



Mt. View Monitor
www.mvdsd.org

Sewer System Management Plan Update



MVSD recently notified the Regional Water Quality Control Board that the District had successfully completed the first set of elements of the new mandate. These elements include:

- Goals
- Organization
- Emergency Response Plan
- Fat, Oil, and Grease Program

These elements are required to help prevent sewer overflows and backups. The fat, oil, and grease (FOG) program was initiated because many sewer backups stem from improper disposal of these common household and restaurant substances. Through its pollution prevention program, MVSD has made significant efforts to inform the public about proper methods of FOG disposal. In mid September 2006, MVSD used the billboard located along I-680 on the District's property to get the word out about FOG. MVSD negotiated a no cost lease of the Clear Channel Inc. billboard to help promote Pollution Prevention Week.

MVSD Hosts EPA Officials From Taiwan

A six-person delegation from the Taiwan Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) led by Weber S. W. Chen, Section Chief of Department of Water Quality Protection, visited Mt. View Sanitary District on June 28, 2006. The delegation toured a variety of sites in the US to study wetland management and nutrient removal processes. Because of its cutting edge technology and "green" approach to wastewater treatment, both the US EPA in Washington, DC and its Regional Office in San Francisco recommended MVSD as a wastewater treatment plant that takes protecting both its ratepayers and the environment very seriously.

The tour was led by MVSD's Technical Services Director, Dr. Teng-chung Wu, whose water pollution prevention programs are known nationwide. Delegation members received a firsthand inspection of MVSD's treatment plant, including the nitrification tower, sand filter, and the ultraviolet light disinfection unit. The delegates ended their tour with a visit to the Interpretive Center and a nature hike around Moorhen Marsh.



Dr. Wu and David Contreras (4th & 5th from left) with Taiwanese Delegates

Innovative Technology Reduces Energy Costs for MVSD!!

Once again, the District finds itself on the cutting edge of technology use in the San Francisco Bay Area. MVSD has contracted with US Energy to install a methane fueled microturbine to provide electricity from gas produced during the wastewater treatment process. MVSD is looking forward to completing the project in the first quarter of 2007. The microturbine project is expected to cut energy costs by as much as 15-20%!



McNabney Marsh Management Advisory Committee Wins Grant!

The McNabney Marsh Management Advisory Committee (MMMAC), spearheaded by MVSD, has been involved in restoration efforts in the Peyton Slough Watershed since 1992. Currently, MMMAC is focused on ecotone habitat restoration, cattail control, and water flow issues in McNabney Marsh. With funds awarded from the Community Watershed Stewardship Grant in the amount of \$9,500, the MMMAC will expand its native plant restoration efforts along the eastern shore of the marsh. Additionally, a new public outreach component with interpretive panels will be installed at the south end of the marsh.

The MMMAC includes stakeholders from public agencies, including the Office of Spill Prevention and Response of the California Department of Fish and Game, the East Bay Regional Park District, the Contra Costa County Mosquito and Vector Control District, and MVSD, as well as environmental advocacy groups such as Mt. Diablo Audubon Society and local industries including Shell Oil and Rhodia Inc.

Grandfather of Pollution Prevention Retires!



MVSD proudly acknowledges the accomplishments of Technical Services Director, Dr. Teng-chung Wu, as he announces his retirement beginning November 1, 2006. He is widely regarded as the "Grandfather of Pollution Prevention" in the Golden State. Dr. Wu came to the District in 2002 after serving as the Chief of the Planning and Policy Division of the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). During his tenure at the RWQCB, a number of extremely successful pollution prevention programs were launched. Dr. Wu was instrumental in acquiring the RWQCB's approval for establishment of Moorhen Marsh and MVSD's UV treatment project. As a result, MVSD has become a model for wastewater treatment plants worldwide.

At MVSD, Dr. Wu is a staunch supporter of the enhancement of McNabney Marsh. He provides invaluable expertise to the District's wetlands monitoring and restoration programs and its permit compliance and reissuance. Dr. Wu is committed to public outreach, both locally and internationally. He has given presentations at MVSD, at professional conferences in California and Taiwan, and has authored many articles in technical publications. Dr. Wu's notable skills and dedication to the environment will be greatly missed. The District wishes him the very best in his endeavors and in pursuing his passions in gardening, reading, fishing, and traveling.

MVSD Welcomes New Employees!

Over the summer, MVSD hired 3 new employees. Rodney English worked for the District as a contractor prior to his new position as Operator-in-Training.

Kelcey Leverett was hired as the District's new Operator I. Kelcey comes to MVSD with ten years of operator engineering experience.

An East Bay native, Jessica Clark aids the Wetlands Biologist as our new part-time Lab Assistant. She is a Diablo Valley College student and is majoring in Biochemistry.

We welcome all three of our new employees to the MVSD Family!



Jessica, Rodney, and Kelcey take a quick break for the camera

Welcome Alicia Izarraraz!



As the new General Manager for Shell Oil Products at the Martinez Refinery, Alicia Izarraraz is known for her thoughtful leadership and focus on employees as the backbone of a successful organization. Ms. Izarraraz is new to Shell but not new to the industry, having played several key management roles for both BP and Arco. While working for BP in 2004, she was honored as one of the "Key Women in Energy", receiving the award for "Wisdom" after being nominated by those who worked with her.

MVSD wishes Ms. Izarraraz the very best in her new position as General Manager for Shell Oil Products.

FREE HOME COMPOSTING WORKSHOP

A free home composting workshop will be offered at MVSD's Administration Building on Saturday November 18, 2006 from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

Participants will be given hands-on experience making, maintaining and harvesting a compost pile. The workshop will also touch on worm composting as a means of turning kitchen scraps into high quality compost. For more information, call Kelly at 228-5635 ex. 19.



Thank You To Our Supporters

MVSD would like to thank the following organizations for their financial support to the

Interpretive Center Program:

Clear Channel Outdoor Inc.

Shell Oil

Valero

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www.mvsd.org

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District Board meetings, held the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Administration Building, are open to the public.

David R. Contreras, Manager
Sheri L. Riddle, Office Coordinator/Board Secretary
Dr. Teng-chung Wu, Technical Services Director
Kelly Davidson, Newsletter Editor

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

During office hours (M-F 7 AM - 4:30 PM): 228-5635
Outside office hours: 646-2441 (Sheriff's Dept.)
Call **immediately** to report any sewer problems.

Pollution Prevention Group Tours MVSD

In anticipation of Pollution Prevention Week (September 18-24), the Golden Gate Pollution Prevention Committee (G2P2C) toured the MVSD facilities with Manager David Contreras on September 12. Formerly known as the Bay Area Hazardous Waste Reduction Committee, the G2P2C members work together to leverage external resources and pool Bay Area resources to reduce pollution and hazardous waste in the Bay Area.

Members of the committee were given a short presentation on the history and accomplishments of MVSD and then set out to view the innovative wastewater treatment technology MVSD is known for throughout the state. Member Robert Ludwig, from the Department of Toxic Substances Control - Pollution Prevention Branch, and his colleagues expressed great enthusiasm for MVSD's pollution prevention programs as well as the ultraviolet light disinfection unit. During the tour, committee members enjoyed a close-up view of the Pollution Prevention Week Billboard on FOG (see article on p.1.) and a walk through Moorhen Marsh.