



# Montara Water & Sanitary District

## Staying Ahead of our Local Community Needs

Montara Water and Sanitary District (MWSD) works every day to deliver water, garbage and sewer services for the residents of Montara and Moss Beach. Over 6,000 residents rely on our services for their homes and businesses.

August -  
September 2021

**News for You: Statewide Conservation Needed; Standing Up for Our Community: Caltrans Fire Hazards**

### 15% STATEWIDE WATER CONSERVATION GOAL

#### Take Action Today

On July 8, Governor Newsom expanded California's drought emergency and announced a 15% statewide water conservation goal. Though our community's water supplies continue to be adequate to meet our local needs, MWSD supports the statewide conservation effort. Taking additional conservation actions today will stretch precious water supplies for future use. Consider an additional action to reduce your use!

**Take action today:** (*Para obtener consejos importantes sobre cómo conservar agua, llame (650) 728-3545.*)

- Irrigate outdoor areas in early morning or late evening.
- Don't allow water to run-off your property.
- Don't over water! Fix leaks within 5 days!
- Don't hose down cars, equipment or driveways. Wash your car at a car wash that recycles water.
- No washing of streets, parking lots and buildings\*.
- Use automatic shut-off devices on hose or filling apparatuses.
- No fill or refill of swimming pools, spas, artificial lakes, ponds or streams\*.
- No outdoor water use of any kind during power outages.

*\*except as necessary for public health or fire protection*

### MWSD Stands Up for Community Fire Safety: Addressing the Caltrans Bypass Lands in Montara

On July 16, the MWSD Board issued a letter to Caltrans District 4 Deputy Director Mark Weaver regarding the hazardous fire conditions on the Caltrans' Bypass Lands property.

*On behalf of the residents of Montara and Moss Beach, as well as other adjacent property owners in San Mateo County, we feel compelled to bring to your attention a matter of great concern; the untended, hazardous conditions on Caltrans property within Montara, California.*

The Montara Bypass Lands, locally known as the Caltrans Right of Way (ROW), in Montara, have been left vacant and untended for decades under Caltrans' ownership. MWSD, the sole local public jurisdiction in Montara and Moss Beach, has frequently cleaned this parcel - at our ratepayer's expense. This work was undertaken to avoid a catastrophic fire within the critical local watershed which supplies all of our community's water.

MWSD has repeatedly communicated to Caltrans our interest in acquiring these lands to benefit our local community.

Montara Water and Sanitary District is a locally elected body charged with representing and taking action for our community members. We are prepared to continue the critical stewardship of our local lands, including safeguarding the watersheds that protect our local water resources for our community, now and in the future.

We asked that Caltrans address the hazardous conditions immediately or initiate immediate discussions with MWSD on a collaborative solution that addresses both hazards and property ownership. Otherwise we and the community will hold Caltrans liable for past current and future damages and risks to our livelihood.

We shared this with our various elected representatives at the state, county and local level, as well as our valued stakeholders on the Coastside.

We look forward to a rapid resolution and will keep you informed.

**As our community continues its recovery from COVID-19, MWSD is committed to providing safe public access via ZOOM teleconference for our regularly scheduled public meetings for the foreseeable future.**

**Board Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at 8888 Cabrillo Highway, Montara.  
Call: (650) 728-3545      Email: [mwsd@coastside.net](mailto:mwsd@coastside.net)      Visit: [mwsd.montara.org](http://mwsd.montara.org)**