

News from the GM

MARIANA RANCHOS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

DISTRICT NEWS

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- This month's Regular Board meeting is Thursday, June 21st 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.

Spring is finally here! Or is it? In typical fashion, the High Desert has once again gone hot, and encouraged all the trees and flowers to bloom, and then gone cold, so as to wipe out most of the blooms yet again! Well, at least we will have the green to look at. It's the same with our water. Going hot then turning cold, it's really hard to maintain aesthetic qualities in these old pipes with weather like this. Color and Odor are always the hardest. So bear with us a little longer. When the weather finally figures out what it wants to be, we can fully enjoy the sweet taste of our un-chlorinated water once again.

I have found another class for you folks. The City of Victorville is hosting a "Residential Landscape Conversion" class on June 23rd, 2018. It starts at 8:00 am and runs till 11:00. The address is 14343 Civic Drive, Victorville. You can contact Donna McCormick at 760-955-2016 to reserve a seat. Space is limited, so call early! This class is going to cover hardscape materials, landscape design ideas and the landscape measurement process. This will teach you how to create a drought-tolerant sustainable landscape that still looks beautiful. These classes have really been a big help up here in the high desert. Just take a look at the back of this newsletter. When we compare our usage from April 2013 you can see a drastic 19.1% decrease in the total gallons used. That's all you folks. Thanks in a big way for all your conservation!

Lastly, I need your advice. In the past few months we have seen a steady increase in the number of complaints about the condition of properties next to the District office. As you know, this is out of the purview or regulatory nature of our water District. There's not much we can do. But I put it on the agenda for last month's meeting so the Board could talk about whether action could be taken, what action could be taken and most importantly, how much it would cost. They reaffirmed that it was out of their authority to mandate any action by property holders. So that left the idea of a fence to shield at least one side of the situation. There was much debate over chain link, wood and then a block wall. With the South-West wind exposure, chain link with slats is not viable. Wood will cost upwards of \$2500 and needs constant maintenance and replacement in 3 to 5 years. Block would last forever, but carries the highest price tag. Almost \$6500! So the Board asked me get your input. Please call or come by the office and let us know what you think. Is the eyesore worth the expense, or do we just ignore it and continue on as usual? Please give me your input. I'll let the Board know what you think on June 21st at the meeting.

OFFICE CLOSURES FOR THIS MONTH

This month the office will be closed during the week of the 18th thru the 22nd. This allows the District to continue training during the hours the office is normally open. Please call the number listed below for all emergencies .

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EMERGENCY and after hours please call 760-912-9400



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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 April

2013 Usage	2018 Usage
609,800 cubic feet	493,300 cubic feet
4,561,304 Gallons	3,689,884 Gallons
Fantastic! 😄	19.1% Decrease

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

I wanted to remind you that Spring is once again upon us. Everyone responds to the green and turns their sprinkler and drip systems back on just like last year. But these systems still have the same problems they did last year when you told yourself “I’ll just turn it off for the winter and fix it later”. Well now is “later”. Please test your system one of these Saturdays or Sundays during daylight hours. Run the entire system and check all the connections, look for leaks and where the rabbits dined on your micro tubing. Get it all leak tight and then set your timers to run during the hours of darkness. Early AM is where you get the most out of your water dollar and, at night there is usually no WIND. So you have no transpiration, very little evaporation, and your plants and grass wakeup all watered and ready to greet the day! It is also a great help to us here at the District. If you will water between midnight and 5:00am, we are ready for you. Our pumps are online and filling the tanks for the next day. If you water with us, you will not take away any of our storage at the tanks. This keeps them full for normal use and emergencies if needed.

We will soon be replacing many of the problem lines out in the East end. Our water main treatment program has helped us to identify the worst areas of the District, places where the lines are the oldest and most susceptible to this kind of problem. They will be replaced first. Then we will begin the process of updating most of the antiquated steel lines that we have left in the District. This will also include the associated street valves and service connections on those lines. Your continued support (and contributions) to the District’s Capital Improvement Plan are going to pay off in spades. Having the necessary cash on hand will allow us to perform the rehabilitation of lines, valves and service connections in-house, in an effort to keep our costs at a minimum. This allows us to complete these drastic renovations on our old creaky system and still remain absolutely debt free! No loans will be necessary for this massive undertaking. Your support and continued contributions, along with the guiding hands of the many Directors, past and present, have made this happen. Pat yourselves on the back people. We did it! Take care folks, and I’ll see you out there.