



PACKET 1 of 1

Transmittal

Date: March 21, 2014

To:

Marina Coast Water District (MCWD)  
2840 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Marina, CA 93933  
(831) 883- 5903

Re: Monterey Bay Military Housing – Lower Stillwell Backflow Preventers

Attention: James Derbin

We are sending you:

☒ Herewith ☐ Under separate cover Via UPS the following items:

Copies	No.	Date	Description
1		3-21-14	MCWD Variance Request Form – 3 Pages
1		3-21-14	Attachment A – Basis of Variance Request – 2 Pages
1		Spring 2012	Attachment B – Water Report – 2 Pages

These are transmitted for:

Execution ☒ Review and Comment ☐ For Your Use ☐ As Requested ☐ Other ☐

Remarks:

Clark Realty Capital, LLC

Jose R. Cruz  
Clark Realty Capital  
P.O. Box 217  
Seaside, CA 93955  
Office: (831) 583 – 2721  
jose.cruz@clarkrealty.com

Copies To:

Field: File: ☒



### PART C – EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT VARIANCE

Provide documentation to support your request. Documentation should concisely prove the need for a variance. Please list documents below and attach copies with your application. Original records will not be returned.

See "Attachment B"

### PART D – REQUESTED ACTION

What specific action are you requesting that the Board take?

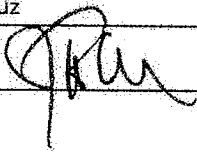
Eliminate the requirement for the annual testing and reporting for the backflow devices installed at each residential home at Lower Stilwell until such future time as the irrigation system is using graywater; and, provide the necessary approvals for a plan to irrigate Lower Stilwell using graywater.

- ☒ *I understand that the application for a variance does not guarantee a variance will be granted.*
- ☒ *I have contacted the owner and he has given his permission to process this application, or I am the property owner.*

Applicant:

Applicant's Name: Jose Cruz

Applicant's Signature:



Date:

3/21/14

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**PART D – GENERAL MANAGER’S RECOMMENDATION (for internal use by Marina Coast Water District)**

- ☒ Having fully considered the above application for variance, I find that the Application has NOT proven by clear and convincing evidence that the requirements of Section 2.08 Variances have been met. Based on the foregoing, a VARIANCE IS NOT RECOMMENDED.
- ☐ Having fully considered the above application for variance, I find that the Applicant has proven by clear and convincing evidence that the requirements of Section 2.08 Variances have been met. Based on the foregoing, a VARIANCE IS RECOMMENDED.

This request will be on the Marina Coast Water District Board agenda currently scheduled for \_\_\_\_

April 21, 2014. Please call the District to confirm this date.

Explanation High pressure irrigation system surrounding potable water system and services. Cross Connection specialist has determined that the threat of cross contamination is high enough to require backflow protection

Brian P. Lee

Signature of District General Manager

April 16, 2014

Date

**Attachment A**  
**Part B – Basis of Variance Request**  
**By Monterey Bay Military Housing**  
**to Marina Coast Water District**

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Monterey Bay Military Housing (MBMH) requests this variance on all three of the allowable conditions as follows:

**1. Application of the Code would result in unfair, unequal treatment and undue hardship:**

MBMH has cooperated with the District in the planning, review and approval of its graywater irrigation system at Lower Stilwell. This includes the installation of a separate potable water supply from MCWD as a back-up to the graywater pump and the installation of 103 individual backflow devices, per the District's letter, to homes where the potable water service pipeline is in close proximity to areas proposed to be irrigated with graywater.

Unfortunately, the District's post-construction requests for modification of the graywater irrigation system are for its operation at pressures below the District's potable water system. This request has prevented the start-up and operation of the graywater system. As a result, the irrigation system currently uses only District supplied potable water, delivered through an approved backflow device.

Since irrigation currently occurs with only potable water, and the potable water system is protected by the irrigation system backflow device, it is unnecessary to have backflow devices at each of the area residences. At such time that MBMH is able to switch from irrigation with potable to graywater, MBMH would then conduct annual testing and reporting to the District on those devices.

The request by MCWD to annually test the residential backflow devices is unfair and represents unequal treatment because all other systems with irrigation meters and equipped backflow devices are not also required to install, test and report on backflow devices at residential services. Additionally, the request by MCWD represents additional hardship to MBMH in the form of additional costs and service disruptions to the residents without providing any additional value to the District's water system or to the Lower Stilwell community. MBMH and the area residents have already suffered undue hardship by not having received the approval for the use of graywater during California's worst recorded and ongoing drought. The District's service area customers similarly suffer from the use of potable water for irrigation where a system for graywater has already been constructed but not yet approved by the District for use. Use of graywater at

Lower Stilwell would increase the sustainability of the District's potable water supplies and help to offset or delay implementation of its water shortage contingency plan.

**2. Granting of the variance will not cause significant adverse effects:**

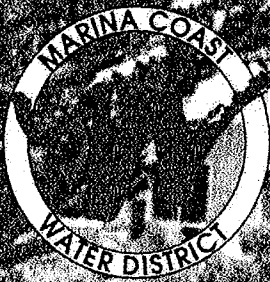
The District's potable water distribution system is fully protected from all potential cross contamination by irrigation in Lower Stilwell in the following two ways: (1) the irrigation system has an approved backflow device, and (2) the irrigation system uses potable water supplied by the District.

Allowing MBMH to continue to operate the irrigation system without annual testing of the residential backflow devices will not present any risk to these residences because the irrigation system uses potable water. MBMH proposes to begin annual testing and reporting of residential backflow devices once irrigation switches to the use of graywater.

**3. The variance is in the best interest in the District.**

The District understands and has communicated to its service area the importance of the Lower Stilwell Graywater system (see attached District Water Report, Spring 2012). The District states its support of the use of graywater at Lower Stilwell and other locations because its *".. use translates into a reduction on the amount of wastewater that needs to be treated and it conserves potable water."*

MBMH believes that continuing a dialogue with MCWD to resolve the remaining issues of the pressure differential between the proposed graywater and existing potable water systems will enable the realization of one of the first graywater systems within the District's service area. Requiring MBMH to install, test and report on residential backflow devices while the irrigation system remains on potable water is a disincentive to MBMH and to all other projects from attempting to develop graywater resources. Since graywater represents an important water resource that provides a potable water savings on a gallon for gallon basis, its development should instead be incentivized and prioritized by the District for the benefit of the entire service area.



# Water Report

MARINA COAST WATER DISTRICT

SPRING 2012

## Smart Water Use

### CSUMB Housing Upgrades Its Old Irrigation Systems

**G**one are the days of inefficient landscape watering. Alliance Property Management has taken steps to reduce overwatering the landscape. With help from Marina Coast Water District's Landscape Incentive Program, they have upgraded the irrigation controllers at parks throughout the CSUMB housing community.

The large ball fields receiving the new equipment are spotted throughout the Frederick Park and Schoonover Park Communities. By installing simple soil-moisture sensors and linking multiple park areas together with a single communications cable and a central controller,



the system now automatically monitors when water is needed, and then applies only the amount of water required for

healthy turf.

"Many of our customers are amazed when they see the water cost savings achieved by upgrading to new irrigation equipment. They not only see the cost savings, they also see the positive impact their actions have towards the sustainability of our water resources," MCWD Water Conservation Specialist Paul Lord says.

District customers can request assistance for projects that improve landscape water use efficiency. Please contact our Water Conservation Specialist at 883-5905 to learn more about the landscape incentives available and to schedule the required water use survey.

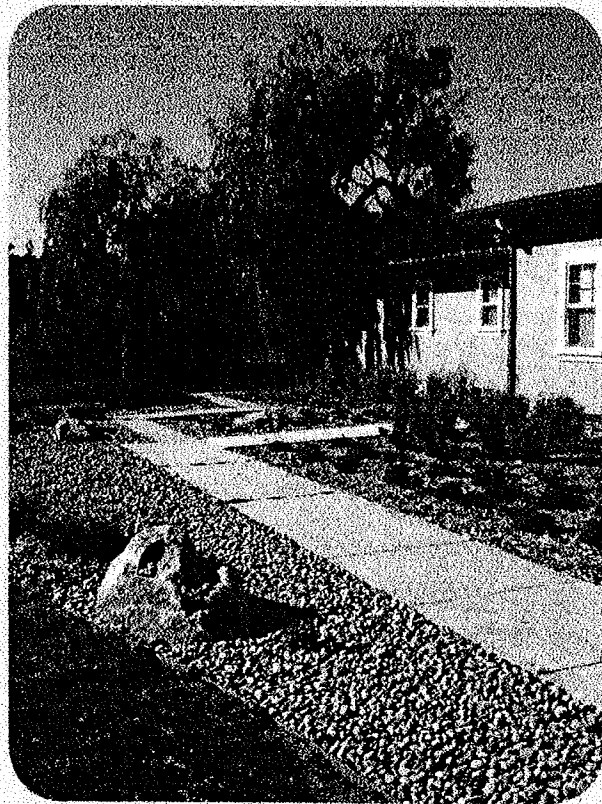
### Conserving Water, Reducing Treatment Costs New Projects Utilize Greywater

**S**tepping out of the box and trying something new can make you feel uncomfortable and can be risky. Working closely with and receiving support and encouragement from the District, developers of new projects are now more comfortable, attempting to achieve unprecedented levels of water use efficiency and long-term water cost savings, by designing Greywater re-use into their projects.

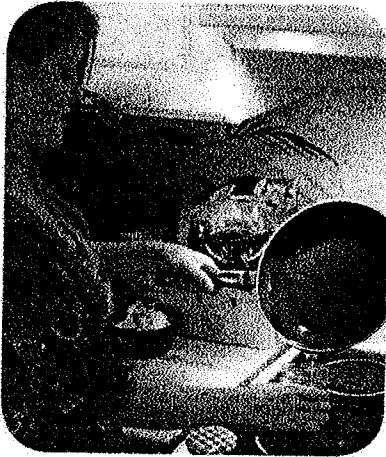
Greywater is the water collected after use from residential showers, bathroom sinks, and certain commercial applications like laundromats, car washes or air conditioning units. Greywater is most often used to irrigate landscaping, but the treated and disinfected water can also be used in other applications, such as flushing toilets.

Several new building developers propose, or have begun, designing greywater use into their projects. These projects include a Live and Work Sustainable Community, the Monterey Bay Bus Operations and Maintenance Center, the Shell Gas Station on Del Monte Avenue and the newly renovated military housing in the Lower Stilwell Park.

What do these and future projects with greywater facilities mean to you the rate payer? Greywater use translates into a reduction in the amount of wastewater that needs to be treated and it conserves potable water.



## Please, Collect Your Fat, Oil and Grease



**T**he Marina Coast Water District Operations and Maintenance staff works diligently to prevent sewer spills through routine hydro-jetting of the sewer mains to remove roots, debris and grease. The District has been operating a "Fats, Oils and Grease" (FOG) Source Control program since 2005 to prevent restaurant grease from getting into the sewer collection system and subsequently causing blockages and sanitary sewer spills. This program requires the installation and regular maintenance of grease traps to remove grease and oils from restaurant and food preparation facilities wastewater before it enters the sanitary sewer system.

District customers can help minimize the residential grease and oil entering the wastewater collection system by not pouring kitchen grease and oil down the drain. The oil and grease should be poured into a disposable container and placed in the garbage. Cooking fat, oil and grease (FOG) is a leading cause of sewer pipe clogs. FOGs cool and congeal on the inner walls of sewer lines and on tree roots that grow in them, much like arterial sclerosis in our bodies. The resulting clog restricts sewage flow, which can back up in your home or property, or even in the street. In fact, kitchen grease is a leading cause of sewer spills into the Monterey Bay.

## Conservation Commission Volunteers Needed

**T**he District's Water Conservation Commissioners volunteer their time to provide guidance to the water conservation staff and make recommendations to the Board of Directors on important water conservation issues. If you are interested in becoming a Commissioner, please call us at 384-6131 or attend a monthly meeting, held at 5:30 p.m. at the District main office, on the first Thursday of each month.

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).

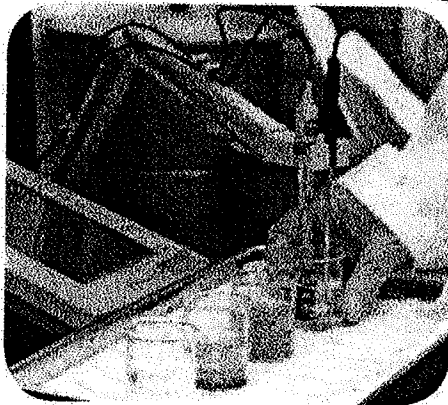


## Team Recognized For 20 Years of Service

**T**wo lead staff members are working through their twentieth year with the District. On December 13th, 2011 the Marina Coast Water District Board of Directors adopted a resolution recognizing Dale North, System Operator III, for his twenty years of service. And, to be recognized this May 2012 for his twenty years of service is Joe Correa, the Assistant Operations and Maintenance Superintendent. Both Dale and Joe have worked closely together in the Operations and Maintenance Department performing a broad scope of duties, each utilizing his certified training in water treatment, water distribution, sewer collections, and wastewater treatment to bring you the best quality water and service possible.

## MCWD Student Internship Opportunities A Partnership With Local Colleges

**F**or the past several years, Marina Coast Water District has partnered with the local community colleges such as MPC and Cabrillo, as well as the California State University at Monterey Bay (CSUMB), to develop a very successful student internship program.



The internship experience at MCWD has proven to be a valuable stepping stone for the interns. All have been exposed to a broad scope of District work, allowing each of them to later confidently pursue great careers in the water industry.

Much of the credit for the program's success goes to Professor Doug Smith at CSUMB. Professor Smith teaches the capstone and pre-capstone classes in the Environmental Science Program, where students focus on science, technology and policies related to marine, coastal and watershed systems.

Currently, MCWD employs three interns, working in the Laboratory, the Engineering Department and the Operations and Maintenance Departments. Students must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 units of school classes, and each intern works a maximum of 16 hours weekly during the Fall and Spring semesters.

### Mission Statement

Providing high quality water, wastewater and recycled water services to 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.

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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