

**Proposed Water Rates Schedule effective July 1, 2010**

**Monthly Service Charges**

Fixed monthly charge based on meter size

Meter Size	2010*	2011*	2012*	2013**	2014**
5/8"	\$13.30	\$14.23	\$15.51	\$16.91	\$18.43
1"	\$19.96	\$21.35	\$23.27	\$25.37	\$27.65
1½"	\$33.26	\$35.58	\$38.79	\$42.28	\$46.08
2"	\$53.22	\$56.93	\$62.06	\$67.64	\$73.73
3"	\$79.83	\$85.40	\$93.09	\$101.47	\$110.59
4"	\$133.04	\$142.33	\$155.15	\$169.11	\$184.31
6"	\$332.61	\$355.83	\$387.87	\$422.78	\$460.79

\* approved rates \*\* projected rates

**Water Consumption Charges**

Variable charges based on metered water use\*\*\*

Residential Rate Tiers	2010*	2011*	2012*	2013**	2014**
Block 1: 0-2 units	\$2.40	\$3.25	\$3.53	\$3.85	\$4.20
Block 2: 3-10 units	\$4.60	\$5.00	\$5.44	\$5.93	\$6.46
Block 3: 11-25 units	\$5.45	\$6.00	\$6.53	\$7.11	\$7.75
Block 4: 26 units & above	\$6.15	\$7.00	\$7.61	\$8.30	\$9.04
Commercial Rate Tiers					
Block 1: 0-5 units	\$4.52	\$4.52	\$4.89	\$5.33	\$5.81
Block 2: 6 units & above	\$4.84	\$5.25	\$5.71	\$6.22	\$6.78

\*\*\*one unit of water = one hundred cubic feet (hcf) or 748 gallons.

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revenues are necessary to support the District's infrastructure and operational needs, which include costs for employees and labor, capital projects, operations, as well as energy and materials. With regard to capital projects, the District must commence replacement of the oldest two tanks at the Buckland Tank Site this fiscal year in order to ensure that these facilities remain in compliance with State Department of Health requirements. The estimated cost of this project is \$650,000. The District is proud to be pay as you go.



**Mid-Peninsula Water District Summer 2012 Newsletter**

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**IN THE HEADLINES**

**WATER RATE INCREASES**

Mid-Peninsula Water District (MPWD) relies on imported water from the San Francisco Public Utility Commission (SFPUC) for 100% of its water supply. The SFPUC is working to complete a \$4.3 billion Capital Improvement Program to improve the reliability, capacity and seismic safety of the aging Hetch-Hetchy water system. MPWD and the other regional water agencies that purchase water from the SFPUC share in the non-San Francisco portion of the cost of funding this Capital Improvement Program

through increased wholesale water rates. When MPWD adopted a five-year schedule of water rate increases in 2010, those rates assumed that the SFPUC would increase its wholesale unit water rates on July 1 of each year to \$1.90 in 2010, \$2.09 in 2011, \$2.71 in 2012, \$2.85 in 2013, and \$3.21 in 2014. In fact, the increase approved by SFPUC to its wholesale water rate will be \$2.93 as of July 1, 2012. Although MPWD is authorized by the 2010 notice and hearing process to increase its water charges in an amount to recover the additional and unanticipated 22¢ of the SFPUC water rate increase, the District Board of Directors has determined not to pass through this additional cost at this time and will instead adhere to the rate increases projected and presented to the District's customers in 2010.

The District is a self-supporting agency and relies primarily on revenues from water rates to fund its operations. The 5-year rate increase plan was designed to generate a 9% increase in rate revenues in each of the 5 years. The additional

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**Mid-Peninsula Water District Board of Directors:**

- Matthew P. Zucca - *President*
- Albert Stuebing - *Vice-President*
- David Altscher - *Director*
- Betty L. Linvill - *Director*
- Louis J. Vella - *Director*

Paul R. Regan - *General Manager*

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

**ANSWERS:** Things missing in Picture 2 - 1. Water stain on center of curb, 2. Hanging chain in center of hydrant, 3. Silver bolt on left side of hydrant, 4. 'CAUTION' lettering on yellow tape, 5. Green bush lower right corner

Can you find 5 things that are different in these two pictures?



Mid-Peninsula Water District  
**A Green Business**  
 3 Dairy Lane  
 Belmont, CA 94002



photo courtesy of sfwater.org

Calaveras Dam Replacement Project

This Newsletter is brought to you by MPWD staff. It is written, edited and produced in house. If you have any suggestions or specific subjects you would like to see in the next newsletter please contact the District office at 650-591-8941 or email us at [office@midpeninsulawater.org](mailto:office@midpeninsulawater.org). We will be happy to hear from you and receive any feedback you would like to share. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about the District and other pressing news regarding our most precious natural resource - water.

## CURRENT PROJECTS

### BUCKLAND TANKS

MPWD will be rebuilding the District's two 100,000 gallon tanks located on the top of Buckland Avenue. The tanks were built in 1955 making them the oldest in the District. Due to the condition of the steel and coatings a complete rebuild was recommended by the District Engineer. In order to maintain system reliability the tanks will be rebuilt one at a time. The project will also include seismic upgrades, improved ladder design to ensure safety of our employees and the latest in coating technology to ensure the highest possible water quality. So far the geothermal and property surveys have been completed and the District Engineer is working with MPWD staff to complete the plans. Once the plans are approved the job will then go out to bid for construction. MPWD will continue to inform you on the latest plans and the current status of this project until it is complete.



Buckland Tank Site

### MAINTENANCE CREW

The Mid-Peninsula Water District's maintenance crew has been busy performing maintenance and upgrading various parts of the water distribution system. As part of the Meter Replacement and Large Meter Testing Programs, crews have completed several meter replacements, re-plumbed entire water service lines and installed large meters for commercial applications. As part of the District's Valve and Hydrant Maintenance Program, the maintenance crew has relocated the fire hydrant on Read Ave and updated and painted fire hydrants in various locations. They have also performed maintenance on valves that included exercising the valves and repairing and replacing valves as needed. The maintenance crew has also installed valves and pipelines for fire service protection at Fox Elementary School and Nesbit Elementary School. Our maintenance crew continues to work diligently to provide our customers with the best quality water possible. Mid-Peninsula Water District thanks you for your support and understanding during all of our projects.

Picture 1



Picture 2



Picture 3



Picture 1- Staff installing new AMI meter  
Picture 2- Staff repairing a service line leak  
Picture 3- Staff digging with a backhoe

## CONSERVATION CORNER

### RAINWATER HARVESTING

With summer drawing to a close now is the time to start thinking about the creation of a rainwater harvesting system as an alternative for all your outdoor water irrigation needs. Rainwater harvesting can be an effective water conservation tool because it provides free water while also aiding in flooding and erosion control. In addition, it works as a salt-free source of water for plants, as too much salt accumulation in the soil can often stunt a plant's root growth. Limitations in water harvesting are few and can easily be met with good planning and design. Last winter a number of MPWD customers experimented with rain catchment systems. Residential systems varied from do-it-yourself versions to the purchase of retail barrels sold at big

box outlets. Feedback has been positive and experiences varied. One resident found that having only one catchment barrel was not enough. Another resident shared a creative use by using the harvested water collected to clean-up after their dogs. Although the possibilities are endless it is important to remember that rainwater is not suitable for drinking and should only be used for irrigation purposes. Here are some basic tips to help you get started:

- Tanks should be located as close as possible to demand points.
- It is suggested that tanks be painted opaque & protected from direct sunlight at all times to keep algae levels low.
- Tanks should remain covered at



Sample of a rainwater catchment barrel

all times so not to create a mosquito breeding ground.

- Tanks should never have been used previously to store any type of toxic materials.
- If possible, tanks should always be placed on a stable flat level surface.
- Tanks must be easily accessible, as they require routine maintenance, occasional leak repair and regular cleanings.

### LEAD AND COPPER MONITORING

MPWD is required to test for lead and copper in customer's homes every 3 years as mandated by the California Department of Health and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). On July 10, 2012 MPWD's water quality staff collected 33 samples from volunteers within the District. These samples were collected from the volunteer's cold water faucets that are used for drinking and cooking, after the water has been sitting in the pipes for 6 to 12 hours, also known as a first draw sample. The samples were then taken to the San

Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) laboratory in Millbrae for analysis where the amount of lead and copper is measured. After District staff receives the results they are reported directly to the volunteers and the State of California's Department of Health. If you would like to learn more about the Lead and Copper Rule please visit <http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/lcr/index.cfm>.



Lead and copper sample kit

## SFPUC WSIP UPDATE

### LOWER CRYSTAL SPRINGS

According to the latest update from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) Water System Improvement Project (WSIP) construction at both the Lower Crystal Springs Reservoir and San Andres Lake is in full swing. You may have noticed some large equipment including cranes and barges on the water as you pass by Highway 280. As visible are yellow booms known as silt curtains, which are an essential part of this project as it protects the water quality by excluding any plants or animals from the construction area as well as keeps debris from dispersing into the reservoir. A series of inlet and outlet structures, pipelines

and pumping facilities that move water from the Crystal Springs Reservoirs north to San Andreas Lake and then to the Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant are being retrofitted to meet modern day seismic safety

standards. This project is scheduled to be completed in August of 2013. To read more about this project or any one of SFPUC's Water System Improvement Project visit their website at [www.sfwater.org/wsip](http://www.sfwater.org/wsip)



photo courtesy of sfwater.org

SFPUC's Lower Crystal Springs work site