Community Focus Statement C: Maintain and enhance Helendale's aesthetic value.

Action Statement C.3: Design a recycled water system for irrigation and landscaping.

C3

Benchmark: Community support and funding for implementation of recycled water system and construction complete.
Champion: Volunteer group or person or can be identified by the community
Estimated Cost: $50,000–$150,000 for preliminary study (design and construction dependent on size and complexity of system)

Recycled water informational sign. Photo source: Flickr, Kat

Recycled water falls into two categories: highly treated wastewater that has been filtered and disinfected; and greywater, which is less filtered, but can still be used for landscape irrigation. Recycled water is especially useful for turf grasses, annuals, and deciduous trees, as they are more tolerant of the slightly higher salt content common in recycled water. Using recycled water for landscaping can conserve water, reduce diversion of water from the environment, decrease wastewater pollution, and create a local, dependable water supply.

Like most communities in California, Helendale could greatly benefit from using recycled water for non-potable uses. One of the most impactful ways is for the Helendale Community Services District (CSD) to use recycled water or greywater in local parks and other landscaped areas. The County will first need to ensure no regulatory obstacles exist to using recycled water such as zoning restrictions or health concerns, then can work with the CSD in obtaining grant funding, locating resources, and ensuring all federal, state, and county requirements are followed.

An example of a water purveyor aiding in converting water usage to recycled water occurred in San Diego County. The San Diego Water Authority issued grants that could be used to pay for irrigation hardware upgrades and repairs to upgrade large landscaped areas such as commercial and multifamily residential areas, schools, and parks. Private sites were given $2,500 per acre, and public sites were given $5,000 per acre. The average water savings for participants in the program was 13.7 percent.

Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Establish community support and team for potential project through informal and formal community meetings.	Champion	Months 1–3	UC Davis, Landscape Plant Selection Guide for Recycled Water Irrigationhttp://slosson.ucdavis.edu/Landscape_Plant_Selection_Guide_for_Recycled_Water_Irrigation/ US Environmental Protection Agency, Guidelines for Water Reuse https://nepis.epa.gov/Adobe/PDF/P100FS7K.pdf Greywater Action http://greywateraction.org/contentabout-greywater-reuse/ US Environmental Protection Agency Water & Energy Efficiency in Water and Wastewater Facilities https://www3.epa.gov/region9/waterinfrastructure/
2. Coordinate with Helendale Community Services District to identify potential implementation.	Team	Months 4–6	
3. Secure funding for preliminary study.	Team and Helendale Community Services District	Months 6–12	
4. Conduct a preliminary study documenting community support and preliminary analysis of recycled water system plans and costs. The study should identify the appropriate location of the system, such as local parks and landscaped areas.	Helendale Community Services District	Year 2–3	
5. Secure project funding.	Team and Helendale Community Services District	Year 3–4	
6. Design recycled water system.	Helendale Community Services District	Year 5–6	
7. Construct recycled water system.	Helendale Community Services District	Year 6–7	