



Cleaning Up our Water Wells

HELP IS ON THE HORIZON for five PWP wells that fed into Sunset Reservoir for many years. Water from these wells, located in the northwest area of Pasadena, was supplied to Sunset Reservoir where it was blended with imported water from the Metropolitan Water District before being distributed to consumers.

The oldest of these wells began operating in 1924. In the late 1990s the California Department of Health Services began issuing new regulatory standards for perchlorate, a component of rocket fuel, fireworks, explosives and road flares. PWP shut down four of the five wells because their perchlorate levels were too high to meet state standards.



Sunset Reservoir Well

planning stages will clean the water in four wells in Pasadena's Monk Hill basin, which runs under Hahamongna Watershed Park and near JPL.

A community meeting hosted by NASA is scheduled for Tuesday, March 29, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Eliot Middle School, 2184 N. Lake Ave. in Altadena. During the meeting, which is free and open to the public, officials will provide updates on NASA's groundwater cleanup project beneath and near JPL. For more information visit <http://jplwater.nasa.gov> or call (818) 393-0754.

PWP recently hired Stetson Engineers Inc. to design a new treatment system for the three wells with the highest levels of perchlorate. In the meantime, PWP has been pumping primarily from wells on the east side of town.

In addition to the Sunset Reservoir project, work is moving forward to bring even more wells back into operation: A treatment plant is removing volatile organic compounds from Jet Propulsion Laboratory's soil; a recently constructed NASA-sponsored treatment plant will remove contaminants from the groundwater directly beneath Jet Propulsion Laboratory (see the January/February Pasadena In Focus); and a treatment plant in the