid over-application.

j) Recycled water users shall document the amount of recycled water volumes received by recording the volume collected on the self-monitoring log and provide the volume collected to the on-site security guard or RW Fill Station attendant.

3. User Protection
   a) Contact with recycled water shall be minimized by warning the user not to drink recycled water and to avoid contact in the mandatory training prior to obtaining recycled water.
   b) Commercial recycled water use areas shall have one or more signs visibly posted to inform the user that recycled water is used at that location. Refer to Item 5.a regarding more information on signage requirements.
   c) Workers shall be notified that recycled water is in use. Notification shall be accomplished through employee training, safety meetings, and perimeter signs at the use site.
   d) Workers shall be informed of the potential health hazards involved with contact or ingestion of recycled water. Information may be forwarded through safety meetings, formal training sessions, handouts, site visits from safety and health professionals or risk managers from workers’ compensation and liability insurance carriers.
   e) Hand washing facilities shall be provided and adequate first aid kits shall be available at the site.
   f) Open wounds shall be covered when using recycled water. If contact occurs between the open wound and recycled water, wash wound immediately with potable water and antiseptic wash.
   g) All workers who will regularly access the site where recycled water is applied and/or who will be obtaining recycled water shall verify that they have been properly trained in the use of recycled water by signing the Recycled Water Use Requirements and Guidelines for Worker Protection provided with the RW Permit Application.

4. Designated Staff Member
   a) Regional San will provide training materials to its designated staff member, who will be the primary means for ensuring safe use of recycled water. The following are the responsibilities of the designated staff member:
      i. Ensure the use of recycled water is in compliance with the requirements of this document, the RW Use Permit Application and Agreement, and the Water Recycling Criteria in the California Code of Regulations Title 22.
ii. Ensure users attend a safety training prior to the issuing of the RW Wallet Card and the handling of recycled water.

iii. Collect contact information of users and the volumes of recycled water obtained.


v. Monitoring usage and application of recycled water.

5. Use Area

a) All public areas where recycled water is available must have posted signs that are visible to the public.

i. Signs shall measure no less than 8 inches high and 4 inches wide and shall include the following wording: “RECYCLED WATER- DO NOT DRINK.”

ii. Each sign shall display an international symbol similar to that shown in example Figure 1 (see below).

![International Do Not Drink Symbol]

*Figure 1: International Do Not Drink Symbol*

iii. Alternative signage and wording may be submitted for approval. The alternative signage must provide an equivalent degree of public notification.

iv. The signs must be posted at every 500 feet with a minimum of signs at all entrances, corners of the parcel, and access road entrances.

b) Confine recycled water to the authorized area. Take precaution to ensure that recycled water is not sprayed on any facility or area not designated for recycled water use.

c) Do not apply recycled water within 50 feet of any domestic water supply well.

d) Prevent spray, mist, or runoff from enter dwellings, designated outdoor eating areas, or food handling facilities.

e) Protect drinking water fountains, containers, or other facilities against recycled water spray, mist, or runoff.

f) Confine runoff to the recycled water use area.
g) Apply recycled water in a manner that will prevent public or employee contact with the water.

6. Transport of Recycled Water for Residential Users
   a) Residential users will provide their own containers with water tight lids. The size requirements are as follows:
      i. 1 gallon minimum
      ii. 300 gallons maximum
   b) Containers must have water-tight valves and fittings that will not leak or spill contents during transport. Water-containing vessels that are open to the atmosphere during hauling are prohibited. Users shall check water-containing vessels for damages or leaks before each use.
   c) All containers carrying recycled water are required to be properly labeled with the international “Do Not Drink” symbol on a purple sticker. The first set of stickers will be provided at no charge. A fee may be charged for misplaced or lost stickers.
   d) Containers should not be used to carry potable water unless thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.
   e) Do not overfill containers.
   f) Regional San is not responsible for checking vehicle hauling capacity. Users should secure their containers for safe transport.

7. Transport of Recycled Water for Commercial Users
   a) Only permitted trucks may be filled with recycled water at the RW Fill Station. Depending on the location of the fill station, the user may be issued either a hydrant meter access key, a gate padlock key, or a special key for below grade vault boxes following the completion of the off-site training and issuance of the permit. A fee may be charged for misplaced or lost keys.
   b) Users must show proof of vehicle registration, liability insurance, and worker’s compensation insurance. Copies must be attached to the permit application for each vehicle.
   c) Users shall monitor the filling operation at all times. Do not overfill containers or trucks.
      i. For hydrant meter fill station, shut off the meter before disconnecting the fill line and ensure no recycled water is leaking from the meter or hydrant.
      ii. For gate access fill station and below grade vault box, ensure no recycled water is leaking from the fill pipe or hose and re-lock the station after filling.
   d) Commercial trucks such as tank trucks and water trucks and their associated pipe and hoses shall be thoroughly cleaned of septage or other contaminants.
e) Recycled water shall be used only for the purposes designated in the permit, and water shall be transported in a manner that prevents spillage. Vehicles, tanks, and containers must have water-tight valves and fittings that will not leak or spill contents during transport, and are cleaned of contaminants. Water-containing vessels that are open to the atmosphere during hauling are prohibited. Users shall check water-containing vessels for damages or leaks before each use.

f) Users shall be trained regarding the requirements of the RW Use Permit and be informed of the potential health hazards associated with recycled water prior to using recycled water.

g) Commercial trucks such as tank trucks and water trucks and their associated pipes and hoses used for storage or conveyance of recycled water shall be dedicated solely to that use.

i. All pipes or hoses extending from the point of connection shall be identified for use with recycled water.

ii. Hoses used for the application of recycled water shall be removable and stored in a disconnected condition during transport. Inspect hoses prior to filling to ensure they are in serviceable condition and free from leaks.

h) Commercial trucks used to transport recycled water must be clearly marked with Regional San issued magnets or stickers containing the words “RECYCLED WATER- DO NOT DRINK” and the international “DO NOT DRINK” symbol.

i. Magnets or stickers should be affixed to at least three areas of the vehicle (both sides of the vehicle and on the rear surface of the tank).

ii. All magnets and stickers must be placed where they can easily be seen by the truck’s occupants.

iii. The first set of stickers/magnets will be provided at no charge. A fee may be charged for misplaced or lost stickers/magnets.

i) Commercial trucks such as tank trucks and water trucks shall be cleaned and disinfected prior to connecting with a potable water system. Use a water agency or municipality provided meter and backflow device between the truck fill line and the potable source.

j) Cross connections to dual plumbed systems are prohibited.

8. Piping

a) All recycled water equipment should be differentiated from potable and/or wastewater equipment. The recycled water equipment should be properly labeled and consistently color-coded purple (Pantone 512). This includes, but is not limited to equipment, pipes, meters, meter boxes and/or covers, valve boxes and covers, air evacuation and vacuum release valve and blow-off assembly covers, irrigation...
heads, recycled water signage and labeling, backflow prevention assemblies on recycled water systems, pumps and fittings, and outlets.

b) All pipe material used for the distribution of recycled water shall be purple. For PVC pipe, this requirement is met through the use of commercially available purple pipe. For other types of piping, and for valves and other appurtenances, this requirement shall be met using purple paint or purple adhesive tape wrap. The tape wrap must be labeled with the words “Recycled Water - Do Not Drink.”

c) All recycled water valve lids shall be colored purple and marked “Recycled Water” or “Recycled” in the center of the lid.

d) All marking tape for recycled water facilities and adhesive tape for wrapping piping shall be purple, with black lettering stating “Recycled Water - Do Not Drink.”

e) Service pipes and connections should be kept and maintained in good working condition.

f) No connection shall be made between the potable water supply and piping or tank trucks containing recycled water.

g) All recycled water valves, outlets, quick couplers, and sprinkler heads shall be secured in a manner that only permits operation by authorized personnel.

9. Inspections

a) Recycled water systems shall be regularly inspected to assure proper operation, absence of leaks, and absence of illegal connections.

b) Regional San or a designated staff member may conduct inspections to ensure the proper use of recycled water according to all the Title 17 and Title 22 regulations and the Recycled Water Use Permit conditions, including follow-up phone calls or surveys.

c) The following items must be checked during the inspections:

   i. Posted signs regarding the use of recycled water at all required places in the use area.

   ii. Required signs on the tank trucks.

   iii. Prevention of runoff/ponding.

   iv. Controlled spray/mist of recycled water.

   v. Protected drinking water.

   vi. Prevention of cross-connections.

   vii. Hose bibs.

   viii. Proper color coding of recycled water equipment.

   ix. Presence of hand washing facilities and first aid kits.