

THE ACWD CONNECTION



District Staff Lend Support in North Bay Fire Relief Efforts

ACWD gives thanks this holiday season to the emergency responders who assisted our northerly neighbors during one of the worst fire disasters in the state's history.

When ACWD was contacted to provide mutual assistance during the October wildfires that scorched Sonoma and Napa counties, there were several staff members who stepped up to offer support --- engineers, emergency preparedness personnel, facilities maintenance, and other staff. Although experts in the operations of a water utility, ACWD employees are considered Disaster Service Workers, along with many other government employees. With a wide-breadth of knowledge, government personnel may be called upon to offer assistance in local, state or national emergency relief. Based on skill-set and the need at the time, two ACWD personnel were asked to report to the Sonoma County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Logistics Team.

Jacob Reed and Dan Stevenson each worked 12-hour shifts for 11 and 14 days, respectively. Their work in the EOC, and eventually Recovery Operation Center, included dispatching transportation and overseeing Commodity Points of Distribution to disperse supplies, water, personal protective equipment, and resources to residents returning home.

Lending support to our neighbors not only relieved Sonoma County personnel, many of which lost their homes to the fires, but it provided ACWD staff with real-world emergency training so we can be better prepared locally should a disaster strike. This experience has strengthened the interagency relationship of ACWD and Sonoma County benefiting us all. To learn more about the Sonoma County fire relief efforts, visit: www.sonomacountyrecovers.org/









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