

Water: 5 Things Southern Californians Might be Surprised to Know

In honor of Water Awareness Month the [Southern California Water Coalition](#) (SCWC) is highlighting five facts that Southern Californians might be surprised to learn about their water. We might use it every day, but how much do we really think about our water?

From where we get it to the status of the drought, how much do you know about the water our region relies on to survive and thrive?

1. Southern California relies on snowmelt from the Sierra Nevada mountains for 30% of its water supply.



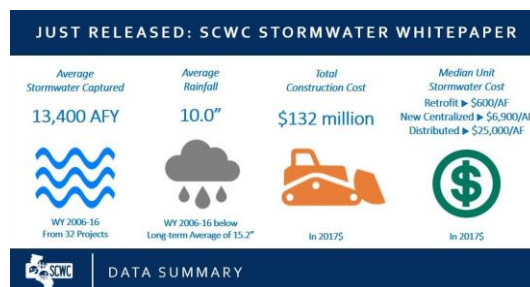
2. Water flowing to Southern California must pass through a central hub in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta made up of 100-year-old dirt levees and canals.



3. For California, today's climate reality is one of recurring drought cycles. The Golden State has had nine droughts, totaling 41 years, since 1900.



4. A [recent SCWC whitepaper](#) found that on average, of the projects surveyed, Southern California stormwater projects capture 13,400 acre-feet of water per year – enough to cover just over 13,400 football fields with water one foot deep.



5. Although Governor Brown lifted the drought state of emergency in most of California in 2017, state agencies issued a plan to "make conservation a way of life in California." When it comes to planning for more frequent and severe droughts, California must take a long-term perspective.

