

News from the GM

MARIANA RANCHOS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

DISTRICT NEWS

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- This month's Regular Board meeting is Thursday, March 15th 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.

Hello March! It will be nice to finally be rid of the weird weather of last month. All kinds of rain in the forecasts but very little for us. And the winds! We haven't had that hard of a blow in quite a while. At least the freezing temperatures haven't been so bad. By using our offers to winterize last year we have kept the frozen emergencies down to two or three. Good Job Folks!

Just as we thought, the politicians are at it again. Not just in Washington this time, this one is a lot closer to home, and your wallet. Here in California your elected officials are trying very hard to start a TAX on the water you use. Yes that's correct, a new tax. For most of you it will amount to \$0.95 cents per month. Other customers with larger meters could pay as much as \$10.00 per month! As if they didn't get enough of our hard earned dollars for everything else, now they want to tax our water.

I briefed your Board of Directors on this bill and the Brown administration plan to try and slide it in as a "Budget Trailer Bill" (BTB). This bill is so unpopular it can't stand on it's own two legs. Governor Brown is trying every way he knows how to get this passed and to his desk before his tenure runs out. Your Board of Directors are not very happy about the whole process. I was instructed to send letters to all the affected committee members, our local representatives and to join the coalition from the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA). Our name will now appear on every letter of opposition that is sent out from this agency. This is just another example of your Board of Directors being on top of the issues and looking out for the District's best interests. We are not tax collectors folks. And it's not fair to our customers to have to pay even more for a commodity that is already so expensive.

Please take some time and learn about Senate Bill 623. I have included a link on our website at www.mrcwd.org The link is just under the picture of the office. I know your time is valuable, and most folks don't like to search for things, it's just too much work. So I fired up the ole "Google Machine" and found some good stuff for you to look at. Some of it's pro and some of it's con. You can decide for yourself which way to go. And when you do decide how you feel about the whole thing, please contact you elected officials and let them know what you think. I have included a name and phone number you can use to tell them how you feel.

Jay Obernolte - Assembly, Capitol 916-319-2033, District 760-244-5277

OFFICE CLOSURES FOR THIS MONTH

This month the office will be closed during the week of the 19th thru the 23rd. 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



M A R I A N A R A N C H O S
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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 January

2013 Usage	2018 Usage
362,000 cubic feet	422,100 cubic feet
2,707,760 Gallons	3,157,308 Gallons
Not so Good! 🤔	14.23% 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 numbers above look pretty bad this month. I am afraid that next month won't be much better either. We have been so dry this winter it has forced us to use more water. Every Board meeting, as part of the General Managers report, I inform the Board members of how our usage stacks up against the same period from one year ago. I thought I would share some of those numbers with you. January 2018 usage compared to January of 2017, UP 39.72%. That's a big number. But what choice do we have? We have cut our watering times, let most of our outdoor vegetation die off (most of it is in winter mode already) and watched carefully how long we shower and use water inside our homes. I guess what I'm trying to convey to you is; We are doing the best we can with what we have. Stay diligent in your water conservation methods. Watch for leaks and strange patches of green or wet spots as you travel throughout our District. Call if you see something or have a question about how we are doing. You folks are dedicated to our way of life here in the Desert. It's a unique area with a unique lifestyle. Keep doing what you can and we will be Ok. I'll leave you with some numbers going back to 2013 that will show you how much influence Mother Nature has on our water usage here in the Desert. The following years are from usage in the month of January.

2018 422,100 cuft UP 39.72% from previous year
 2017 302,100 cuft DOWN 1.72% from previous year
 2016 307,400 cuft UP 2.30% from previous year
 2015 300,500 cuft DOWN 19.61% from previous year
 2014 373,800 cuft UP 3.26% from previous year
 2013 362,000 cuft State of California Baseline Year

Take care folks, and I'll see you out there.