

THE Waterline

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE MPWD • 2019

ABOUT MPWD

MID-PENINSULA WATER DISTRICT

3 Dairy Lane

Belmont, CA 94002

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www.MidPeninsulaWater.org

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The Board of Directors meets every fourth Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at 3 Dairy Lane, Belmont.

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California Special
Districts Association
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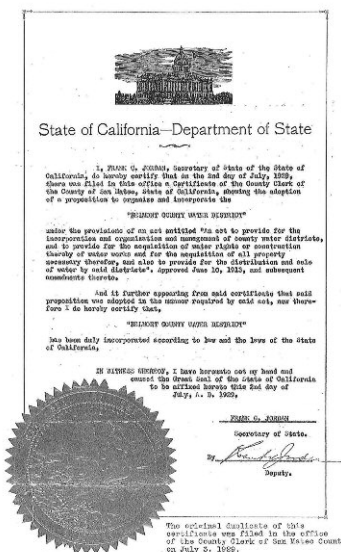
MPWD Celebrates 90 Years of Service to Belmont, San Carlos, and San Mateo County



A lot changes in 90 years. In 1929, bread cost 10¢, milk was

15¢, and a postage stamp would set you back 2¢. Cars were just transitioning from a “luxury” item to a staple of the American family. Radios were the primary form of entertainment, the first Oscar Award was presented to a silent film entitled “Wings,” and the Golden Gate Bridge was still years away from being built. Burns and Allen were comedy’s biggest names, Al Jolson was the most famous person in America, and Ernest Hemingway was the best-selling author.

On July 2 of that same year, a small water district was incorporated under the County Water District Act of California. The Belmont County Water District, which later became the Mid-Peninsula Water District (MPWD), began supplying water from the Hetch Hetchy Regional Water System to the



local community. For MPWD, much has changed in 90 years, as well: technologies, water resources and conservation, a growing population, construction materials and techniques, and communications. But one thing has not changed for MPWD over the generations – ***its commitment to provide its customers with a safe, high-quality, reliable supply of water.***

This unwavering commitment – which is expressed in Our Mission – is guided by Our Vision to be recognized for our outstanding service and enlightened water conservation programs while employing innovative approaches to sustainability to achieve cutting edge environmental efficiency and a competitive rate structure. Today, MPWD serves 28,000 people over five square miles via a gravity fed system that includes nine pumping stations, ten storage tanks, and delivery of 2.5 to 4.8 million gallons of water per day.

The MPWD employees and Board of Directors are proud to celebrate 90 years of service to our community and invite you to join us during this anniversary year for our various outreach events and workshops. For more information about the MPWD and to stay up to date on our community outreach events, Capital Improvement Program, water conservation resources, and more, please visit MidPeninsulaWater.org today! ■

See inside for more about MPWD's 90-year history



Thank You, Customers!

*...for the privilege of serving water in Belmont,
San Carlos, and San Mateo County.*

MidPeninsulaWater.org/90

Free Hands-On Workshops a Big Draw!



As part of MPWD's commitment to community outreach and continued water conservation efforts, MPWD offers annual Hands-on Workshops in spring and fall. These workshops are **FREE** to MPWD customers and the local public and are co-sponsored by the Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency (BAWSCA).

Following the successful **Design-It-Yourself Native Garden Workshop** with Sheri Osaka last fall, MPWD offered a **Mini-Succulent Garden Workshop** in spring. MPWD customers, amateur gardeners, and even MPWD staff interested in mini-succulent gardening, visited the District Office on May 22 for a two-and-a-half hour hands-on workshop presented by Pacita Ikononou. The evening was spent diving into the world of succulents. More than two dozen attendees were treated to a classroom-style overview on the benefits of, and care for, mini-succulents. Afterwards, attendees had fun getting their hands in the dirt learning how to cultivate their own mini-succulent gardens. At the conclusion of the workshop, Jeanette Kalabolas, MPWD's Water Conservation Specialist, offered everyone who attended a free mini-succulent to add to their own garden and a complimentary gift as a thank you from Mid-Peninsula Water District.



Be on the lookout for upcoming dates and registration details for the next Hands-on Workshop coming this fall by visiting MidPeninsulaWater.org/workshops

W A T E R C O N S E R V A T I O N C O R N E R

*If Everyone Saves a Little,
We Can All Save a Lot!*



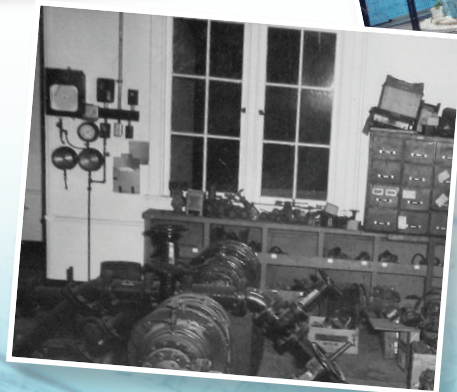
MPWD CAN HELP YOU CONSERVE WATER

- ▶ Valuable Rebate Programs
- ▶ Water Conservation Tips & Kits
- ▶ Online Home Water Use Report
- ▶ Leak Detection Assistance
- ▶ Free Hands-On Landscape Workshops
- ▶ School Programs & MPWD Field Trips

Get water-saving tips and rebate programs today at MidPeninsulaWater.org/waterconservation



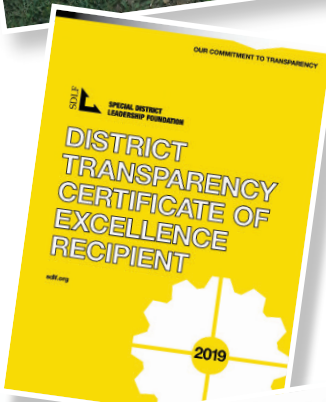
THEN & NOW



RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2019, MPWD celebrates a major milestone with its 90th anniversary. Much of MPWD's efforts in recent years have centered around upgrading the water delivery infrastructure, maintaining a high degree of personalized customer service, focusing on fiscal responsibility, and achieving greater sustainability in water and energy resources. Some of MPWD's accomplishments included:

- Exceeded California State water conservation goals during the recent drought (attained 28% versus 20% target).
- Funding and implementation of the \$20 million, 5-year Capital Improvement Program to upgrade critical infrastructure throughout the MPWD service area.
- Launch of a modern and resourceful website for enhanced customer experience and communication that was recently awarded a Transparency Certificate of Excellence by the SDLE.
- Modernization of the MPWD vehicle fleet with more fuel-efficient or all-electric models.
- The first "State of the District" address was held.
- Awarded "Project of the Year" by the APWA Silicon Valley Chapter for the Buckland Tanks Replacement Project.
- Expansion of school education and community outreach programs, including field trips, hands-on workshops, the popular water awareness poster contest, and mentoring programs.
- Completion of the automated meters installation and launch of the online Home Water Use Report tool.
- Upgraded billing and accounting software; new online payment system deployed.
- Completion of sanitary-sewer and water rehabilitation joint project with the City of Belmont.



5-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE



MPWD continues to diligently improve and modernize the water delivery infrastructure throughout the MPWD service area as part of the \$20 million 5-Year Capital Improvement Program that was commenced in 2017.

In 2018, MPWD completed two major projects: the **Water Main Replacement (WMR) Project** and the **Joint Sanitary Sewer and Water Rehabilitation Project**. The WMR Project combined multiple water main and fire hydrant improvements for Karen Road, Mezes Avenue, Folger Drive, Arthur Avenue, and South Road in order to reduce construction costs and to address their high priority status as a result of the water hydraulic modeling of the entire MPWD system in 2015.

The Joint Water/Sewer Project – the first of its kind in the history of Belmont – involved joint coordination between the MPWD and the City of Belmont. The City of Belmont planned to do a sewer rehabilitation/replacement of sewer gravity lines in three different areas of the city. After City staff shared project specifics with the MPWD, it was discovered that MPWD had planned a capital improvement project that coincided with the sewer project locations. The MPWD project was set to replace aging water lines, service connections, and six fire hydrants under the same three locations – North Road Crossing/Davey Glen Road, Francis Avenue/Court, and Academy Avenue/Belburn Drive.

On May 15, 2019, during the American Public Works Association (APWA) Silicon Valley Chapter monthly meeting, MPWD and the City of Belmont were awarded the APWA 2019 Public Works Project of the Year Award (for projects \$2M - \$5M) in recognition of the Joint Sanitary Sewer and Water Rehabilitation Project that was completed in October, 2018.



PLEASE EXCUSE OUR MESS...

Customers may be well acquainted with MPWD technicians and operators working hard to improve water mains and fire hydrants in our neighborhood.



APWA PROJECT HONOR AWARD GOES TO...

Officials from the Mid-Peninsula Water District and the City of Belmont were on hand on May 15, 2019, to accept the Honor Award for APWA's 2019 Public Works Project of the Year.

HILLCREST PRESSURE REGULATING STATION: The MPWD Board of Directors awarded a construction contract to Stoloski and Gonzalez on January 24, 2019, to improve one of the District's two points of connection to the Regional Water System turnouts located in Redwood City at the Hillcrest Meter Site. This capital project installed a 20" diameter pressure reducing regulator to regulate pressure variances from the SFPUC Regional Water System and protect the MPWD infrastructure from pressure spikes in the Zone 1 distribution system. It was completed in August, 2019.

2019 WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT: Notre Dame Avenue, Cliffside Court, Tahoe Drive area water main replacement project, and Zone 5 fire hydrant upgrades recently awarded for construction to Stoloski & Gonzalez, Inc.

The following capital projects are currently in the design phase:

1. Construction of a new pipeline near the Palo Alto Medical Foundation facility and under State Route 101 and along Shoreway Road;
2. Consolidation and construction of water lines on Old County Road (OCR) from Bragato Road to Marine View, under the Caltrain along the F Street alignment, on Ralston from OCR to Elmer Street; and
3. Consolidation and construction of water lines on El Camino Real from North Road to Middle, one block in front of Safeway, and a small section near F Street on the south end. System circulation and water pressure improvements will also take place in an area bounded by El Camino Real, North Road, Malcolm Avenue, and Belmont Avenue.

It is anticipated that construction of these projects will take place throughout 2019/2020/2021. More detailed information will be provided by MPWD as these projects get ready for construction. ■

Look for regular updates on the MPWD 5-Year Capital Improvement Program by visiting MidPeninsulaWater.org/cip



Produced with eco-friendly printing and paper.

Celebrating Employee Service Anniversaries

MPWD celebrated eight employee service anniversaries in 2018 and 2019! We appreciate their dedication and commitment to the District and to the local community.



Jeanette Kalabolas
Water Conservation Specialist

Robby Piccolotti
Water System Operator



Michael Anderson Operations Supervisor
Jonathan Anderson Water System Operator



Misty Malczon
Administrative Specialist
Brad Burwell
Maintenance Technician



Brent Chester Operations Supervisor
Chris Michaelis Water System Operator

Equipment Rodeo a Blast!



On May 15, 2019, the APWA Silicon Valley Chapter and City of Belmont Public Works Department co-hosted the **Second Annual Operators Equipment Rodeo** in honor of National Public Works week! MPWD participated in and supported the event in a number of ways – judging as a registered vendor, and as competitors in the fun-and-friendly obstacle course competition. A total of 21 local operators representing 12 different public agencies were invited and vied for a sponsorship opportunity to compete at the APWA National Rodeo in Seattle this fall. MPWD staff Robby Piccolotti, Jonathan Anderson, and Chris Michaelis participated in the activities, including contests involving backhoe, mini-excavator, and skidskeeter.



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MidPeninsulaWater.org/billpay

