



PURE WATER PROJECT LAS VIRGENES-TRIUNFO

Bringing Our Water Full Circle



Oak Tree Removal and Advanced Water Purification Facility (AWPF) Construction Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. What is the AWPf?

The AWPf is a new Advanced Water Purification Facility that will purify recycled water to drinking water standards for conveyance to the Las Virgenes Reservoir for subsequent treatment before distribution. This new facility is a critical component of the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo, which will improve water quality, reduce reliance on imported water, and create a more drought-resilient local water supply. To begin building the facility and other essential infrastructure, some protected oak trees on-site will need to be permanently removed.

2. Why do protected oak trees need to be removed?

The two protected oak tree species must be removed because they are located directly within the footprint of the new AWPf and facility access paths. Despite efforts to avoid impacts, their removal is necessary due to earthwork grading, construction safety, and facility design constraints. Trees were marked for removal only if over 20% of their Tree Protection Zone, defined as the canopy plus five feet, would be affected, potentially compromising their health and stability. This approach aligns with arboricultural best practices and current California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines.

3. How many oak trees will be removed and replanted?

Ten Coast Live Oaks trees and 28 Valley Oak trees have been identified for removal. Following the City of Agoura Hills Oak Tree Preservation Guidelines, tree replacement will follow a 4:1 mitigation ratio. A total of 40 new Coast Live Oaks and 112 Valley Oak trees will be planted onsite in various-sized containers.

Tree Type	# of Removals	# of Replacements
Coast Live Oak	10	40
Valley Oak	28	112
Total	38	152

Replanting will occur at the AWPf site and the Open Space Oak Mitigation Area, located southeast of the AWPf site. Forty-seven replacement trees will be planted at the AWPf site, with the remaining 105 trees being planted at the Open Space site. The area was selected for its proximity to the impacted trees and its compatibility with long-term oak woodland restoration.

4. What steps are being taken to minimize impacts on other oak trees on site?

Crews will use protective fencing, limit root disturbance and soil compaction, follow strict pruning standards, and adhere to arborist oversight throughout all stages of AWPf construction.

5. What work is being done at the AWPf site?

The scope of work includes removing existing oak trees, preparing the new planting area, installing replacement trees, conducting minor earthwork, installing protective fencing, and installing storm water protection barriers throughout the site. A new construction driveway will also be installed at the site to create a safer entrance and exit for crews and construction equipment.

6. When is the work scheduled to start and be completed?

Tree removal work is scheduled to begin and conclude in late 2025/early 2026. Oak tree planting will begin in late 2026. Additionally, five years of maintenance and monitoring will take place to ensure the survival of the new oak trees and compliance with replanting requirements.

7. When will additional AWPf construction begin?

The project anticipates more substantial AWPf construction work to begin in Spring of 2026.

To stay up to date, please visit the project website at ourpureh2o.com or call the project helpline at (818) 245-4440.

