

Conserving Water is Easy

Follow these steps to use less water

What You Can Do	How Much You Can Save
Install a smart sprinkler controller	40 gallons per cycle
Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks	150 gallons each time
Check your sprinkler system for leaks, overspray and broken sprinkler heads	500 gallons per month
Place organic mulch throughout your garden to reduce evaporation	Hundreds of gallons per year
Water your lawn only when necessary. If you step on the grass and it springs back, it doesn't need water.	1,100 gallons per watering cycle
Replace thirsty shrubs with native, drought-resistant plants	Hundreds of gallons each year per plant
Wash your car with a bucket and a hose equipped with a shutoff nozzle, or at a commercial car wash that uses recycled water	Up to 500 gallons each time

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For meeting dates and agendas, visit www.MNWD.com.

WaterLines is a monthly publication to keep water users in the Moulton Niguel Water District informed about water-related issues and events. Please send any comments or suggestions to MNWD, 27500 La Paz Road, Laguna Niguel, CA, 92677, or call us at (949) 831-2500. www.MNWD.com.

MNWD Upgrading Electronic Billing System

e.Bill customers must re-enroll beginning August 1.

MNWD is excited to announce our **NEW** electronic billing program (e.Bill). The **NEW** more cost-efficient, user-friendly e.Bill program replaces the existing electronic billing option effective **August 1, 2011**. e.Bill provides you with an easy way to receive paperless statements, view statement history and pay your bill online. If you select the e.Bill autopay feature, it will replace the recurring payment option in the previous program. With e.Bill autopay, your payment will be posted to your account on the due date. No automatic payments will be made to your account unless this option is completed.

If you were previously enrolled in the District's e.Bill program, it will be necessary for you to re-enroll in the new program beginning August 1. If you do not complete a new enrollment, you will receive paper bills until you re-enroll. To enroll, log on to www.MNWD.com.

Conserve Today: Save Water. Save Money.
Protect the Environment.

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MNWD Helps Customers Adjust to Water Budgets

Moulton Niguel Water District's new Water-Budget-Based Rate Structure began on July 1 and the District has been very busy working with customers to make the transition as smooth as possible.



The water budget calculator at www.MNWD.com helps customers understand what an efficient level of water use is given their specific situation.

The District has also been busy working with customers to make necessary adjustments to water budgets when the household size or landscaped area differs from our records. Customers are invited to visit the water budget calculator at www.MNWD.com to see the data MNWD used to calculate your water budget, and to call us at (949) 831-2500 or visit our website to request an adjustment. A number of customers have adjusted their water budgets to reflect their actual needs, which helps ensure MNWD provides these customers with the water they need at the lowest available price.

We are here to answer your questions about the new rate structure. Please visit www.MNWD.com for more information and a detailed FAQ, and please call us at (949) 831-2500 if you have additional questions. Our goal is to help all of our customers stay within their water budgets and pay the lowest water rates.

Most MNWD customers already use water efficiently and should have no trouble remaining within their water budget given their current water-use practices, and will be billed at the lowest available rates as a result. The District has identified customers whose current use puts them at risk of exceeding their water budgets, and has been working closely with them to help reduce their water use and lower their water bills.

These customers received letters and phone calls addressing their water use, and District staff has conducted a number of home surveys to review customers' outdoor water-use practices and make recommendations on how to attain greater efficiency. Home surveys are available to all MNWD customers by calling (949) 831-2500.

Water Conservation Tip of the Month

Adjust your lawn mower to a higher setting. A taller lawn shades roots and holds soil moisture better than if it is closely clipped.

Visit www.MNWD.com or call (949) 831-2500 to learn other easy ways to save.

Calculate Your Water Budget

Visit www.MNWD.com or call (949) 831-2500 to learn more about Water-Budget-Based Rates and to calculate the personalized water budget for your home.

MNWD Recognized for Excellence in Financial Reporting

MNWD has some of the lowest water and sewer rates in Orange County due to the Board of Directors' conservative fiscal approach and the Finance Division's commitment to carry out the Board's fiscal policies. As a result, the District is well positioned to reliably meet our customers' water and sewer needs now and into the future.



The Finance Division is led by Director of Finance/Treasurer David Cain, who oversees a team of 19 dedicated professionals in the areas of billing, accounting, purchasing, warehousing and information technology (IT). The Director of Finance is responsible for the fiscal and IT operations of the District. David ensures that the District's IT infrastructure leverages technology to meet current and future District needs. He also oversees management of the investment portfolio, develops short- and long-term financial planning goals and tools, and ensures that the District maintains its strong AAA credit rating.

Supporting the Director of Finance/Treasurer is the District's Controller, Nancy Desai. Nancy is responsible for managing the day-to-day financial operations of the District and oversees the Accounting and Purchasing and Warehousing departments. The Controller prepares the monthly financial statements, the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and the operating and capital improvements budgets, and manages the annual external audit.

MNWD was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada for the District's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government agency and its management.

Together with the support of the Board of Directors and General Manager, the MNWD staff works to ensure that your water District remains fiscally sound, resulting in reliable service and low water and sewer rates for all of our customers.

Get Involved with the Citizens Advisory Committee

MNWD is accepting applications for our Citizens Advisory Committee, which assists the District in addressing the current and future water-supply challenges facing California.

- Learn the issues first-hand
- Provide valuable input
- Help us spread the word about efficient water use
- Play a valuable role in our region's water future

For more information and application materials, please call us at (949) 831-2500 or visit www.MNWD.com.



Upper Chiquita Reservoir

Upper Chiquita Reservoir Adds Greater Supply Reliability

Culminating more than five years of planning and construction, the Upper Chiquita Reservoir reached a key milestone this month as construction came to a close and the first drops of water began to fill a former canyon that has been transformed into a 244-million-gallon storage facility. Upper Chiquita Reservoir is a joint project of MNWD, the Santa Margarita and South Coast water districts, and the cities of San Clemente and San Juan Capistrano. It will soon provide emergency water storage to allow the agencies to maintain water service to approximately 168,000 local families for a week in the event South County is disconnected from its primary source of water, the Allen-McCulloch Pipeline.

Crews will slowly add water to the reservoir over the coming weeks, closely monitoring the earthen dam to make sure it is operating as planned. MNWD owns the rights to 34 percent of the reservoir's capacity, and the project is just one of the many ways the District is working to ensure our customers a reliable water supply.

California-Friendly Plant of the Month: *Yellow Bird of Paradise*

Summertime in South Orange County is described by many as paradise, which is why this month's California-Friendly plant is perfect for your

water-wise garden. The yellow bird of paradise has showy yellow followers with bright red stamens, and its colorful annual blooms attract hummingbirds and butterflies and signal that summer is here.

Yellow Bird of Paradise *Caesalpinia Gilliesii*

Season:	Summer
Size:	Up to 10 ft. tall, 8 ft. wide
Color:	Yellow flowers
Water:	Low
Sun:	Full sun



This highly recognizable evergreen shrub grows fast and thrives with very little water. Yellow birds of paradise can naturally grow to 10 feet tall, but pruning helps keep the plant to a manageable size. It's readily available at most nurseries, and by adding this plant to your landscaping, your home can feel like paradise all year round.