

NEWSLETTER

Issue 20 (July 2008)

The July 1, 2008 adoption of the new RNVWD water rates is a historic event for our Water District. It is the first increase since the District was formed and began delivering water in January 2003. It also was the result of your newly elected Board of Directors proposing and then adjusting their initial proposal after receiving input from the Districts' citizens. While this rate increase was a hefty increase from our prior rate, it is still very much in line with what other Districts of similar size are paying in our area. And it is the first step to ensure that our District remains financially healthy.

BUDGET - The 2008 / 2009 budget and associated rate increase was the most important issue on our agenda. Now we must move on to other issues that we need to address. In the weeks and months to come we will be re-writing our outdated District Rules and Regulations, addressing our contract with California Water Services Corporation, and looking to the future when we will be completely separated from Solano County for administrative assistance.

DISTRICT PARTICIPATION - One of the very positive outcomes of our rate increase was the number of the District citizens that attended our meetings and workshops. Nearly 250 District members took an active interest in the decisions being made by your Board of Directors and attended these workshops and meetings. Thank you for your interest.

CONSTRUCTION USE - The recent workshops and meetings identified several topics of interest to our members. One was the use of our fire hydrants for construction water. In order to use water from a District fire hydrant a meter must be obtained as well as a deposit paid. The water can only be used for construction by District members and is charged at the same rates we all pay. The water truck drawing water from our hydrants must have a "red card" on board indicating that proper procedures are being complied with. If you have doubts ask the truck driver to see the red card. If it is not available, report the contractor and vehicle license number to the County, 784-6064 or Cal Water, 678-5928.

WATER METERS - With the cost of our water becoming more expensive, the topic of our water meters and billing was brought up at every meeting. Our water meters are a mechanical device with an electronic sending unit to permit remote reading of the meter. It is possible for more water to pass through the meter than is accurately registered, but highly unlikely for the meter to read higher than the actual water that flows through it. The electronic sending units have failed in the past. A failure does not give an erroneous reading but rather no reading at all. When this happens Cal Water must manually read the meter and repair the electronic sending unit.

The meter reads in cubic feet of water. The sweep hand reads one cubic foot for each full rotation. The two **BLACK DIALS** indicate up to 100 cubic feet. The **WHITE NUMERALS** are the 100 cubic feet (CCF) numbers that indicate what we are charged for. The **BLUE DISK** in the meter face indicates flow and rotates if there is any water flow through your meter. It can be used to indicate a small leak and should not be moving if everything is turned off. Cal Water reads the meters on or about the third of each month as indicated on your invoice. You can check your meter throughout the month to determine your water use.

Water leaks are easy to find this time of the year. Just look for the green grass. In the winter months, detection is more difficult. An area that remains very wet a week after a rain storm should be inspected. If you suspect a leak, turn all of your faucets off and check the **BLUE DISK** on your meter face. If it is rotating, you have a water leak and it is costing you money. If the leak is prior to your meter, call Cal Water; the leak is in the distribution system.

We hope you find this information helpful. Have a pleasant summer.

RNVWD Board of Directors

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