



PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT

A CENTURY OF SERVICE

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FREE INTERNET ACCESS HOURS AT PWD EXTENDED

Palmdale, CA – The Palmdale Water District (PWD) Board of

Directors voted Monday to increase the hours of free WiFi available at its main office to accommodate students and other community members needing internet access in the evenings.

Starting today, free WiFi at PWD is available from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Monday through Friday. Previously, the service ended at 6 p.m. each week day.

The Board voted 4-0 in favor of extending the hours, agreeing that the extra two hours will help students living near PWD access free WiFi for homework and other educational needs. Board Director Kathy Mac Laren had asked staff to study the possibility of offering the added hours so that more people living near PWD on Avenue Q and 20th Street East can get free internet.

“I am extremely happy that we are able to provide this service to our customers, especially the students,” Mac Laren said. “For those who don’t

(more)

have internet access at home, the extra two hours we are providing in the evenings will be very beneficial.”

According to PWD IT Manager Jim Stanton, the internet can be accessed by logging on as a PWD guest and accepting the terms and conditions of using the service. Depending on the electronic device, the WiFi can be accessed in the parking lot areas and up to about 100 feet into the dirt lot next to the building.

“This is an extension of the service we already provide to our customers waiting in the lobby and our vendors,” Stanton said. “We have the internet for our day-to-day business, so any additional cost is minimal.”

PWD first began offering free WiFi to the community 24 hours a day, seven days a week in 2013. It was curtailed to just business hours in 2014 after it was discovered that people were abusing the service on the weekends. Current records show that about 30 people use PWD’s WiFi each week day.

“As long as it’s not abused, we will continue to offer it,” Stanton said. “We will know if there is abuse.”

Since 1918, the Palmdale Water District has provided high-quality water at a reasonable cost. We pride ourselves on providing great customer service; advocating for local water issues that help our residents; educating the community on water conservation; and leading our region in researching and implementing emerging technologies that increase operational efficiency. For more information about PWD, visit www.palmdalewater.org.