



**A Monthly Newsletter**

**April 2020**

**Serving the Community**

*“Your Independent Local Government Agency Providing Water, Wastewater, Drainage, Security, and Solid Waste Services”*

**CORONAVIRUS UPDATE - RMCSO OFFICES ARE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC - ALL SERVICES CONTINUE BEING PROVIDED**

The Rancho Murieta Community Services District Buildings are CLOSED to the public until further notice due to COVID-19 best practices. ALL SERVICES, including WATER, SEWER, DRAINAGE, SECURITY AND SOLID WASTE (Cal-Waste) continue as usual. Payments can be made via online or in our drop box located at the front door. We are not accepting cash payments at this time. For questions - please call 916-354-3700. The Security Department is operating as usual; however the public will not be permitted in the gatehouses.

**District Meeting Schedule For April 2020**

**April 2, 2020**

Communication & Technology @ 8:30 a.m.  
Security @ 10:00 a.m.

**April 7, 2020**

Personnel @ 7:30 a.m.  
Improvements @ 8:00 a.m.  
Finance @ 10:00 a.m.

**April 20, 2020**

**District Board Meeting @ 5:00 p.m.**

**The public is invited to attend.**

*All meeting dates and times are subject to change. Be sure to check our website, [www.rmcsd.com](http://www.rmcsd.com) for any changes*

**BE SURE TO LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**

**RMCSO HELPING TO EASE THE FINANCIAL IMPACTS OF THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY**

We understand that many in our community may be suffering financial hardship from the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) emergency. To ensure all District residents have access to essential services we are immediately suspending lock-offs for those struggling to make payments. The District will also be waiving late fees until further notice. If you are unable to make a payment, please contact the District directly at (916) 354-3700 to arrange a payment plan. We're happy to work with our Community to get through this difficult time.

**Facts about Water Rancho Murieta CSD Water and COVID-19 YOUR TAP WATER CONTINUES TO BE SAFE!**

We care about the health and safety of our community and wanted to inform you about RMCSO's practices to keep you safe. Please be assured, the District strictly follows State and Federal guidelines for clean water production and distribution. RMCSO's water supplies are treated and disinfected with chlorine. The filtration and disinfection process removes or inactivates the coronavirus just as it always has with other viruses, eliminating the need to use bottled water to protect oneself from COVID-19.

*Not only is the District's tap water safe, did you know you pay over 500-times more for a packaged 20-ounce bottle of water than the same amount of tap water delivered by the District?*

For more information from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) on COVID-19 and water disinfection please see the following links:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/water.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/drinking/public/chlorine-disinfection.html>

**KEEPING DISTRICT FACILITIES RUNNING AND EMPLOYEES HEALTHY**

RMCSO is taking further measures to ensure that its employees remain healthy and continue to serve our customers 24/7. We are in the process of thoroughly disinfecting our workplaces and minimizing gatherings of staff where possible. Because our offices are closed to the public at this time to minimize contact, we ask you to please call us with any concerns you may have in lieu of visiting our office. Our main phone number is (916) 354-3700.

## GENERAL MANAGER'S CORNER

### SECURITY FEES

We often receive questions about the District's Security Fees so we thought it would be useful to briefly shed some light on what security fees are collected and their purpose.

Monthly Security Fee: The security fee you pay monthly covers the regular ongoing costs for 24/7 patrol, and gate access security in the case of RMA residents. These fees are the main source of revenue that funds the day to day operation of District Security including salaries, vehicles, equipment, leases and other operational costs like electricity and phones. These fees, a special tax, were approved by voters on June 2, 1998 as Measure J as part of a special election ballot and received 77% approval. Annual increases to this fee were capped at 2%. Changes to this special tax to expand services beyond that allowed by the annual increases would require a new special election and a two-thirds approval of the voters.

Security Impact Fee: The Security Impact Fee, which was established via developer financing and service agreements, is a one-time fee charged at the time of water permit application on *new* development to cover the additional impact of new development on Security operations. District Policy P2016-02 clarifies the purpose of these fees:

*The Security Impact Fee funds shall be used to support and improve the provision of Security services to the Rancho Murieta community through the provision of technology, facilities, and physical assets with the fundamental goal of protecting the people and property within the District.*

New houses constructed outside of the gates are assessed \$750 each with new homes inside the gates assessed \$1,200 each. New commercial and industrial development is charged according to their water meter size at an Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) value set by the District. An EDU is in most cases a measure of the impact of a typical family home. These funds can be used to fund security camera trailers, fixed security camera systems, studies, or a new patrol vehicle.

Security Capital Improvement Fee: This \$66 per EDU one-time fee is collected from *new* development to help pay for additional security infrastructure or the expansion of existing security infrastructure to accommodate the increased demands on security caused by growth. By law, we cannot charge capital facility fees to solve past infrastructure deficiencies caused by existing development. An example of how these fees could be used is to expand the District's Security Center, or gate houses.

### NOTICE OF DISTRICT ELECTION

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Board of Directors of the Rancho Murieta Community Services District and are a registered voter within the District, you may obtain the paperwork from the Sacramento County Voter Registration and Elections Office at 7000 65<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite A, Sacramento . The filing period is July 13, 2020 through August 7, 2020.



## Board of Directors

Les Clark  
President

lclark@rmcsd.com

Randy Jenco  
Vice President

rjenco@rmcsd.com

Linda Butler  
Director

lbutler@rmcsd.com

John Merchant  
Director

jmerchant@rmcsd.com

Tim Maybee  
Director

tmaybee@rmcsd.com



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**BUSINESS HOURS**

Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon  
& 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Closed for Lunch -  
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.



**DISTRICT STAFF**

**Mark Martin**  
General Manager  
[mmartin@rmcsd.com](mailto:mmartin@rmcsd.com)

**Amelia Wilder**  
District Secretary  
[awilder@rmcsd.com](mailto:awilder@rmcsd.com)

**Tom Hennig**  
Director of Administration  
[thennig@rmcsd.com](mailto:thennig@rmcsd.com)

**Cindy Chao, CPA**  
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**Travis Bohannon**  
Chief Plant Operator  
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**Ron Greenfield**  
Utilities Supervisor  
[rgreenfield@rmcsd.com](mailto:rgreenfield@rmcsd.com)

**The Public Advised to *NOT* Flush Disinfecting Wipes, Paper Towels down Toilet – Throw Them Away instead**

***State's Wastewater Treatment Plants May get Overwhelmed, Consumers may face In-home Plumbing backups and Blockages***

March 17, 2020

Contact: George Kostyrko  
[George.Kostyrko@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:George.Kostyrko@waterboards.ca.gov)

**SACRAMENTO** – While the State Water Board and other public agencies encourage Californians to follow the [Centers for Disease Control recommendations](#) to clean surfaces with disinfecting wipes to reduce the spread of COVID-19, it is important to discard those items in the trash, not the toilet.

Flushing wipes, paper towels and similar products down toilets will clog sewers and cause backups and overflows at wastewater treatment facilities, creating an additional public health risk in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic. Even wipes labeled “flushable” will clog pipes and interfere with sewage collection and treatment throughout the state.

Wastewater treatment facilities around the state already are reporting issues with their sewer management collection systems. These facilities are asking state residents to not discard wipes in the toilet, but instead to throw them in the trash to avoid backups and overflow. A majority of urban centers are on centralized sewage collection systems depend on gravity and enough water flow to move along human waste and biodegradable toilet paper. The systems were not designed for individual nylon wipes and paper towels. [The wipes and paper towels do not break down like toilet paper, and therefore clog systems very quickly.](#)

Wipes are among the leading causes of sewer system backups, impacting sewer system and treatment plant pumps and treatment systems. Many spills go to our lakes, rivers, and oceans where they have broad ranging impacts on public-health and the environment. Preventing sewer spills is important, especially during this COVID-19 emergency, for the protection of public health and the environment.

**Please do not flush disinfectant wipes or paper towels down the toilet.**



## BUOY ALERT Chesbro Reservoir

The District has installed a buoy system around the aeration system in the Chesbro reservoir

The Rancho Murieta Community Services District (District) has received approval from its Board and the Rancho Murieta Association Board to install protections around the Chesbro reservoir's aeration system. This includes fencing around the air compressors and a buoy system around where the aeration pods are situated within the reservoir. The aeration system is required for water quality by oxidizing iron and manganese naturally present in the reservoirs soils.

It is critical for the preservation of the system and the Community's water quality that the fencing, buoys and aeration system are not tampered with. Please help us preserve this system.



## EXTRA GREEN WASTE PICKUP SERVICE MONTHS UPDATE!!

If you have more leaves and green waste than your container can handle, you can at no additional cost place the leaves in a plastic bag which is securely fastened and place alongside your gray container on your regular pickup day during the months of November, December, March and April. **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE TO THE MONTHS WHEN THIS SERVICE IS AVAILABLE AT NO ADDITIONAL COST:** The free green waste pickup months are changed so the service is offered during the heaviest months of community green waste disposal needs!



SOMETIMES IT'S GOOD TO PUSH BUTTONS

TEST YOUR SMOKE ALARMS MONTHLY

## MARCH 2020 BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- The Board adopted Resolution R2020-01 calling for consolidation with state wide election for 2 (two) vacant Board seats

AN IMPORTANT UPDATE REGARDING

# COVID-19

Please visit our website  
[www.cal-waste.com](http://www.cal-waste.com)  
for further updates.

## SPRING TIME IS MOSQUITO TIME



We have all looked forward to those pleasant evenings when we can enjoy backyard and park activities, barbecuing, and socializing with friends and family. Unfortunately, some uninvited visitors also enjoy those pleasant evenings – those pesky mosquitoes. Now is the time to be sure the mosquito breeding areas are minimized – be sure there is no standing water, such as in bird baths or fountains, empty flower pots or containers, and ditches or other low spots which hold water where mosquitoes can breed.

It is still early in the season for the mosquitoes which carry the West Nile Virus to attack, but as the weather warms, they will be looking for dining sites, preferably on warm blooded mammals. Be prepared by eliminating breeding sites, using repellent, and wearing long sleeves and long pants during the early morning and

## HOW TO CONTACT THE DISTRICT

Visit us on the web at [www.rmcsd.com](http://www.rmcsd.com)!

- \*The District's Administration Office is located at: 15160 Jackson Road, Rancho Murieta
- \*Our mailing address is: P.O. Box 1050, Rancho Murieta, CA 95683; Main Office: 916-354-3700
- \*South Gate: 916-354-3743 *Contact the South Gate for after-hours water problems.*