

MRWPCA UPDATE

MONTEREY REGIONAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Since 1977

Dedicated to Meeting Northern Monterey County's Wastewater and Recycled Water Needs



Recycled Water Facility Has Become International Destination

Australians Give Facility High Marks

Not all visitors come to the Monterey Peninsula for golfing vacations. Many come to visit MRWPCA's renowned wastewater treatment and recycling facilities.

Recently, an Australian group making a world tour of water recycling facilities toured the plant located two miles north of Marina.

"Our group was most impressed with the work you are doing with growers by providing

them with recycled water to irrigate their edible food crops, which both helps to alleviate seawater intrusion and protects against water shortages," said Allen Gale, director of technical services for the group.

"The group was also impressed with your high standards for treatment and the obvious strong commitment of your staff.

"Our visit certainly confirmed that your facility is a world leader in water reuse."



Recycled Water Update

Production Peaks

Because of last winter's heavy rains, record-setting production is not likely during this water recycling season. However, this year there have been two 10-day periods during which the recycling facilities have "captured" all available water, meaning it was redistributed to growers to irrigate their crops and none had to be sent to the Monterey Bay outfall.

"We've had periods during which we've captured it all," reports James Dix, "but never for 10 days, and this season we've done that twice."

James also notes that the facilities are using fewer chemicals this season. "That's primarily due to the improved efficiency in the primary and secondary treatment of the wastewater."

Salt. Are you lugging too much of it?

If you use a water softener, you may be wasting time and money by adding too much salt. Here's what you can do:

1. Lower the salt level setting on your water softener.
2. Or, consider replacing your unit with a portable exchange service.
3. For further ways to maximize efficiencies for both water and salt usage, call your water softener specialist.



Halt the Salt to Protect Our Water

Get all the information at www.mrwpc.org or call 645-4604 or 422-1001 ext. 604.

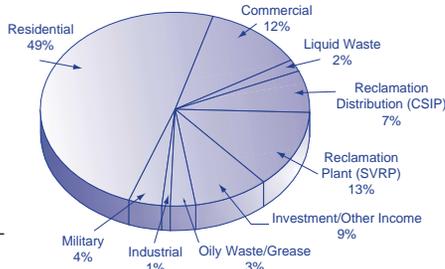
No Rate Increase in Residential Rates

Budget Approved for Fiscal Year 2005/2006

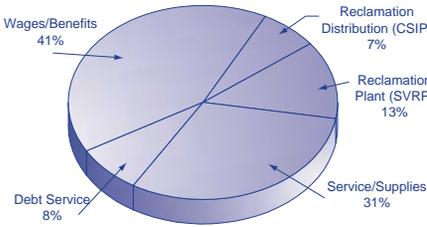
"By holding our operations and maintenance expenditures to the same amount as last year," reports General Manager Keith Israel, "we're able to avoid increasing our residential customer rates."

"The credit for this achievement goes to our hard-

Revenues



Expenditures



working staff who have kept service and cost control to our

ratepayers a top priority."

While treatment expenses continue to be much lower than state-wide averages for facilities of equal size, the budget report reflects the importance that MRWPCA places on controlling costs.

Employee Profile

Dedicated on the Job and at Home

Lead Maintenance Mechanic Bill Cronin joined MRWPCA in 1979 as an entry level me-



chanic. Having advanced three skill levels, he now heads the department that maintains all of the heavy equipment that runs the treatment plant besides eight heavy trucks and a fleet of over 20 smaller trucks.

"My job is to stay ahead of the work by continually modifying and improving our preventative maintenance program," Bill says. "We're a forward looking agency

which prides itself on continually improving our jobs."

But the primary joy of his life is being a dad. After their first child was born, Bill and his wife Susan decided to become a multiracial family. Two years ago, they traveled to China to adopt their second daughter.

"We can't see color," he says. "We love our children equally."

Later this year, Bill and Susan will be adopting their third—either a black or native American daughter.

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.)

Customer Payment Update

Discounts Offered

To save you time and money, MRWPCA is pleased to provide advance payment discounts for customers. When you prepay your bill a year in advance, you receive a 5 percent discount. Prepayment information is printed on each bill you receive.

Payments Can Be Made Online

Now you can pay your MRWPCA bill online. Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express cards are accepted. (A small convenience fee is charged for the service.) For information, visit www.mrwPCA.org.

For more information about either of these programs, call Customer Service at (831) 372-2385 or from Salinas 449-6366 or 722-9288.