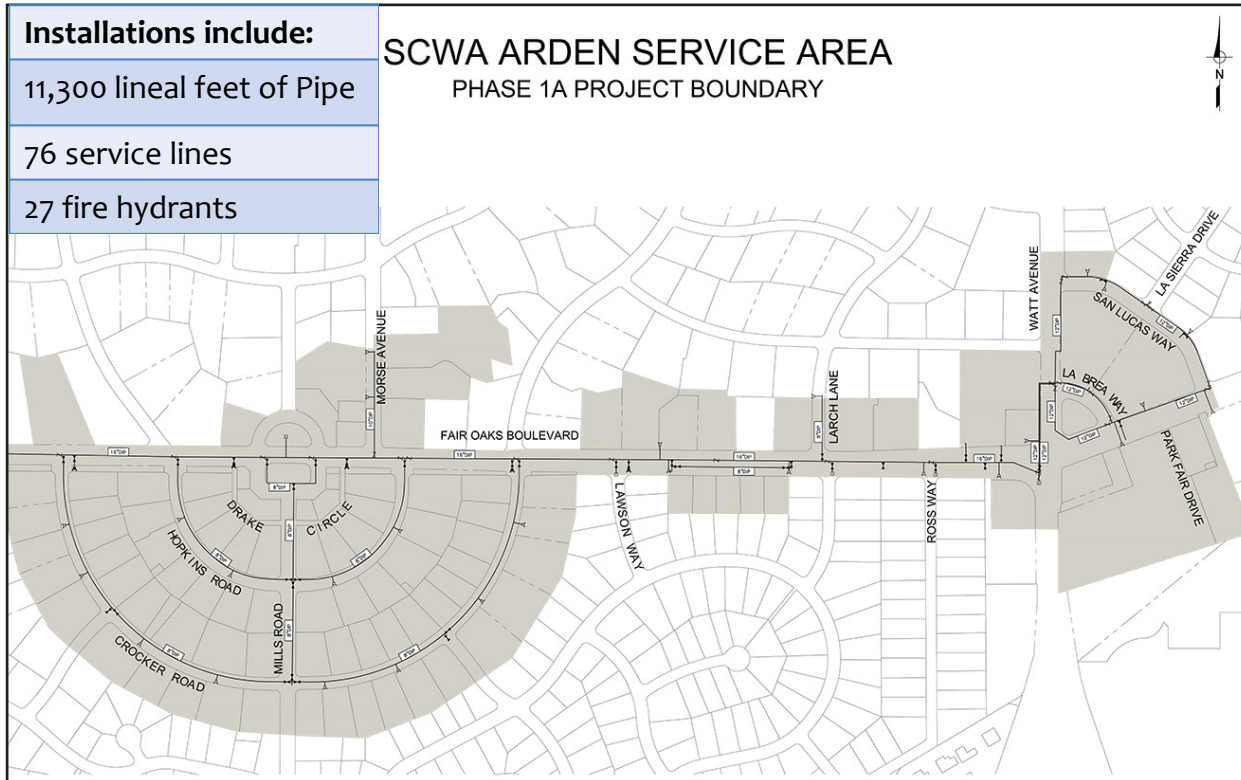


TENTATIVE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

Project Area	Design Timeline	Construction Timeline
Phase 1A	2016-2017	2018-2020

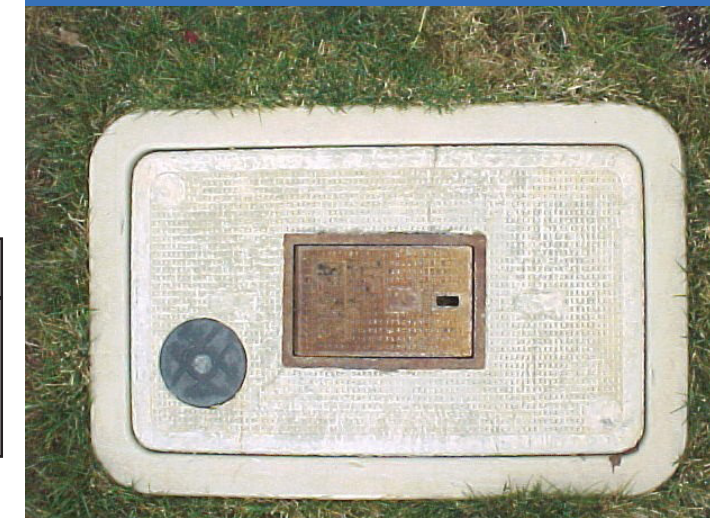


PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The whole project, located in Zone 41, will install approximately 38 miles of new distribution pipeline, 3010 water meters, and install new or replace fire hydrants. By implementing this project, SCWA will help improve the reliability in the system, meet current fire flow requirements, meet pipeline separation standards and lower operation and maintenance costs.



ARDEN SERVICE AREA DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PIPE REALIGNMENT AND METER INSTALLATION PROJECT



PROJECT CONTACTS

Helen Rocha, Project Engineer,
(916) 874-3070, or email
ArdenServiceMeters@sacounty.net

Why are water meters necessary?

In 2004, the State Legislature passed Assembly Bill 2572, requiring the installation of water meters by January 1, 2025, as a condition of water service from all water suppliers.

Is Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA) the only water supplier required to install meters?

No. All water suppliers who receive water from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation are required to install water meters. Many other water suppliers in the Sacramento area are in the process of installing water meters too. While metering is new to some areas of Sacramento, it is a common and long standing practice in almost every city and region of California and throughout the country.

What are the benefits of metered water billing?

Metering will help the County better manage its water supply, encourage efficient water use among customers and ensure that customers enjoy a high-quality and reliable water source for decades to come.



Do I pay for the meter and installation?

No. SCWA will pay for all expenses associated with water meter installation – including the cost of the meter.

If I use less water can I get a discount on my water bill?

Yes, SCWA rewards water conservation by implementing tiered water rates for metered rate customers.

- Customers using 1,400 or fewer cubic feet (10,472 gallons) per billing cycle receive a 20% discount.
- Customers using between 1,401 to 3,000 cubic feet (104,73 to 22,441 gallons) receive a 10% discount.

Why are meters being installed now?

As a result of Bill 2572, SCWA has to meter about 90 percent of the homes in the Arden Service Area to comply with the state mandate. Currently, there are likely two types of residential service conditions:

- Those who already have water meters; and
- Those who do not have anything in place for the meter installation. Many homes in the area have water mains along back yard fences, requiring a disconnection of the existing service line and a new reconnection from the water main that will be installed in the right-of-way.

How will I be notified when my meter will be installed?

• Installation notification letter:

You will be notified by mail of your scheduled installation date three weeks in advance. If you have any concerns about your installation date, you will be given the opportunity to reschedule within a month of your originally scheduled installation.

• Door hanger:

Approximately 3 to 5 days prior to your installation date, you will be provided with a reminder door hanger.

Will my water bill increase because of being meter billed?

Prior study results in neighboring communities concluded that 63% of the households on metered water would have saved money annually or had no change in their water bill. However, customers who use an inordinate amount of water will see their bill increase. Compared to the current flat rate system, metered water bills are generally higher in the summer and lower in the winter.

After your meter is installed, you will be placed on a one-year “statistical metering” program. This program is designed to statistically track your water use and provide you with comparative data on metered versus flat water rates. You will remain on a flat water rate during the one-year study period unless you request an early conversion to metered water billing. At the end of the study period, you will convert to metered billing.

If you find that your billed rate is larger than your current flat rate, you have the option to lower your water bill by reducing your water usage.

What can I do to use water more efficiently?

You can use water more efficiently by installing low-flow faucet aerators, toilets, and showerheads, installing efficient drip irrigation drip systems, turning off your outdoor irrigation during the rainy season, and promptly repairing any leaks. For additional tips on using water more efficiently, please visit our website at: www.waterresources.saccounty.net

For additional tips on using water more efficiently, please visit the Environmental Protection Agency’s website at: <https://www3.epa.gov/watersense/pubs/res.html>

How will my lawn look afterwards?

When your home was constructed, utility easements located adjacent to the property line between homes and along the street were established to accommodate future projects like water meter installation. A construction crew will come to your property, dig a hole about two feet wide and five feet long, and install the meter box and meter. Trench dimensions will vary with each property and existing constraints.

After installation, removed sod will be reused and re-laid the same day your meter is installed. Any areas that cannot be re-laid with original sod will be replaced with new sod. In some situations, over the course of many years, improvements other than lawns have been constructed over easements-- such as RV pads or landscaping. If crews need to construct within an improved area, every effort will be made to return this area to its pre-construction condition. Toward this effort, both “before” and “after” photos will be taken to ensure, as is reasonably feasible, that the pre-construction condition is fully restored.

All final restorations will require the meter box to be exposed for access purposes. The homeowner shall not cover, disguise, impede access or remove the meter box and assembly at the location it is installed. It is imperative that the meter box is fully accessible at all times.

