



WATER REPORT

November 2006

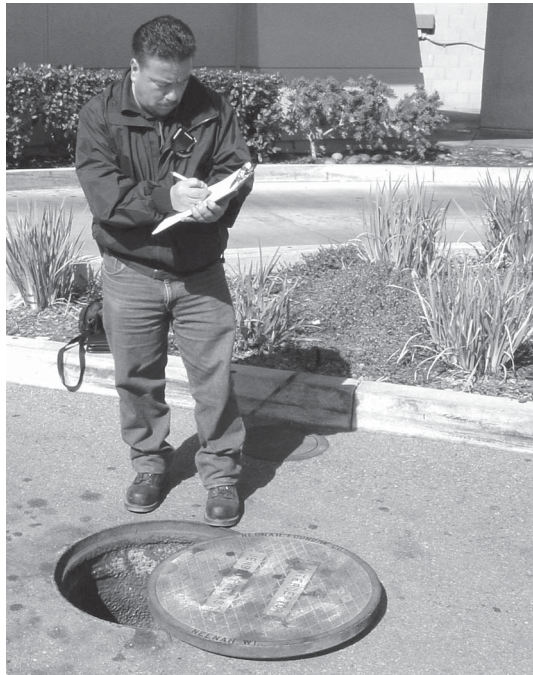
Sewer Backups Causing Residential and Environment Damage Can Be Avoided

Cooking Fats, Oil and Grease Create a Problem You Can Help Solve

The Marina Coast Water District needs your help. Cooking fats, oils and grease, popularly nicknamed "FOG," can buildup in the sewer lateral line extending from your house to the sewer main in the street. If FOG blocks these lines, wastewater will back up and overflow, creating an unhealthy situation that can threaten your home and the local environment.

What You Can Do

Don't pour cooking fats, oils and grease down your drain, but pour them into a container that can be thrown away in the garbage. Additionally, scrape your plates and cookware into the container. (Remember: garbage dis-



posals do not eliminate the problem of grease and food scraps buildup in lateral lines.)

The District responds to sewer blockages on a 24 hour-a-day, 7 days-a-week basis and performs regular cleaning of the sewer mains. The District is also responsible to ensure that food establishments comply with state mandates regarding FOG and that FOG-removing equipment is installed and maintained.

We all need to do our part to protect our homes, communities and environment by keeping the sanitary sewer flowing so that unpleasant and potentially harmful waste doesn't block our sewer system.

www.mcwd.org

Visit MCWD's Revamped Web Site

The District web site has been improved and is chock-full of information about online bill payments, rebates on water conservation programs, the 2005 Consumer Confidence Report and the 2005 Urban Water Management Plan. You'll find information about the District's system operations, engineering projects and permits. Current and previous issues of the District's customer newsletters are also available along with minutes from the District's Board of Director's meetings. Please visit our site and let us know what you think.

Clothes Washers and Toilets

\$50 Rebates Are Easy to Receive

Washing machines that are Energy Star rated and toilets that use 1.6 gallons (ultra low flow toilet) or less per flush qualify for \$50 rebates from the District. Visit www.mcwd.org for more information or call 384-6131.

Water-Saving Tips

It's Time to Turn Off Your Sprinklers

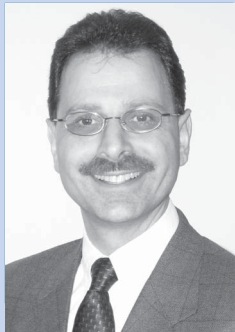
As the days get shorter and cooler, the change of the season is upon us. If you are still irrigating your garden, it's time to give your pocketbook a break. You can turn off your automatic sprinkler unless we have an unusually warm, dry period, in which case you'll need to irrigate until the weather cools down again. Homeowners with drought-tolerant or native plants probably won't need to irrigate until next spring.

Please remember that our water supply is a limited, precious resource that we all need to conserve. If you would like assistance in adjusting your irrigation controller, or would like to learn about ways to conserve water, call the District's Water Conservation Specialist Paul Lord at 883-5905.



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



Our Water Quality Laboratory Is on the Job for You

Marina Coast Water District's laboratory has been California state-certified since 1960. It is staffed by two full-time, highly qualified District employees

who test your water to make certain that it meets or exceeds all state and federal water quality standards.

Each week, the District's lab technicians analyze more than 100 different constituents at each of the District's groundwater source wells, storage tanks and the desalination plant to ensure your water is safe.

Water quality analysis includes measuring bacteriological, mineral, inorganic, organic and radiological content in the water as well as an evaluation of its general physical properties. At specific home and business locations throughout the District's service area, water is also tested for lead and copper. Sulfides, which can cause a rotten-egg smell that you might have noticed from time to time in your water, are also tested and reported.

In addition to monitoring water for regulatory compliance purposes, the laboratory immediately reports any change in the water quality. If a change is detected, District operators make the necessary system adjustments to ensure that your water continues to meet the high standards of the state and federal regulatory agencies.

Results of the District's extensive water quality monitoring program are made available to the public in the annual Consumer Confidence Report. The District recently completed its 2005 report, which was mailed to each resident within its service area. A copy of that document and other water quality information are available on the District web site at www.mcwd.org.

You can rest assured that the District's technicians and operators diligently work to safeguard the highest quality of water for you, our valued customer.

— Marc A. Lucca, General Manager

In the District News

New Employees Welcomed

Ernest Pons-Worley has recently joined the District becoming the new Customer Service Supervisor. Formerly, he worked in the customer service department at UC/Santa Cruz. **Tuan Nguyen** has begun reading water meters for the District. Prior to this, he worked in the commercial fishing industry. The District's new Operations Engineer is **James Derbin**, who comes to the District from the Sea Ranch Water Company. **Jose Pineda**, who worked at Don's Lock and Key, has recently joined the District as a collection system operator.

Susan Kiefert — Employee of the Year



Susan Kiefert was recently awarded Employee-of-the-Year by the Marina Coast Water District's Board of Directors. (She was named Employee-of-the-Quarter last April.) Susan began her employment with the District as a customer service representative in 1984 and, for the past 22 years, has often been commended for her professionalism and helpfulness in assisting customers and employees alike.

Are You Prepared for Emergencies?

Helpful Tips Minimize the Impact

Being prepared for a disaster or emergency helps minimize its impact. So, to prepare yourself before disaster strikes, the Red Cross recommends that you: (1) develop a family evacuation plan that ties into your school, work and community emergency plans, (2) build a kit that includes enough supplies for each family member (and your pets) for at least three days and (3) be informed.

The American Red Cross web site, www.redcross.org, has more details on disaster and emergency preparedness.

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

*David W. Brown, President – Howard Gustafson, Vice President
Kenneth K. Nishi, Charles H. Scholl 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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