



# Water Report

MARINA COAST WATER DISTRICT FALL 2010

## Marina Coast Water District Celebrates 50 Years Residents Formed District in 1960 to Serve the Community

**O**n 16 February, 1960, the residents of the unincorporated part of Monterey County that would become Marina voted 235 to 35 to form the District. The District's mission was to provide a safe and reliable water



*Founding Board Members William Williams and Raymond Isakson at groundbreaking of the District offices on Marina Beach (March 1969).*

supply. The District, governed by a locally elected five-member Board of Directors, is still working to meet the changing needs of the community, 50 years later.

The District answered the community's changing needs in 1970 with the construction of the waste water collection system and treatment plant that would service Marina for 23 years until the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency's regional treatment plant began accepting Marina sewer flows. The District continues

to operate and maintain Marina's waste water collection system.

The District began operating the former Fort Ord water and waste water system with the closure of the base and, in 2001, the systems were transferred

to the District. The District has combined services and resources from Central Marina and the former Fort Ord to increase the reliability and efficiency of the entire system.

Starting from a few thousand residents in 1960, the District now provides water supply and waste water collection to over 30,000 people. After 50 years, the District continues to work every day to provide for the community needs and is looking forward to the challenges of the next 50 years.

### *Customer Rates Remain the Lowest in Monterey County*

The District's rates are among the lowest in Monterey County. The District's staff and Board of Directors pride themselves on providing excellent service while holding costs to a minimum, keeping rates low. The District continues with an active preventive maintenance program that assures equipment is in good operating condition, reducing maintenance costs. The District continues to use new meter technology for its water meters and high-tech sewer cleaning equipment, both of which have helped the District in reaching its cost-savings goal. "We continue to provide exceptional service to our customers while keeping their rates low," states Kelly Cadiente, Director of Administrative Services.

### *MCWD Awarded Excellence in Financial Reporting for Second Consecutive Year*

The District's accounting department was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting a second time for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for fiscal year 2008/2009. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition for governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment. The award is judged by a panel of accounting professionals who enforce the program's standards which are much tougher than normal accounting requirements. A very important aspect of the award is demonstrating a spirit of full disclosure, clearly communicating the financial story of the agency. "The District remains committed to a process of openness," commented Rich Youngblood, Water Conservation Coordinator.

### **DISTRICT WATER QUALITY GETS A THUMBS UP**

Once again, we are pleased to report that your drinking water meets or surpasses federal and state drinking water standards. Drinking water standards enforced by the California Department of Public Health are some of the highest standards in the nation. The results of water testing are provided in the 2009 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), mailed to customers in Central Marina and the Ord Community in June 2010. The CCR is also available at our website:

<http://www.mcwd.org/ccr.html>

Please call 384-6131 if you need a copy or have questions.

## Water Education Is Fun: Another School Year Is Here and the MPUSD and MCWD Work Together

The Marina Coast Water District (MCWD) and the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District (MPUSD) have collaborated for more than 10 years to bring water education to students. Again MPUSD and MCWD will collaborate to present a water science and water conservation program.

More than 2100 students will receive the water science and conservation education classes. To add to the fun, MCWD sponsors a Water Assembly at schools featuring an interactive musical presentation on water conservation by the group Zun Zun.

## Many Payment Options

# MCWD Works to Make Things Easier

The District offers options that make it more convenient for customers to pay their bill.

We accept **credit or debit card payments** (Mastercard, VISA, Discover Card and American Express):

- **IN THE OFFICE**
- **OVER THE PHONE**
- **ONLINE AT [WWW.MCWD.ORG](http://WWW.MCWD.ORG)**

There is no fee for this service. Payments made using the credit cards are posted to your account immediately. To use our website, visit [www.mcwd.org](http://www.mcwd.org) and click "Online Bill Pay" on the lower right.

The District also offers **Automated Clearing House (ACH) options:**



- **DIRECT DEBIT FROM CHECKING OR SAVINGS ACCOUNT**

To sign up for automatic payments, all we need is an ACH completed form,

available for download from our website or the District office, and a copy of your voided check.

If you are running errands and don't want to drive all the way to our office, **Rabobank on Reservation Road** in Marina (next to Walgreens) will also accept your MCWD payment.

Of course, you still have the option to pay by mail or in person each month.

The District offers these services to make managing your account a more convenient and pleasant experience.

**MCWD Board meetings are open to the public and held at 6:45 p.m., 2nd Tuesday of each month, at the Marina State Beach Office, 11 Reservation Rd. Meeting agendas and minutes, as well as notices of special Board meetings, are available at [www.mcwd.org](http://www.mcwd.org).**

## District Unveils New Leak Program to Help Customers

# Leaks May Be Stealing Your Money and Your Water

The District has started a program to help customers with leaks or sudden high water use. Staff reviews water meter readings and, if a problem indicator is found, staff contacts the customer as quickly as possible. In the first month, staff has been able to help dozens of customers reduce their bill,

and in several cases limit damage to customers' property.

The water meter is a great source of information. You can check on your water system by turning off all water use, check the meter and if it is still moving you have a problem. The District's web site, [www.mcwd.org](http://www.mcwd.org), has more informa-

tion on your water meter, how to read it, and how to find leaks. If you need help with a water conservation problem, call us at 384-6131.

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**Mission Statement:** Providing high quality water, wastewater and recycled water services to the MCWD's expanding communities through management, conservation and development of future resources at reasonable costs.

**Vision Statement:** MCWD will be the leading public supplier of integrated water and wastewater services in the Monterey Bay Region.

### Board of Directors

Kenneth K. Nishi, President | Bill Lee, Vice President  
Dan Burns, Howard Gustafson and Thomas P. Moore

The Water Report is published quarterly for MCWD customers. MCWD is governed by an elected board of directors, which holds public monthly meetings.

Address all comments and inquiries to:  
Marina Coast Water District, 11 Reservation Road,  
Marina, CA 93933-2099 or call (831) 384-6131  
MCWD Web Site: <http://www.mcwd.org>

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## Thanks to Our Customers

# YOU HELPED US COLLECT LEAD & COPPER WATER SAMPLES

Thank you to our Marina and Ord Community customers who collected indoor water samples in June. Every three years, regulations require that we determine the contribution of indoor pipes, faucet fixtures and solder materials to the amount of lead and copper in your tap water. As in previous years, tests revealed that indoor tap water samples in Central Marina and Ord Community have not exceeded the action level for lead and copper. If you have water quality questions please call us at 384-6131.