

News from the GM

MARIANA RANCHOS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

DISTRICT NEWS

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- This month's Regular Board meeting and Public Hearing are Thursday, December 20th at 4:00 p.m.
- **PLEASE UPDATE YOUR PHONE NUMBERS!!!** We need to be able to reach you!
- Please call the office with any questions or to receive financial assistance with your bill.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

District News	1
Information	2
Mission Statement	2
District Water Usage	2
Water District Maintenance	2
Phone Numbers	2

Welcome to December. Merry Christmas folks! I hope this season will find you surrounded by loved ones and lots of good food.

Well, We are almost finished implementing the Rate Study. It is now complete and ready for you to view on our website. I encourage you to go to <http://www.marianaranchoscd.org/mrcwd-rate-study-information-page> or you can just click on the link on the home page. We have also added a copy of the Proposition 218 Notice that was mailed out to every land owner at the first of November. Our meetings on the 27th and 29th of October were a bust. We only had one person show up at the first meeting and zero at the second. This tells me that you are happy with the job your Board is doing or that you just aren't that interested. Either way, you still have one more shot. On Tuesday, December the 11th at 7:00pm your Board will once again convene to answer any questions or challenges that you may have with the Rate Study, the implementation of the Rate Study or why our rates are going to change. Please try and attend. Your Board has met on October 18th, 27th and 29th. They have dissected the Rate Study at great length. After many hours of discussion they decided to accept the Rate Study and implement it over a five year period. This will ease us into the new rate restructuring. It will also help to facilitate our transition into one inch meters for all customers of the MRCWD. This will bring us more inline with Fire Flows and Safety as required by the State and County agencies. It will also bring better service flows to you our valued customers. By implementing the one inch change now, we can soften the blow of increased rates. If you look at the Proposition 218 Notice on the website you can see the difference that a one inch meter along with 2000 cubic feet of usage will make. The difference is \$6.44 per month. As we ease into the 5-year plan the increments can stay small like this. If we wait two or even three years to implement, the sticker shock of base rates will be enough to hurt our average customer. So as always, your Board of Directors spent countless hours looking at an equitable plan that would serve the District. I personally think they have done an outstanding job! Lot's of discussion, debate, blood, sweat and tears. Lastly, we will hold a public hearing on December 20th, 2018 at 4:00pm to hear and receive any final comments. After the close of the public hearing the Board will go into their regularly scheduled meeting. They will consider any and all comments. Count any written protest votes. Hold one final discussion about the whole plan and then consider casting their votes on implementing the new Rate Plans. A positive vote means the rates and changes will take effect immediately. You will see the results in your January Water Billing Statement that you should receive in February. I hope you can attend these meetings folks, at least one would help you to understand the gravity of this Study and what it means for the District going forward. Please try to attend.

OFFICE CLOSURES FOR THIS MONTH

This month the office will be closed during the week of the 24th thru the 28th. This allows the District to complete billing during the hours the office is normally open.

EMERGENCY and after hours please call 760-912-9400



M A R I A N A R A N C H O S
C O U N T Y W A T E R
D I S T R I C T

James Hansen
General Manager

Alice Funderburk
Office Assistant

Michael Sweitzer
Jessy Francis
Field Technicians

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Phone: 760-247-9405

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E-mail: gm@mrcwd.org

Office Hours: 8:30a.m.-1:30p.m. M-F

The opinions expressed belong to the General Manager and may not reflect those of the Board.

“The mission of the Mariana Ranchos County Water District is to efficiently serve our customers with the highest quality water, 24/7.”

For the month of October

2013 Usage	2018 Usage
597,400 cubic feet	654,500 cubic feet
4,468,552 Gallons	4,895,660 Gallons
Not So Good! 🤔	8.72% Increase

www.mrcwd.org

Agendas for meetings of the MRCWD Board of Directors are always available online at our website. You can view them 1 day in advance for a Special meeting and 3 days in advance for a Regular meeting.

W A T E R D I S T R I C T M A I N T E N A N C E

The rains are coming. And along with them will be the hard freezing for days at a time like last year. It's coming! That unenviable time when you found out a line wasn't drained or a pipe wasn't wrapped well. Let me take this time for a last call to remind you about our annual winterization program here in the District for our seniors and fixed income folks. If you have exposed lines, faucets or fixtures, we need to get them wrapped or covered up! Call the office to schedule an appointment with Alice. We will come out and walk your property to find any exposed items. We can then wrap and or cover these items to keep them safe for the winter. For the rest of you folks that aren't seniors or just need some help, you can also call the office to schedule an appointment. We will be happy to come out and help you to walk your property. By doing this, we can help you to identify areas of concern as well as recommend the correct materials to protect them this winter. We can also offer our assistance for the cost of the materials used. No charge for our labor will be involved. And, the cost of the materials that we use can be placed on your water bill for the following month! Please help us to conserve and protect our most precious resource. Call Alice today!

Here we are, going into winter again. It's time to roll back all your outside watering, sprinklers, drip systems etc. When you close them down, please try to turn off the system at the source. Right where it connects to the anti-siphon valve. Then you can go to the farthest, hopefully the lowest point of the system and open one of the bubblers, heads, sprayers and let the system fully drain. This will help to stop the breaking of components when it does freeze this winter, as well as help your pocket book next spring. You will have far fewer repairs if you can get all of the water out of the lines!

I wanted to remind all the good folks of the Marianas about our bounty system again. With the cold weather and freezing coming we will start to see more leaks around the District. Be the first person to call the office, or myself at 760-912-9400 (24 hours a day), to report water on the roadway, or a broken line, and you will receive a \$10.00 credit on your water bill. Be the first to call about someone hooked up to, or tampering with a fire hydrant, along with information about the truck or trailer, and receive a whopping \$50.00 credit for reporting water theft! With all of you out there acting as my eyes and ears, I know we can't fail.