

Mr. Keith Van Der Maaten
General Manager
Marina Coast Water District
August 27, 2015

Dear Mr. Van Der Maaten,

I want to voice my support for Jan Shriner's idea of a CSUMB Service Learning Project to encourage water conservation by students at the university. I think that if this is linked with Marina Coast Water District, it will expand the students' knowledge of the water situation here in Monterey County and will enhance the connection between the university and MCWD.

Sustainable Seaside has been working with CSUMB's Service Learning Program since 2011 and we've found that upper class students are especially resourceful and eager to participate in community projects. We've had projects focused on encouraging businesses to eliminate styrofoam products (co-sponsored with Surfrider Foundation), encouraging businesses to do more recycling, supporting Fort Ord National Monument and tabling with Sustainable Seaside. We look forward to having students work with us this semester on a project involving hiking on Fort Ord lands and learning more about the communities surrounding their campus.

We have found the relationships we have formed to be advantageous and the Service Learning program to be a way for us to link to the campus community. I hope that this will be the experience for MCWD as well. I encourage you to take this opportunity to have one of your board members be a link between CSUMB and MCWD and to explore the possibility of connecting with the Service Learning Program on a regular basis.

Sincerely,
Kay Cline
Chair, Sustainable Seaside
Communities for Sustainable Monterey County