



WATER REPORT

MARCH 2007

Tour to Take Place May 6, 2007

You're Invited to Visit Some of the Most Beautiful Gardens in Marina

Nine of Marina's most beautiful gardens will be on display on Sunday, May 6, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., during Marina's 5th Annual Garden Tour. Garden designers present on the tour will explain how you can transform an ordinary yard into an extraordinary garden retreat.

Several of the featured gardens show how attractive native and drought tolerate plants can be used in garden designs, while another has creatively incorporated recycled materials from Marina's Last Chance Mercantile. Expect to see how water-wise plants cannot only save water



but improve the look of your garden.

Garden styles include English cottage, Southwest American, Mediterranean and "eclectic" Marina. Ponds, paths, trellises and garden structures, combined with plantings, provide inviting backyard environments.

Meet your friends, take a stroll through the gardens and become inspired to develop or enhance your own garden. Included on the tour will be a plant sale.

Tickets for the event, hosted by the Marina Tree and Garden Club, are available by calling Dana Cleary at 384-7382 or visiting www.marinatreeandgarden.org

Water Awareness Committee of Monterey County, Inc.

Annual Water-wise Landscape Symposium to Be Held in Carmel Valley

Participants in the Water-wise Landscape Symposium and Vendor Expo will gain valuable insights from landscape professionals about how to save water. The event, sponsored by the Water Awareness Committee of Monterey County, Inc., will be held at Rancho Canada Golf Club in Carmel Valley from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Friday, March 23.

Local vendors will be on hand to answer questions and exposition booths will feature water-efficient plant materials and irrigation equipment. Tickets for the event, which includes a buffet luncheon, are \$25. For more information or to reserve vendor space visit www.waterawareness.org or call the District's Water Conservation Specialist Paul Lord at 883-5905.

Saving Money and Our Precious Resource

New Rebate Programs Make High Efficiency Toilets a Wise Choice

The latest, most water efficient toilets cost more than standard toilets, but with the District's toilet rebate incentive, along with the money saved from water bills, customers can receive a return on their investment in only seven years, based on the average household. The high-efficiency toilets include models that are 1.3 gallons-per-flush and dual-flush models that are below 1.6 and 0.8 gallons-per-flush.

The District is currently offering rebates of up to \$125 for 1.3-gallon-flush toilets. (On June 30, 2007, the \$50 rebate program offered on standard, 1.6-gallon-



flush toilets will be discontinued.)

Property Sales Require Inspection

Residential sales require a District inspection to determine that all 3.5 gallon per flush toilets have been replaced by 1.6 gallon-per-flush toilets or less. In addition all showerheads must flow at 2.5 gallons-per-minute or less. Businesses that are sold must also retrofit any existing urinals to water-free urinals.

To learn more about the District's rebate programs, receive free showerheads or get assistance in choosing a toilet for your home or business, call the District's conservation staff at 384-6131.

District Board meetings are held at 6:45 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at MCWD offices, 11 Reservation Rd. (Marina State Beach). The public is encouraged to attend.

General Manager's Corner



Managing Your Assets

A recent trend in the utility industry employs the use of an integrated computer system to track the age and condition, and location of equipment and infrastructure. The *Asset Management* program, as it is called, will enable District

personnel to optimize the routine maintenance of equipment in order to prolong its service life, enhance its performance and serve customers of the Marina Coast Water District more efficiently. Tracked equipment includes valves, pumps, treatment systems and emergency generators. Equipment requiring on-going, routine maintenance such as generators and pumps will automatically notify operations and maintenance personnel when and what type of maintenance is required. It's like that little "change oil" light in your car. The program also makes locating and identifying buried equipment easier during emergency situations, such as a pipeline break.

A key component of the *Asset Management* program is its ability to integrate into the District's customer service database. This sharing of information will allow our customer service staff access to real-time updates so they can better inform customers about service interruptions that may be the result of a pipeline break, for example.

Proactive maintenance of the District's infrastructure will further improve our service to you. District engineers, information technology specialists, customer service and operations and maintenance personnel have already begun evaluating *Asset Management* programs. With Board approval of the selected program, the District can begin installing the system in the coming months. Downloading the information, including hundreds of valves and many pumps, generators and other key equipment will take a few years, but it'll be worth it.

— Marc A. Lucca, General Manager

Water Conservation Commission

Commissioners Needed

The District's Water Conservation Commission needs volunteers to develop and help guide the District's water conservation policies. If you are interested in participating, please call Rich Youngblood at 883-5928 or just stop by to find out more. The Water Conservation Commission meets at the District offices on the first Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. All meetings are open to the public.

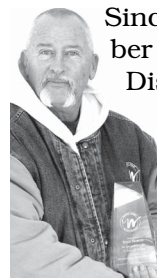
In the District News

Martin Rosales Receives 5-year Award

In January 2002, Martin Rosales began his employment with the District as a full-time meter reader. Martin quickly learned his job and demonstrated excellent abilities in customer service. Last October, Martin began working in the O&M's sewer collections department. He is currently taking CSU-Sacramento's "Operation and Maintenance of Wastewater Collection Systems" course in preparation for the Grade 1 Collection System Maintenance exam.



Dale North Receives 15-year Award



Since Dale North joined the District in December 1991, he has worked in several of the District's operations. During his tenure, he has the distinction of having attained certifications in the four areas of utility operations: wastewater treatment, water treatment, sewer collections and water distribution.

When the District began operations on the former Fort Ord water and wastewater systems in October 2001, Dale was given a leading role interfacing with project managers, contractors and conducting system shut-down requests, as well as directing District field crews. In September 2005, Dale was awarded a reclassification to Systems Operator Grade III, and in October 2006, he received the Water Distribution Grade III Certification.

Meter Reader Rene Magdaleno Welcomed

Rene Magdaleno joined the District on October 16, 2006 as a meter reader. Prior to this, he worked as an assistant produce manager for Ralph's grocery store in Del Rey Oaks. Rene is a long-term resident of the central coast and a graduate of Pacific Grove High School.

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

Vision Statement: The Marina Coast Water District will be the leading public supplier of integrated water and wastewater services in the Monterey Bay Region.

Board of Directors

Howard Gustafson, President – Kenneth K. Nishi, Vice President
David W. Brown, Bill Lee and Thomas P. Moore

Water Report is published quarterly for the customers of the Marina Coast Water District. 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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