

WHO CAN I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED INFORMATION?

Recycled Water Ordinance and Technical Assistance

SFPUC Water Resources Division: (415) 554-3271

Recycled Water Plumbing Codes

Department of Building Inspection
Plumbing Inspection Services: (415) 558-6570

New Service Line Permits

SFPUC Customer Services: (415) 551-3000

Designated Recycled Water Use Areas

For an interactive version of
this map, please visit
sfpuc.gov/recycledwateruse.
Click on Frequently
Asked Questions.

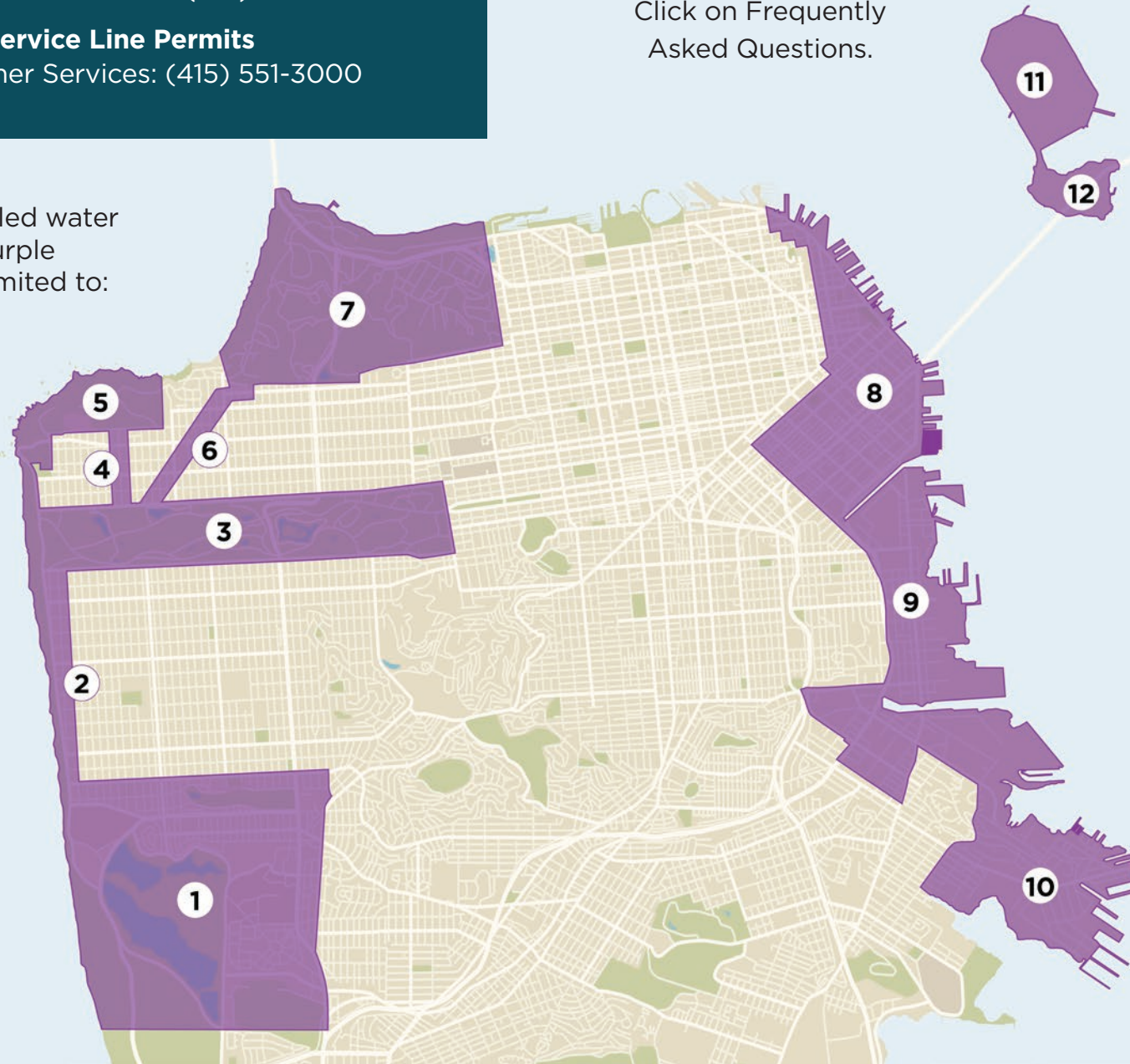
The designated recycled water
use areas shown in purple
include, but are not limited to:

Westside:

- 1 Lake Merced
- 2 Great Highway
- 3 Golden Gate
Park
- 4 39th Avenue
- 5 Lincoln Park
- 6 Richmond Tunnel
- 7 The Presidio

Eastside:

- 8 The Embarcadero
- 9 Mission Bay
- 10 Hunters Point
- 11 Treasure Island
- 12 Yerba Buena Island



San Francisco's Recycled Water Ordinance

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) provides water to 2.6 million people in the Bay Area. We are developing new local water supplies, in and around San Francisco, to expand our supply sources and make us more resilient during emergencies and times of drought. Our Local Water Program includes recycled water, groundwater and conservation as sources that are available to either enhance supply, or reduce demand for water.

This brochure provides information on the requirements and uses of recycled water within San Francisco.



What is Recycled Water? Recycled water, sometimes referred to as reclaimed water, is wastewater that has been purified through multiple stages of treatment, including filtration and disinfection, to meet stringent health standards. In California, the State Water Resources Control Board carefully regulates the treatment and use of recycled water.

Why is San Francisco Using Recycled Water? Water is too precious a resource to use just once. Recycled water offers a new source for non-drinking purposes to our customers in San Francisco. Recycled water will replace water currently being used for applications that do not require drinking water quality, such as park and golf course irrigation.

What Does San Francisco’s Recycled Water Ordinance Require? The Ordinance requires property owners to install recycled water systems for use within the designated recycled water use areas in the following situations:

- New, remodeled or converted buildings and all subdivisions with a total cumulative area of 40,000 square feet or more
- New and existing irrigated areas of 10,000 square feet or more

Recycled Water Use and Restaurants In any mixed-use building where a recycled water system is installed, any restaurant or other establishment that produces or processes food products, cannot be connected to the recycled water system and must be supplied by a separate potable water system.

Recycled Water Use in One- and Two-Family Residential Home Subdivisions Residences that are designated as “R-3” structures by the City and County of San Francisco’s Department of Building Inspection (per the Building Codes), are not required to include recycled water piping for toilet flushing and cooling. Irrigation with recycled water is only required for the front yard if the system is operated and maintained by a home owner’s or resident’s association or property management company.

More information on San Francisco’s Recycled Water Ordinance is available at www.sfwater.gov/recycledwater



Designated Recycled Water Use Areas in San Francisco include, but are not limited to:

- Westside** – Lake Merced, Great Highway, Golden Gate Park, 39th Avenue, Lincoln Park, Richmond Tunnel, and the Presidio
- Eastside** – The Embarcadero, Mission Bay, Hunters Point, Treasure Island, and Yerba Buena Island

What Are the Required Uses for Recycled Water? Buildings and facilities within the designated recycled water use area are required to use recycled water for all applicable State of California approved uses including:

Landscape Irrigation	Industrial Boiler Feed
Toilet/Urinal Flushing	Commercial Laundries
Cooling/Air Conditioning Involving a Cooling Tower	Commercial Car Washing
Decorative Fountains	Soil Compaction and Dust Control
Industrial Process Water	

Who Must Comply? All property owners whose properties fall under the development project descriptions listed in the sections above must comply. Please refer to the map on back of this brochure for designated recycled water use areas in San Francisco.

What Are the Penalties for Not Complying with the Ordinance? Violating any provision of the Ordinance will result in a \$500 fine. Each day each violation is committed, or permitted to continue, will constitute a separate offense.

Intentionally or negligently violating any provision of the Ordinance will result in a \$1,000 fine for each day each violation occurs.

Potable water use in violation of the provision of the Ordinance may result in the termination of potable water service.