



WATER REPORT

October 2005

Outdated System Is Replaced

Bayer Tank Removal Improves Water Pressure for Marina Residents

In August, the Marina Coast Water District removed the aging Bayer Tank from service. The tank, which was in poor condition, will be demolished early next year.

Water service that had been provided by this tank is now being provided by connections to the Ord Community water system. The new connections are designed to improve water pressure for residents in the area east of Crumpton School. However, all Marina and Ord residents will enjoy the benefit of improved service reliability during emergency situations which may include sharing of tanks and wells. The



connections have been equipped with computer software that controls system operations to realize a zero water transfer between the two systems.

With increased water pressure, water might be wasted since sprinkler heads, faucets and showerheads will be using more water per minute. So, now is the time to check your irrigation system and plumbing fixtures, and make the necessary adjustments.

It's also a good time to install low flow fixtures. Toilet rebates and free low flow showerheads are available through the District offices.

Water-Wise Requirements Adopted

Ordinance Revisions to Affect Homes to Be Sold and Newly Constructed

On June 22, 2005, MCWD's Board of Directors revised the District's water conservation ordinance. The revisions require the installation of water-saving fixtures and appliances, hot water recirculation systems and irrigation controls for new construction. Requirements for existing properties that are being

sold were also amended.

If you would like to learn more about the new ordinance, please see the District's web site, mcwd.org, or contact the District Conservation staff at (831) 8886-2257.

Evapotranspiration Irrigation Controllers

Water-Wise Irrigation Technology Is Now Available to Homeowners

Until recently, Evapotranspiration Irrigation Controllers (ETo) had only been available to landscape professionals. Now, homeowners can take advantage of this water saving technology as well.

A recent study shows that 41 gallons per household per day was saved using the weather-based automatic irrigation controller. ETo controllers use daily local weather information collected from satellites to calculate and adjust the amount of water supplied for irrigation. After a



sunny day, more water is required. After a rainy day, less water or no water at all may be required. ETo controllers will make these adjustments automatically.

Many ETo controllers are web-based and provide interactive web sites for customers to monitor their controller settings and view their water-use history. To learn more about ETo controllers visit: www.hydropoint.com, www.etwater.com or www.toro.com.

You may also contact the District Conservation staff at (831) 886-2257.

District Board meetings are held at 7:00 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



On June 10, 2005, the District board of directors met in a joint session with the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) board of directors to consider the next steps for the proposed project that will provide new water supplies to the Ord Community. The two boards endorsed a "hybrid" project; one

that will combine a new desalination plant and a new recycled water distribution project. The staffs were directed to begin scoping the proposed *Regional Urban Water Augmentation Project* which will be designed to deliver approximately 2,400 acre feet more water to the Ord Community. This additional water was contemplated in the FORA base reuse plan and environmental documents. Working with the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency, the District believes recycled water can be flowing by 2007/2008, with the delivery of desalinated water close behind that schedule.

Another important action taken by both the District and FORA boards was approval of the new budget and capital projects program for the Ord Community. Capacity charges, also known as connection fees for water and wastewater collection services, are new components of the Ord budget. As has been the case in Marina for decades, developers in the Ord Community will now pay these charges which will help finance new District capital projects. Another new budget component is a monthly capital surcharge to be paid by all customers in new developments. Together with monthly rates paid by all customers, these new capital charges will provide the funding necessary to expand and maintain the Ord Community water and wastewater collection systems.

— Mike Armstrong

For Efficiency Washers and Ultra Low Flow Toilets

Rebates Are Now Easier to Get

Everyone wants to save money and water, too! The District's new rebate application procedures make that easier than ever.

To apply for a \$50 rebate on water-efficient 1.6 gallon toilets or Energy Star-rated washers: 1) save your sales receipt, 2) download a rebate form from MCWD's web site or pick up one at the District office, 3) fill out the form and attach the receipt, and 4) mail to or drop off at the District office. (Restrictions: receipts must be less than one year old, rebates are only valid for people living within the District service area, and rebates will be offered only as long as funds are available.)

District News Briefs

Ord Community Volunteers Appreciated

In June, Marina Coast Water District completed lead and copper testing of indoor tap water from selected customers within the Ord Community. (Regulations require that the District determine the level of lead and copper from indoor plumbing every three years.) The results of the test showed that lead and copper in Ord's drinking water are safely below the limits allowed by state and federal regulations.

The District extends its appreciation to the customers who volunteered to collect water samples and looks forward to working with you again in 2008.

Central Marina Disinfection Upgraded

In August, the District replaced its chlorine disinfection system with a safe and reliable sodium hypochlorite system eliminating the need to use or store chlorine gas. The new process combines water, common household salt and electricity to produce sodium hypochlorite.

Employee of the Quarter Named

Customer Service Representative Sherie Payne was recently awarded Employee of the Quarter for July through September 2005. Sherrie began working for the District in July of 1983.



Water Conservation Commission Opening

Support your community. The Water Conservation Commissioners need volunteers to provide input to MCWD's Board of Directors on water conservation issues. If you are interested helping by serving on this Commission, please call 582-2652.

Operation Community Cheer

Last year for the holidays, the District's customers and employees donated food, clothing, household items and gifts to a needy family, several senior citizens and Shelter Outreach Plus. Once again, the District will participate in Operation Community Cheer. Please join us by bringing your donations to the District office before Friday, December 16. For further information, please call Paula Riso at 582-2604.

Mission Statement: *Serving ratepayers with premier water, conservation, wastewater and customer services at a reasonable cost*

Vision Statement: *Marina Coast Water District will be the leading purveyor of innovative water and wastewater services on the Central Coast*

Board of Directors

*Thomas P. Moore, President David W. Brown, Vice President
Howard Gustafson, Kenneth K. Nishi and Charles H. Scholl*

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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