

March 20, 2020

Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments  
Attn: Renee Rodriguez  
Department of Water Resources  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236

**Subject:           *Comments on Notice of Preparation of Environmental Impact Report for the Delta Conveyance Project***

Dear Ms. Renee Rodriguez:

Moulton Niguel Water District (District) would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Notice of Preparation of Environmental Impact Report for the Delta Conveyance Project. As an urban retail water provider which is dependent on imported supplies, including from the California State Water Project, the District has a vested interest in California's water supply reliability and implementation of a long-term solution in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta).

The District provides high-quality drinking water, recycled water and wastewater services to more than 170,000 residents in South Orange County, California since 1960. Our service area encompasses approximately 37 square miles which includes the Cities of Laguna Niguel and Aliso Viejo and portions of the Cities of Laguna Hills, Dana Point, Mission Viejo, and San Juan Capistrano. The District ultimately imports approximately 75 percent of water supplies from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). On average, the District receives approximately 41 percent of water supplies from the State Water Project (SWP) and 34 percent from the Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) from MWD. The District has been a leader in recycled water use since 1968 and meets the remaining 25 percent of water demands with recycled water.

Over the last decade, the District has been working with our customers to reduce imported water demands by implementing several demand management programs, expanding our recycled water system and exploring local reuse and supply options. Since 2008, District customers have reduced imported water demands by over 13,000 acre-feet (AF) per year. The District has made and continues to make significant investments in water use efficiency and water recycling because the District recognizes the tremendous value of water. The District provides our customers with the resources to continue using water wisely. For example, our turf replacement program has resulted in nearly 6 million square feet of turf grass converted to California Friendly vegetation saving over 250 million gallons of water annually. The District's water efficiency programs past successes are a strong indication of our ability to realize new and higher levels of water efficiency in the future. And one of our most helpful initiatives at reducing water waste was our budget-based rate structure put in place in 2011 that provides an incentive to use water efficiently. However, despite these great efforts, the District remains dependent on imported water from the Delta.



Reliability of the SWP has decreased over time for several reasons, including from threats of earthquakes, levee failure, land subsidence, ecosystem decline, sea level rise, and restricted pumping schedules. The Delta water supplies have already been reduced due to concerns about impacts to the Delta ecosystem which supports numerous threatened and endangered species of fish. A catastrophic earthquake in the region could potentially cause widespread failure of many levees potentially disrupting export water pumping for an extended period, which would impact the District's ability to reliably serve our customers. The District considers the Delta Conveyance Project necessary in order to implement a long-term solution in the Delta which will result in significant benefits to the District's water supply reliability. The District is supportive of a solution that results in increased water supply reliability to State Water Project Contractors; enhanced Delta ecosystem habitat with fewer conflicts between fisheries and water conveyance; reduced seismic failure risks; increased climate change resiliency; and equitable cost sharing.

The District has supported DWR's previous efforts to develop and implement a solution in the Delta, first with the Bay Delta Conservation Plan and then with the California WaterFix. The District continues to support DWR's efforts on the Delta Conveyance Project to achieve the goals of providing water supply reliability and ecosystem restoration. Ensuring the sustainability of the Delta supplies is an important component of the District's overall water reliability plan. Local resource development, water use efficiency and an improved Delta water delivery system are all necessary efforts and critical to future reliability for the District's water supply.

The District appreciates the opportunity to provide input on this important project and we remain committed to doing our part to use water wisely to help ensure water reliability. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Drew Atwater, Director of Finance and Water Resources at (949) 448-4027 or [datwater@MNWD.com](mailto:datwater@MNWD.com).

Sincerely,



Joone Lopez  
General Manager  
Moulton Niguel Water District







**moulton niguel** water district

## *NatureScape Garden Tour Update*

Administrative Committee Meeting  
March 4, 2020

# 2019 NatureScape Garden Tour

- Educational and family-friendly
- Education stations
- Building partnerships
- Community involvement and positive feedback
- Builds on Calscape nursery program





# Save the Date 2020



**NatureScape**  
**GARDEN TOUR**  
Presented by Moulton Niguel

**SAVE THE DATE  
FREE TOUR**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2020 | 10AM - 2PM**

Mark your calendars for the second annual NatureScape Garden Tour! Join Moulton Niguel on a self-guided journey to South Orange County's most inspiring NatureScape gardens. On the tour, attendees will:

- Discover new watershed-friendly landscaping elements for your home and garden
- Enjoy beautiful and fragrant CA native plants
- Ask water and landscape experts about ways to save water
- Learn about ways to enhance and protect our watershed

**REGISTER TODAY!**


This **FREE** tour is open to everyone!  
Bring your family, friends and neighbors.  
Learn more or register at: [mnwd.com/naturescape-garden-tour](http://mnwd.com/naturescape-garden-tour).

**moulton niguel water district** | **1960-2020 CELEBRATING SIXTY YEARS OF SERVICE** | [mnwd.com](http://mnwd.com) | (949) 831-2500 | [f](#) [in](#) [h](#) [t](#) [v](#)

**MEET YOUR LOCAL PLANTS AND POLLINATORS!**

Create a paradise for pollinators and bring the beauty of California into your own landscape by growing California native plants.

**Top 10 Native Plants for South Orange County:**



**Blue eyed grass**  
*Sisyrinchium bellum*

**Hummingbird sage**  
*Salvia spathacea*

**Coast live oak**  
*Quercus agrifolia*

**California fuchsia**  
*Epilobium canum*

**Chalk dudleya**  
*Dudleya pulverulenta*

**Deergrass**  
*Muhlenbergia rigens*

**Fremont cottonwood**  
*Populus fremontii*

**California aster**  
*Corethrogyne filaginifolia*

**Toyon**  
*Hetromeles arbutifolia*

**Western sycamore**  
*Platanus racemosa*

**California native plants:**

- Conserve water
- Create an eco-friendly environment
- Create a habitat for wildlife and pollinators
- Provide year-round beauty
- Reduce pollution from urban runoff

Find more CA plants native to our region and where they're available to buy. Visit [bit.ly/mnwd-calscape](http://bit.ly/mnwd-calscape)

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# New for 2020

- Gardens in the following respective cities
  - Aliso Viejo, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, and Mission Viejo
- Updated materials
- More experts
- Interest card registration



**WHAT IS CONTINUING FOR 2020? WHAT IS A SNEAK?**

For gardeners, the year 2020 is a special one. The pandemic has led to a new appreciation for the outdoors and a desire to create a more sustainable and resilient garden. The pandemic has also led to a new appreciation for the outdoors and a desire to create a more sustainable and resilient garden.

**A. Rain Garden (patio)**

**B. 'Dry Creek' (rocks and pebbles)**

**C. Rain Garden on Slope**

**Plant List:**

**Coastal Zone Garden - Laguna Niguel, CA**  
 Full Sun/Part Shade/Full Shade in Sunset Zones 22, 24

**BURSON RESIDENCE**  
 25646 LA CIMERA  
 LAGUNA NIGUEL, CA  
 92677  
 949-433-2043  
 mbur@aol.com



# 2019 NatureScape Garden Tour





NatureScape  
**GARDEN  
TOUR**  
by Moulton Niguel



**SAVE THE DATE  
FREE TOUR**

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- \* Discover gardens featuring watershed-friendly landscape elements
- \* See beautiful native plants
- \* Enjoy interactive educational stations
- \* Meet with knowledgeable and informative Moulton Niguel employees and docents
- \* Learn about the ecological benefits that come along with taking the watershed approach to landscape design and planting California native plants



**REGISTER  
TODAY TO  
ATTEND!**

This community-based tour is **FREE** to the public and is family-friendly! To learn more or register for the tour please visit [mnwd.com/naturescape-garden-tour](https://mnwd.com/naturescape-garden-tour).



# MEET YOUR LOCAL PLANTS AND POLLINATORS!

Create a paradise for pollinators and bring the beauty of California into your own landscape by growing California native plants.

## California native plants:

- ✿ Conserve water
- ✿ Create an eco-friendly environment
- ✿ Create a habitat for wildlife and pollinators
- ✿ Provide year-round beauty
- ✿ Help prevent pollution from urban runoff

Find plants native to your region and connect with local nurseries who carry them by visiting our website at [mnwd.com/calscape-nursery-program](http://mnwd.com/calscape-nursery-program).

## Top 10 California native plants for the South Orange County area:



Blue Eyed Grass  
*Sisyrinchium bellum*



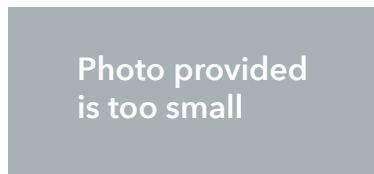
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*Salvia spathacea*



Coast Live Oak  
*Quercus agrifolia*



California Fuchsia  
*Apilobium canum*



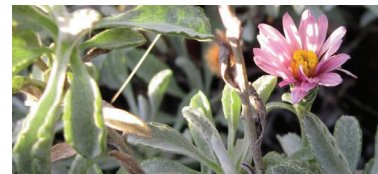
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Deergrass  
*Muhlenbergia rigens*



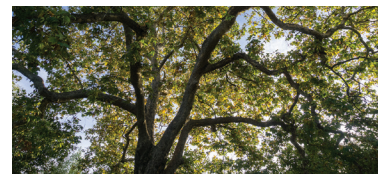
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*Populus fremontii*



California Aster  
*Corethrogyne filaginifolia*



Toyon  
*Heteromeles arbutifolia*



Western Sycamore  
*Platanus racemosa*



Interested in learning more about California native plants? Join Moulton Niguel for the NatureScape Garden Tour which features 100% California native gardens! Visit [mnwd.com/naturescape-garden-tour](http://mnwd.com/naturescape-garden-tour) to learn more.





**moulton niguel** water district

# *March Customer Communications Update*

Administrative Committee Meeting  
March 4, 2020

# Monthly Customer Communications

- Bill Snipe (Envelope)
- Bill Message on Customer Bill
- Newsletter (Print & Electronic)
- Educational Insert
- Customer Campaigns

## March Focus Areas:

- “Spring” Into Water Efficiency
- Community & Earth Day Events
- NatureScape Garden Tour
- Native Plants

### Spring into Water Efficiency with Moulton Niguel!

Winter is coming to a close, so spring into the new season with renewed water efficiency efforts! Just a few small changes to your water use can help you use water efficiently this season. Remember, it's not about using less it's about *wasting less*.

Here are some suggestions to consider:

- 💧 Adjusting your sprinkler nozzle to minimize flow and eliminate overspray **can save 250 gallons** per cycle!
- 💧 Replacing your clothes washer with a water-efficient version can **save 20-30 gallons** of water per load!
- 💧 Spreading a layer of mulch around plants retains moisture, which can **save 20-30 gallons** of water per day!



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**GARDEN TOUR**  
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FREE TOUR**

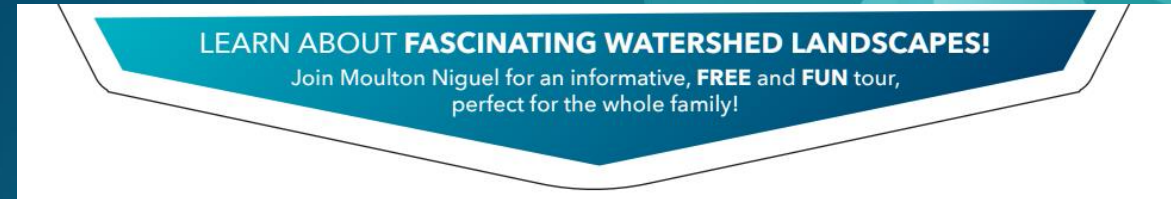
**SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2020 | 10AM - 2PM**

# March Snipe (Envelope)

## Front



## Flap on the Back




## Back Below the Flap



# March Bill Message

Account Information			
ACCOUNT NUMBER:	BILLING DATE:		
CUSTOMER NAME:			
SERVICE ADDRESS:			
<b>PREVIOUS CHARGES</b>			
Amount of prior balance	\$		
Payment Received 07/10/18	\$		
Balance Forward	\$ 0.00		
<b>CURRENT CHARGES</b>			
Classification Code - Water Residential			
Basic Water Charge	\$ 11.22		
Water Usage Charge in Billing Units (BU)			
Tier 1	6 BU @ 1.69 10.14		
Tier 2	5 BU @ 1.94 9.70		
Tier 3	0 BU @ 3.32 0.00		
Tier 4	0 BU @ 5.12 0.00		
Tier 5	0 BU @ 9.59 0.00		
Total Water Charges	11 BU \$ 31.06		
Basic Wastewater Charge	14.36		
Variable Wastewater Charges			
* 3 HP @ 4.31	12.93		
Total Wastewater Charges	\$ 27.29		
Total Current Charges \$ 58.35			
Total Amount Due By 08/09/18 \$ 58.35			
<b>Water Meter Information</b>			
Current Read Date	07/23/18	Prior Read Date	06/25/18
# Days This Year	28	# Days Prior Year	28
Current Usage	11	Prior Year Usage	14
Current Read	1961	Prior Read	1950
Meter Number	60694232	Meter Size	3/4"



**moulton niguel**  
water district  
Customer Service (949) 831-2500  
Account Inquiries (949) 448-4050

**Special Message**

Join Moulton Niguel for the 2nd Annual NatureScape Garden Tour!

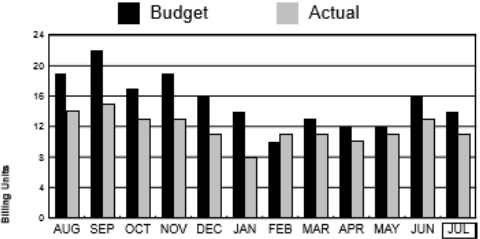
**Saturday, April 18, 10am to 2pm**

Bring your family and friends on a tour through South OC's most inspiring gardens. Enjoy beautiful and fragrant CA native plants. Discover ways to save water from landscape and water experts.

Register at [mnwd.com/naturescape-garden-tour](http://mnwd.com/naturescape-garden-tour).

Your water budget for 06/25/18 - 07/23/18 = 14 BU  
Your current billed usage: 11  
Persons in household \*(HP)= 3 ET Total = 5.54  
Estimated landscape irrigation area = 2,426 sq feet

**Your Usage History**



1 BU = 100 CUBIC FEET OF WATER OR 748 GALLONS

PLEASE RETURN BOTTOM PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT

[1/1]

**Amount Due**

ACCOUNT NUMBER:  
DUE DATE: 08/09/18  
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$ 58.35

**Amount Enclosed**

Bill Message Located Here

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# March Newsletter

MARCH 2020  
NEWSLETTER



## Spring Into Water Efficiency with Moulton Niguel!

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Here are some suggestions to consider:

- Adjusting your sprinkler nozzle to minimize flow and eliminate overspray **can save 250 gallons** per cycle!
- Replacing your clothes washer with a water-efficient version can **save 20-30 gallons** of water per load!
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Looking for more tips? Visit us at [mnwd.com/watersavingtips](http://mnwd.com/watersavingtips) to find simple ways to use water efficiently.

## Additional Tools & Resources to Help You Remain Water-Efficient

Moulton Niguel offers a number of different tools and programs to help our customers continue to use water efficiently all year round. Many of these tools are available online, 24/7, and can be accessed through your mobile device. Our team is also available to walk you through these tools during our regular business hours, so feel free to give us a call or walk in to see us!



Register or log on to our customer portal to manage your water usage data, view past bills, or sign up to receive leak alerts.  
[mywater.mnwd.com](http://mywater.mnwd.com)



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Bill Moorhead  
DIRECTOR

Brian S. Probolsky  
PRESIDENT

Moulton Niguel Water District | 949. 831. 2500 | [mnwd.com](http://mnwd.com)

## Springing into Community Events



Moulton Niguel is gearing up for a lot of great upcoming events this season. From visiting our schools to supporting community events, our Board of Directors and staff always look forward to the opportunity to meet with our customers at various public events. We also host a number of different water education workshops and landscape classes throughout the year.



Be sure to visit our online events calendar to see where we'll be next! Visit [mnwd.com/events](http://mnwd.com/events) for the latest updates.

## Special "Earth Day" Themed Landscape Workshop

Mark your calendars for a special "Earth Day" themed Sustainable Landscape Workshop on **Wednesday, April 22!** Our **free** landscape workshops help customers re-imagine their outdoor landscapes and transform thirsty lawns into beautiful, California native landscapes.

Our landscape workshops cover the following topics:

- Taking a watershed approach to landscape design
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- Selecting beautiful California native plants
- Avoiding urban runoff pollution
- An overview of the NatureScape program



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**FOLLOW US ONLINE!**      For more information, visit [mnwd.com](http://mnwd.com)

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# March Educational Insert



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 <b>Toyon</b> <i>Hetromeles arbutifolia</i>	 <b>Western sycamore</b> <i>Platanus racemosa</i>



# Fix a Leak Campaign

Front



**moulton niguel water district**

## CAN YOUR TOILET PASS THIS FREE TEST?

Just one leaky toilet can cause your bill to increase by more than \$500! Yikes! Put your toilet to the test with Moulton Niguel's **FREE** toilet test.

**Need Help? We're Here!**  
Moulton Niguel prides ourselves on serving our customers. If you need help, we're here for you. In some cases, Moulton Niguel can make a one-time adjustment to a high bill caused by a leaky toilet.

949-831-2500  
toiletleak@mnwd.com  
26880 Aliso Viejo Pkwy  
Aliso Viejo, CA 92656

### Take the Leaky Toilet Test

- 1** **Pool** off the attached dye sticker and drop into the toilet tank.
- 2** **Wait** 15 minutes and check for dye in the toilet bowl. If the water in the toilet bowl changes color, you've got a leak.
- 3** **Fix** the problem. Most problems are the result of a faulty flapper or floater. Repair the leak or contact a local plumber. For a video tutorial on how to repair a faulty flapper view our Potty Talk 401 video at [mnwd.com/fix-a-leak](http://mnwd.com/fix-a-leak).
- 4** **Tell** us the result. Did your toilet pass the test? Email us at [toiletleak@mnwd.com](mailto:toiletleak@mnwd.com).



Back

### You've found a toilet leak, now what?

View our Potty Talk 401 video tutorial at [mnwd.com/fix-a-leak](http://mnwd.com/fix-a-leak) for step-by-step instructions on how to fix your toilet leak.



To learn how to replace leaky flappers and fill valves, please watch: **Potty Talk 401**

- 1 If you're replacing your flapper, take the old flapper to the store with you when purchasing a replacement to ensure you get the right size.
- 2 Install your new flapper and take the Leaky Toilet Test again to ensure you've stopped the leak.
- 3 If water continues to flow after your toilet bowl and tank are full you may have a faulty fill valve. View our Potty Talk 301 video at [mnwd.com/fix-a-leak](http://mnwd.com/fix-a-leak) for a tutorial on how to check for a faulty fill valve.
- 4 Check for toilet leaks every 6 months. Contact us at 949-831-2500 or [customerservice@mnwd.com](mailto:customerservice@mnwd.com) to request more dye strips. For more helpful resources visit [mnwd.com/fix-a-leak](http://mnwd.com/fix-a-leak).



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**moulton niguel water district** Customer Service Conservation Doing Business with Us About Moulton Niguel [Pay My Bill](#)

## Join Moulton Niguel During Fix a Leak Week!

Throughout the month of March, Moulton Niguel will be sending our customers simple dye strip tests to check your toilet for leaks. Why toilets? One of the most common household leaks is a leaky toilet. If not fixed, just one leaky toilet can cause your bill to increase by more than \$500!

[LEARN MORE](#)



**LEARN ABOUT FASCINATING WATERSHED LANDSCAPES!**  
Join Moulton Niguel for an informative, **FREE** and **FUN** tour,  
perfect for the whole family!



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🌐 [mywater.mnwd.com](https://mywater.mnwd.com)



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moulton niguel water district


# CAN YOUR TOILET PASS THIS FREE TEST?

Just one leaky toilet can cause your bill to increase by more than \$500! Yikes! Put your toilet to the test with Moulton Niguel's **FREE** toilet test.



## Need Help? We're Here!





Moulton Niguel prides ourselves on serving our customers. If you need help, we're here for you. In some cases, Moulton Niguel can make a one-time adjustment to a high bill caused by a leaky toilet.

 949-831-2500

 [toiletleak@mnwd.com](mailto:toiletleak@mnwd.com)

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Aliso Viejo, CA 92656

## Take the Leaky Toilet Test

-  **Peel** off the attached dye sticker and drop into the toilet tank.
-  **Wait** 15 minutes and check for dye in the toilet bowl. If the water in the toilet bowl changes color, you've got a leak.
-  **Fix** the problem. Most problems are the result of a faulty flapper or floater. Repair the leak or contact a local plumber. For a video tutorial on how to repair a faulty flapper view our Potty Talk 401 video at [mnwd.com/fix-a-leak](http://mnwd.com/fix-a-leak).
-  **Tell** us the result. Did your toilet pass the test? Email us at [toiletleak@mnwd.com](mailto:toiletleak@mnwd.com).

# You've found a toilet leak, now what?

View our Potty Talk 401 video tutorial at [mnwd.com/fix-a-leak](http://mnwd.com/fix-a-leak) for step-by-step instructions on how to fix your toilet leak.



- 1 If you're replacing your flapper, take the old flapper to the store with you when purchasing a replacement to ensure you get the right size.
- 2 Install your new flapper and take the Leaky Toilet Test again to ensure you've stopped the leak.
- 3 If water continues to flow after your toilet bowl and tank are full you may have a faulty fill valve. View our Potty Talk 301 video at [mnwd.com/fix-a-leak](http://mnwd.com/fix-a-leak) for a tutorial on how to check for a faulty fill valve.
- 4 Check for toilet leaks every 6 months. Contact us at 949-831-2500 or [customerservice@mnwd.com](mailto:customerservice@mnwd.com) to request more dye strips. For more helpful resources visit [mnwd.com/conservation](http://mnwd.com/conservation).

