

News from the GM

MARIANA RANCHOS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

DISTRICT NEWS

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- This month's Regular Board meeting is being held March 14th or March 28th at 4:00 p.m. Please call the office to confirm.
- **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.

URGENT—ALERT – URGENT– ALERT— URGENT—ALERT – URGENT– ALERT— URGENT

Water tax proponents have proposed a new twist to the water tax issue. Let's get our newly elected Governor to include this tax in his proposed budget for California. That way we can sneak it through the process and no one will be the wiser. Every time it sees the light of day it's ridiculed, shot down and not forgotten, this tax will just not go away! We have talked about this in past newsletters, each by a different name or action. The latest request comes from the Governor himself, with no real explanation of how it works, or how it will be implemented. It has had quite a few forms. The original was mandatory, you had no choice. The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Organization was able to quash that version. Then they tried a Budget Trailer Bill, it failed. Then it morphed to SB 845 which would require more than 3,000 community water systems to add a voluntary remittance with an opt-out feature to the local water bills of California families and businesses. These voluntary remittances would all go to the State Water Resources Control Board to help fund a new Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund. While well-intended, this last-minute proposal is highly problematic. When SB 845 failed due to sunlight being cast upon it, they tried another Budget Trailer Bill. Even outgoing Governor Brown wouldn't sign it. Now it's back again.

Please cut out the box below. It has two phone numbers in it. These are your elected representatives here in Southern California. Please take some time every couple of days to call these numbers and let them know that there are better ways to accomplish this goal. Adding further taxes to what little we bring home in wages doesn't help us as voters. We already pay so much in California and receive so little in return.

Check out websites like <https://www.acwa.com/our-work/delivering-safe-drinking-water/no-water-tax/> (a link is also posted on our website). Here you can find excellent discussions on alternatives to this tax. We already have the ability to help, why take on a new tax?

If the California elite want to help, then let them add it as a voluntary check box on the California Form 540 (income tax) as an elective. Don't force us to subsidize mishandling and further operations of systems that we will never see or even benefit from. Yes water is a Right in California, But, We have Right's too!

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Sen Shannon Grove (916) 651-4016
Assy Jay Obernolte (916) 319-2033

OFFICE CLOSURES FOR THIS MONTH

This month the office will be closed during the week of the 25th thru the 29th. 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
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Alice Funderburk
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Field Technicians

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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	2019 Usage
362,000 cubic feet	321,300 cubic feet
2,707,760 Gallons	2,403,324 Gallons
Great! 😄	11.24% 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

Our new Rate Structure is working well. Most folks haven't really paid much attention to it. They will begin to catch on in the coming months. Our tracking has improved as well. When you log onto the website you will be able to see how you fare against the community based on meter size. Don't forget to look at your correct size, 3/4" or 1" as the case may be. Within the next five years we will all be 1", but for now there are more 3/4" meters out there.

We are starting the swap out to 1" meters this month. As we spoke about before, all the meters involved in the East End Main Line Replacement project will be 1" radio read meters. We have also identified over 50 meters for immediate replacement to radio read that will help during our monthly reads. Now our field techs won't have to go onto private property, open fences and gates, be on the lookout for vicious dogs and dangerous areas. We can also omit areas where we need 4 wheel drive to get into. These kinds of changes will significantly reduce the District's liability exposures. It will also reduce the amount of time required to read our meters. Now the field techs can be more productive on other District projects, instead of riding around, jumping in and out of the Kubota every month. Good things are happening!

I wanted to remind all the good folks of the Marianas about our bounty system again. With the cold weather and freezing already here, we are starting 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.