

# MRWPCA UPDATE

MONTEREY REGIONAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

*Dedicated to Meeting Wastewater and Recycled Water Needs*

Since 1977



## Expanding Our Water Resources

### Historic Study of Salinas River Water to Begin

A future possibility for creating more water for farmland irrigation is the installation of an inflatable rubber dam on the Salinas River near the MRWPCA water recycling facilities. During summer months, the dam would collect water, which would be mixed with recycled water then distributed for irrigation. The critical first step in determining feasibility is testing the quality of the Salinas River water. "That's never been done," reports MRWPCA Lab Supervisor Jon Popper.

On August 5, the sampling

began. "We're sampling three locations to develop a database. Ultimately, we want to know whether mixing recycled and river water will degrade our product, and if so how much additional treatment would be necessary for the water to be usable."

There are three sampling points: Chualar, Salinas along Blanco Road and Marina near the landfill next to the recycling facility. Sampling and analysis will take about six weeks.

The study is a joint effort of MRWPCA and the Monterey County Water Resources Agency.

**Q** Why not base my wastewater bill on my water consumption?

—Mr. S.L.G., Marina

**A** Initially, that is how fees were calculated. However, due to the wide range between water used for outside landscaping and inside purposes from customer to customer, and complications in obtaining customer usage information, a standard category method was adopted. (This is considered the most equitable system by the majority of wastewater agencies.) Using one of the most sophisticated breakdowns of billing categories in the state, MRWPCA is able to match customer's characteristics to a standard category.

### What We Do

The Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency is responsible for treating wastewater for Del Rey Oaks, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Salinas, Sand City, Seaside, Boronda, Castroville, Moss Landing, Marina, the former Fort Ord, and unincorporated areas of northern Monterey county. MRWPCA's facilities include a 30 million-gallon-per-day treatment plant and water recycling facility located two miles north of Marina, as well as community pumping stations and transport piping to the treatment plant. (City sewer systems are maintained independently by each city.)

### *Did You Know?*

- MRWPCA's recycled water is gulpable (meets swimming pool standards).
- More water is produced at the Water Recycling Facility in nine months than Cal-Am pumps all year from the Carmel Valley Aquifer (over 13,000 acre feet in 2002).



*Become Part of the Solution*

## Beware of Putting Root Killers Down Your Drain

Some commercial products designed to kill roots in plumbing lines contain copper sulfate. This heavy metal cannot be removed during the wastewater treatment process, and, consequently, could end up in the Monterey Bay or in our groundwater.

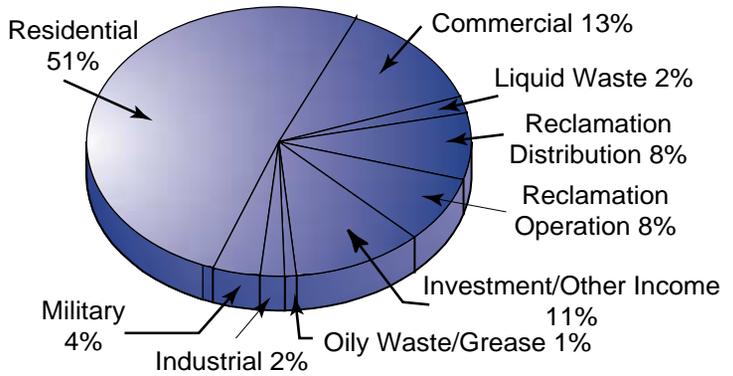
Before pouring a root killing product down your drain, check carefully to see that it does not contain copper sulfate. The drain-safe and preferred option is to have a professional drain clearing company clear the blockage.

For more information on this subject, please call MRWPCA Source Control at 883-1118 or 424-1108.

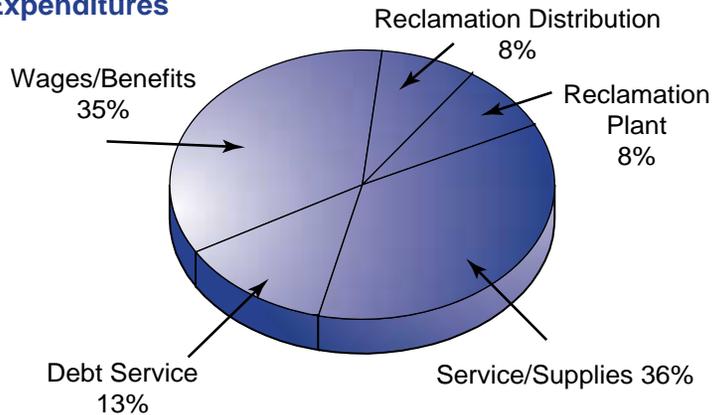
Visit MRWPCA on the World Wide Web at [www.mrwPCA.org](http://www.mrwPCA.org)

## MRWPCA Fiscal Year 2003-04 Approved Budget

### Revenues



### Expenditures



### Board of Directors Approves 2003-04 Budget

## Customer Rates to Remain Unchanged for 12th Consecutive Year

For the 12th consecutive year, the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency (MRWPCA) Board of Directors has approved a balanced budget that holds residential customer rates unchanged. The last rate

increase, in July of 1992, was from \$9.00 to \$9.30 per month. This achievement was a cooperative effort of the MRWPCA staff, who reduced operational costs and restructured the work force for more efficiency.

## Save Time and Postage with Our Automatic Payment Service

*If you would like to take advantage of MRWPCA's automatic payment service:*

- Sign and return the coupon below with your payment.
- Pay with a check from the account to be used (with this, we can instruct your bank to automatically deduct your payment every two months).

*If you have any questions, give us a call at 372-2385 or 449-6366.*



I authorize MRWPCA and my financial institution to initiate entries to my  checking  savings account for wastewater fees. This authority will remain in effect until I notify you of cancellation in writing. I can stop payment of any entry by notifying my financial institution three days before my account is charged. I can have the amount of an erroneous charge immediately credited to my account up to 15 days following issuance of my financial statement or 60 days after posting, whichever occurs first. This amount deducted will equal the balance owed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

