

WHERE DOES THE WATER IN OUR DRINKING FOUNTAIN COME FROM?

The source of our water is one of California's most prized, safe and clear natural water resources, the American River.



This picture shows an aerial view of Folsom Dam holding back the waters of the American River.

This water is treated by the San Juan Water District before being piped to the Fair Oaks Water District (FOWD) and then to our drinking fountain here in the plaza. It accounts for approximately ninety percent of FOWD's total water supply. The remaining ten percent of our water comes from regional groundwater.

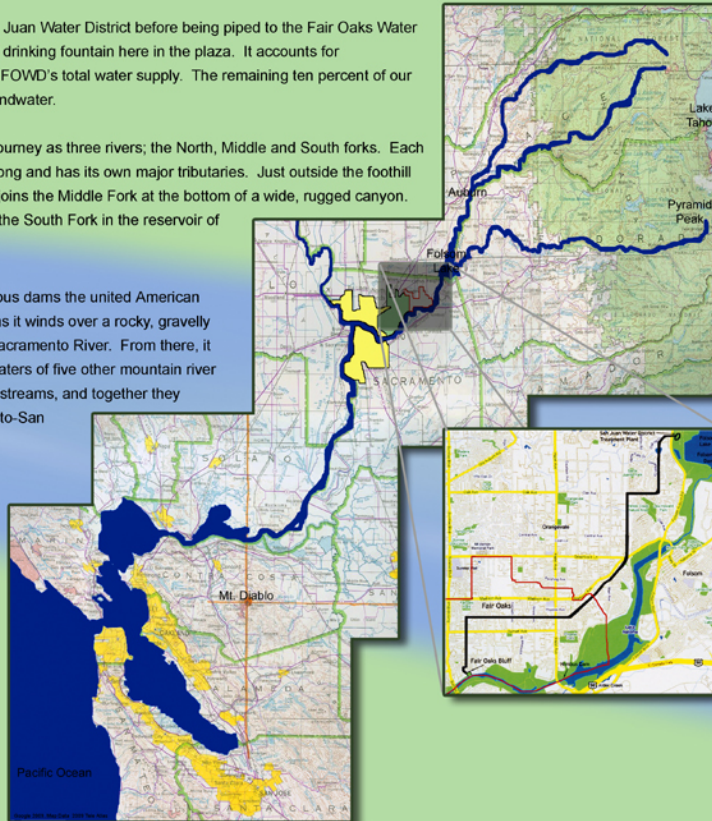
The American River begins its journey as three rivers; the North, Middle and South forks. Each fork is over one hundred miles long and has its own major tributaries. Just outside the foothill town of Auburn, the North Fork joins the Middle Fork at the bottom of a wide, rugged canyon. The waters then rush on to join the South Fork in the reservoir of man-made Folsom Lake.

Once past the Folsom and Nimbus dams the united American River regains some of its spirit as it winds over a rocky, gravelly course on its way to meet the Sacramento River. From there, it mellows and mingles with the waters of five other mountain river systems and numerous smaller streams, and together they meander through the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta area.

From the Delta, some of the water is captured to be pumped down the state's aqueduct system and on to southern California or to field crops along the way. The rest of the water heads past Mount Diablo and on to Suisun, San Pablo and San Francisco Bays. Finally, the outbound tides sweep it through the Golden Gate into the Pacific Ocean.



On a clear day you can see Mount Diablo from the top of the bluff.



Runoff from Pyramid Peak is a main source of water for the South Fork of the American River

The Fair Oaks Water District Pipeline

The solid black line running through this enlarged view of the Fair Oaks area represents the approximate route of the pipeline that brings the waters of the American River from the Folsom Lake Reservoir to homes and businesses in Fair Oaks.

The American River watershed provides some of the purest water in the state. Our community is fortunate to have access to this precious resource, but this water is limited and the demand for it is high.

We urge you to enjoy a refreshing drink from the plaza fountain, but hope you will remember that water conservation is an essential element to ensuring that it will remain available for all to enjoy.

For more information visit www.arnha.org/books/fob bluff.html or Fair Oaks Water District at www.fowd.com

This sign was sponsored by Fair Oaks Water District



American River Parkway

