

## Metropolitan and Water Authority Increases to Result in Higher Water Rates for RMWD Customers

Beginning with your January water bill your water rates and monthly meter charges will be increasing. The increase is a pass-through cost from our wholesale suppliers, the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) and San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA). None of the money collected from the rate increase goes to RMWD—our portion of the water rate remains the same.

Over the past two years RMWD has reduced our operating budget by a total of about \$1.5 million annually, and, as a result, we have been able to keep our rates stable. Unfortunately the cost hikes from our suppliers means we have to raise your water rate in spite of our efforts.

Beginning with your January water bill your rates will increase as follows:

### Water Commodity Rates Effective January 2011

Rate Class	Current Rate/Unit*	January 2011 Rate/Unit	Amount of Increase/Unit
Interim Agricultural Water Program (IAWP)	\$2.12	\$2.31	\$0.19
Special Agricultural Water Rate (SAWR)	\$2.31	\$2.43	\$0.12
Domestic	\$2.43	\$2.60	\$0.17

\* A unit of water is 100 cubic feet or 748 gallons

### Infrastructure Access Charge

In addition to the commodity increase, the MWD and SDCWA monthly fixed charges for Infrastructure Access is increasing in January as well (please see chart on Page 2).

One component of MWD's increase stems from a new methodology to calculate water transportation costs. The new method unfairly burdens San Diego by nearly \$30 million per year, and that amount could increase to more than \$200 million annually by the year 2021. The overcharges are

used to subsidize the cost of MWD water in other parts of their service territory, which we believe violates California's Constitution, other state law, and standard water utility practice. The SDCWA is taking legal action against MWD to reverse this unfair practice and we support the SDCWA's efforts; however, in the meantime we are faced with paying the higher cost for water and that cost is passed on to you, our customers.

Again, please keep in mind none of the money collected from this increase goes to RMWD; it is passed on to the wholesale suppliers.

### **Work Begins On Water Line Replacement**

Have you driven along SR 76 and wondered what the big beige structure is near Ramona Drive? No, it's not a new drive-in theater; it is a sound wall for our construction work on line Q-3. The sound wall (and its duplicate on the south side of the river) protects nesting birds from noise emanating from our construction work.

As discussed in past newsletters our largest pipeline running under the San Luis Rey River broke last December. The 22-inch steel line is the main delivery route to move water back and forth across the river. In late August our contractor began cleaning sand and rocks out of the broken pipeline so they can use it as a casing to install a new smaller pipe inside the old pipe.

Once the old pipe is clean they fuse together more than 2,000 feet of new pipe and pull it through the casing with hydraulic winches. When the new pipe is in place they connect the ends on each side of the river and the new pipe is ready to go with minimal disruption to the environment.

If all goes well the job will be completed and the sound walls can come down sometime in late September.

**RAINBOW  
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WATER  
DISTRICT**

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**2010  
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**RMWD BOARD APPROVES CONSTRUCTION PROJECT FOR LIFT STATION #2**

At its August meeting the Board of Directors approved a construction project to replace Lift Station #2. The existing station has been in service since 1973. Almost all of the sewage flowing from our district is pumped through this facility. The station was originally designed to pump a half-million gallons of sewage per day and was later expanded to pump one million gallons per day.

The new plans call for replacement of all of the outdated pumps and equipment and will expanded capacity to meet our ultimate build out capacity of one and a half-million gallons per day. The construction plans call for a new standby generator, odor control facilities, and a covered emergency overflow basin that should help prevent sewer spills.

The construction will cost about \$1.47 million. Funding comes from two sources, connection fees and sewer rates. The costs for expanding the facility will be paid out of connection fees so existing customers don't subsidize the cost for new hook ups to the sewer system. The costs to replace existing infrastructure will come from our construction reserves which have been collected over the years through sewer rates.

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**EMPLOYEE CERTIFICATIONS**

Scott Simpson and Andrew Echols received their Water Distribution D2 certifications in June, 2010, respectively.

Bryan Rose received his Certificate of Achievement in Wastewater Technology Education from Palomar College in July, 2010.

John Maccarrone received his Plant Maintenance Technologist Grade 1 certification and Bryan Rose received his California Department Public Health Services Water Distribution Operator D4 certification in August, 2010.

Congratulations, Scott, Andrew, Bryan, and John!

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**MWD and SDCWA Monthly Infrastructure Access Charges Effective January 2011**

| Meter Size | Monthly Domestic User Charge | Monthly Increase | Monthly Agric. User Charge (AC, SC) | Monthly Increase | Monthly Agric/Domestic User Charge (AD,SD) | Monthly Increase |
|------------|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 5/8"       | \$ 20.57                     | \$5.28           | \$ 13.64                            | \$2.89           | \$ 20.57                                   | \$5.28           |
| 3/4"       | \$ 20.57                     | \$5.28           | \$ 13.64                            | \$2.89           | \$ 20.57                                   | \$5.28           |
| 1"         | \$ 32.92                     | \$8.45           | \$ 21.82                            | \$4.62           | \$ 32.92                                   | \$8.45           |
| 1 1/2"     | \$ 61.72                     | \$15.84          | \$ 40.92                            | \$8.68           | \$ 61.72                                   | \$15.84          |
| 2"         | \$ 106.99                    | \$27.46          | \$ 70.92                            | \$15.03          | \$ 61.72                                   | \$15.84          |
| 3"         | \$ 185.17                    | \$47.53          | \$ 122.75                           | \$26.02          | \$ 61.72                                   | \$15.84          |
| 4"         | \$ 329.19                    | \$84.49          | \$ 218.22                           | \$46.25          | \$ 61.72                                   | \$15.84          |
| 6"         | \$ 740.67                    | \$190.11         | \$ 491.00                           | \$104.08         | \$ 61.72                                   | \$15.84          |