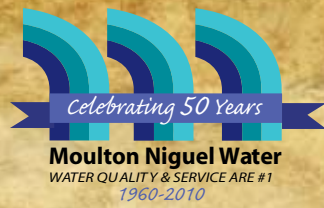


## Looking Back and Moving Forward

This is the last in a three-part series on the District's 50 years of service. 2000-2010



MNWD's focus on recycled water has helped to decrease reliance on costly, less reliable sources from Northern California and the Colorado River.

After 40 years of consistent growth, south Orange County's population began to stabilize at the turn of the 21st century. With MNWD's customer base settled at 160,000, the District turned its focus on maintaining its infrastructure and providing a reliable, sustainable supply for the future.

Recycled water use hit an all-time high in the 2000s as the District's recycled water master plan entered its final stage. As 25 percent of MNWD's water supply, recycled water has helped to decrease the District's reliance on imported water and improve local reliability.

In another move to increase reliability, the Board of Directors voted in 2009 to increase MNWD's emergency storage from a 10-day supply to a 31-day supply. This effort will help the District maintain delivery in a worst-case-scenario emergency. Construction on the 244-million-gallon Upper Chiquita Reservoir also began in 2009, and three other major emergency infrastructure projects entered their final stages of planning at the end of the decade. When complete, the projects will enable the District to continue providing water for longer durations in the event access to its imported supplies is cut off.

MNWD's focus on sustainable water supply sources, emergency reliability and keeping its existing infrastructure in like-new condition didn't go unnoticed. In 2007, Standard and Poor's increased the District's bond rating to an AA+, the second highest rating available. The higher rating enables MNWD to finance capital projects at lower interest rates, which will save customers millions of dollars as the District looks to the future.

## Then & Now How life has changed over the past 50 years.

### In 1960...

President: Dwight D. Eisenhower

U.S. Population: 180,600,000

MNWD Customers: 8

Average Income: \$5,315

Median Home Price: \$16,500

Cost of a New Car: \$2,600

Cost of a Gallon of Gas: \$0.31

Cost of a First-Class Stamp: \$0.04

Dow Jones Industrial Average High: 685

No. 1 Song: "The Twist" by Chubby Checker

Academy Award Winner for Best Picture:  
"The Apartment" starring Jack Lemmon and Shirley McLaine

### In 2010...

President: Barack Obama

U.S. Population: 307,000,000

MNWD Customers: 167,000

Average Income: \$50,221

Median Home Price: \$248,800

Cost of a New Car: \$26,300

Cost of a Gallon of Gas: \$2.99

Cost of a First-Class Stamp: \$0.44

Dow Jones Industrial Average High: 11,309

No. 1 Song: "Just the Way You Are" by Bruno Mars

Academy Award Winner for Best Picture:  
"The Hurt Locker" starring Jeremy Renner

## MNWD History Displays to Tour Local Community

To commemorate MNWD's 50th anniversary, a display of photos and memorabilia detailing the District's half-century of reliable water service will make week-long stops at local city halls, libraries and other public areas before settling into its permanent home in the MNWD boardroom near year's end.

The display of historic items will show residents how MNWD played a pivotal role in the growth and accomplishments of south Orange County over the past 50 years. A proclamation of the anniversary will also be made to MNWD from South Coast Water District during MNWD's November 18 Board meeting.

## Special 50th Anniversary Edition

Honoring Our Legacy, Focusing on the Future



# WaterLines

November 2010

www.MNWD.com

## Greater Local Water Reliability Key to Region's Future MNWD stands ready to meet the challenges of the next 50 years.

Over our first 50 years, the Moulton Niguel Water District has focused on building the infrastructure necessary to provide a safe and reliable water supply to meet the growing demands of our service area, as the District expanded from serving two large ranches in 1960 to 167,000 homes and businesses today. Now, with south Orange County mostly built-out, the next 50 years will be defined by efforts to create greater local water supply reliability as our region adapts to a future with limited water supplies.

Local water supply reliability is key to meeting this challenge, as it will reduce the District's dependence on more-costly, less-reliable water imported from Northern California and the Colorado River. South County does not have the benefit of local groundwater supplies, but MNWD is working to develop a new locally produced, drought-resistant water source as a partner in the South Orange Coastal Ocean Desalination Project. When completed in 2016, the facility will provide 15.2 billion gallons of high-quality purified ocean water each year to meet local demand. Expanding the use of recycled water for irrigation purposes will also be critical. MNWD currently meets 25 percent of the District's water demands with recycled water – a number that is sure to rise as using drinking water for irrigation becomes less acceptable.

Becoming more efficient with the water we use will also be crucial moving forward. Greater awareness of our region's water challenges will prompt customers to make water-saving efforts permanent practices, and new technologies will help us maintain our current quality of life even as we use less water.

Greater supply reliability will also aid in times of emergency. The District is currently working to complete three new infrastructure projects that will help MNWD reach our goal of increasing emergency storage from 10 days to 31 days: the Baker Treatment Plant, the Irvine Ranch Water District Interconnection and the Upper Chiquita Reservoir.

On the statewide level, we hope that the next 50 years brings a sustainable solution to current reliance on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, because environmental and legal issues have reduced deliveries from the Delta by as much as 40 percent in recent years. A canal around the Delta, or a tunnel under it, would mean greater reliability for MNWD and water users from the Bay Area to San Diego.

Providing a reliable water supply for south Orange County will be a challenge for decades to come. Our region will remain a semi-arid desert with little local precipitation and no significant local water supplies. That means we must become even more efficient over the next 50 years with how we use our water resources. MNWD stands ready to meet that challenge with forward thinking and innovation, as we continue delivering our customers safe and reliable water into the future.



MNWD's participation in the South Orange Coastal Ocean Desalination Project will help develop 15.2 million gallons of high-quality, locally produced water each year.



Upper Chiquita Reservoir will add 244 million gallons of local emergency water storage when completed in 2011.



MNWD is working to expand our emergency water storage from 10 days to 31 days to ensure local water demands are met during times of need.

# Celebrating 50 years of meeting our community's water needs



## MNWD's Leaders Through the Years

### Directors

Ivar O. Hanson	1960-1976
Glenn E. Mathis	1960-1973
Louise Moulton Hanson	1960-1966
Elmer M. Peterson	1960-1967
Torrey H. Webb	1960-1975
Eugene Bell	1966-1970
Anthony Moiso	1967-1973
H. Les Remmers	1967-1983
James D. Rivenes	1967-1970
Thomas R. Beauchamp	1970-1974
Larry R. Lizotte	1970-Present
Robert Aldrich	1973-1977
Harold Mathisen	1974-1976
Robert E. Dwyer	1975-1977
Bryan S. Hall	1975-1992
Don W. Smith	1976-1982
James G. Toepfer	1976-1977
Forest Dickason	1977-1978
Richard S. Fiore	1977-Present
Dwight A. Williamson	1977-1984
Gerald E. Buck	1978-Present
Robert W. Bonham	1982-1995
Steven G. Feldman	1983-1995
William J. Vaughan	1983-1983
Ernie M. Ellsworth	1984-2006
Susan G. Gross	1992-1996
Gary R. Kurtz	1992-Present
Betty D. Pequet	1995-1996, 2007-2008
Stephen F. Dickey	1996-2000
Malcolm S. Jones	1996-2007
John Steward	2000-2008
Tony English	2006-2008
Donald R. Froelich	2008-Present
Larry McKenney	2008-Present
Brian S. Probolsky	2008-Present

### General Managers

Don Piersall	1960-1968
Carl J. Kymla	1968-1979
John V. Foley	1979-2008
Robert C. Gumerman	2008-Present

1800s



The areas served today by MNWD were once part of two sprawling Spanish land grants: Rancho Niguel and Rancho Mission Viejo.



Early settlers use horsepower to bring water to the region.



It became clear early on that water would be key to sustaining the region's large cattle and sheep ranches.

1960

**1963:** Construction begins on the Crown Valley and Rancho reservoirs.

**1964:** MNWD begins providing wastewater services; first residents move into Laguna Niguel.



**1960:** The area's eight ranchers join together to form the Moulton Niguel Water District to provide a more reliable water supply.

1970

**1965:** First residents move into Laguna Hills and Mission Viejo.



**1968:** MNWD begins testing the use of recycled water at El Niguel Country Club.



**1972:** District population increases to 33,495 as homebuilding booms.



**1972:** New pipelines and reservoirs are built to keep up with region's growing water demands.

1970



**1974:** The District becomes one of the first water providers in Orange County to deliver recycled water for irrigation uses.



**1975:** MNWD moves out of its undersized headquarters along Aliso Creek Road.



**1974:** MNWD's Bullrush Project revolutionizes wastewater treatment.

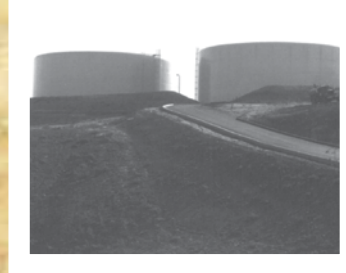
**1979:** Citizens' Advisory Committee is formed to educate community members about water issues.



**1975:** MNWD moves to its current home on La Paz Road to more efficiently serve its expanding customer base.



**1980:** New technology allows for computerized management of the District's water distribution and storage systems.



**1980:** MNWD issues \$12 million bond to expand services to what would later become the City of Aliso Viejo.

**1984:** The District's service population expands to 62,515.



**1985:** Despite regional growth, water and sewer rates remain unchanged due to MNWD's fiscal responsibility.

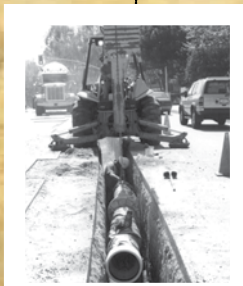


**1988:** MNWD begins using electronic water meters for greater efficiency; Mission Viejo becomes a city.

1990

**1989:** Laguna Niguel and Dana Point become cities.

**1991:** Central intertie pipeline is opened to increase reliability during emergencies; Laguna Hills becomes a city.



**1994:** District invests \$50 million into recycled water infrastructure, including a new treatment plant and extended pipelines.

**1997:** District launches www.MNWD.com.



**2000:** MNWD helps form South Orange County Wastewater Authority.

2000

**2000:** After 40 years of consistent growth, MNWD's customer base settles at 160,000.

**2001:** Aliso Viejo becomes a city.



**2005:** Recycled water use hits an all-time high, comprising 25 percent of MNWD's water supply.



**2009:** Board of Directors votes to increase emergency storage supply from 10 days to 31 days; construction of Upper Chiquita Reservoir begins.

**2009:** Standard & Poor's increases MNWD's credit rating to AA+, saving District customers millions on the sale of bonds at lower interest rates.



**2010:** The District expands its outreach efforts to participate in the annual Water Awareness Day celebration with neighboring Santa Margarita Water District.

2010



**2010:** MNWD celebrates its 50th anniversary.