

## South Gate Remodel

The South Gate remodeling project was started in November. The modifications by Bobo Construction include a new pass-through window access for the Gate Officers to interact with visitors. Visitor tags will be issued for guests, construction, and service personnel entering Murieta South.

Prior to this modification, the Gate Officers were able to communicate with visitors, but could not physically hand out passes.

Both the North and South Gates now provide similar services. The goal is to increase customer service and interact with residents and guests efficiently.



*New access window at the South Gate.*

Please remember to register your guests with gate personnel. During the recent holidays, long lines of cars waited in the guest lanes to enter Rancho Murieta. You may register guests well in advance of the arrival date, as the computer can accommodate future arrivals.

## Integrated Water Master Plan Adopted

At the November Board of Directors' meeting, the CSD adopted an Integrated Water Master Plan which evaluates the District's water supply, potable water, treated effluent, and recycled water assets.

This project has been in process since 2005 in conjunction with HDR Engineering, Inc. The goals are to provide a holistic evaluation of the District's water, its water supply and potable/recycled water needs based on varying growth scenarios, and to recommend a comprehensive plan for maximizing the use of water resources while addressing the community's needs in regard to drought conditions and reservoir draw downs.

A multi-faceted and integrated solution is required to reduce reservoir

draw downs and eliminate the 200 year occurrence drought deficit. Options being considered are:

1. Mandatory Water Reductions During Severe Drought (based on achieving a 50% level of water conservation during severe drought conditions).

*(See Water Master Plan, page 2)*

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## Water Master Plan (continued)

2. Reduced Water Allocations for Large Estate Lots.
3. Demand Management Pricing (mechanism to enforce mandatory water reductions).
4. Effluent Management and Water Supply Augmentation. Physical improvements which maximize

the use of all available water resources, provide additional supply for normal, drought, and emergency conditions, and address the community's long-term treated effluent disposal needs. These include:

- Exchange recycled water for

- local groundwater supply.
- Expand recycled water service to new residential customers.
- Convey recycled water to a local rancher. Independently obtain new groundwater supply to address normal and drought water supply needs.

## Clean Water Act Applies To CSD

Under the Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1972, the District will apply for coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. In 1972, CWA amendments prohibited discharges of pollutants from point sources, and later, 1987 amendments defined storm water as point sources.

Earlier, larger municipalities, such as Sacramento County, Folsom, Elk Grove, were required to obtain storm water permits. Now, the regulations apply to small municipal populations of 10,000 to 100,000 or more. CSD, as a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s), is covered by the State of California through issuance of a statewide general permit for storm drainage.

Under the statewide general permit, the Central Valley Re-

gional Water Quality Control Board designated the District as a Non-Traditional Small MS4 and, in April 2005, notified the RMCCSD to obtain coverage under the General Permit.

The District submitted its storm water drainage plan (SWMP) in September 2005 and expects approval as early as February 2007. The SWMP identifies best management practices in 6 core areas: public education, public involvement, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction erosion control, post construction management, and municipal operations.

Storm water quality refers to the amount of pollutants that are washed off the land and transferred in storm water runoff to lakes, streams, and wetlands. Concentra-

tions of nutrients, heavy metals, and suspended solids typically found in urban runoff can significantly degrade downstream water bodies by increasing turbidity, water temperature, and the growth of algae.

Improved storm drainage is needed for downstream water supply, for recreational activities, habitat preservation, and community aesthetics. The Storm Water Management Practices serve to decrease storm water pollutants to the maximum extent practicable.

The District will increase oversight of business establishments, construction activities, and industrial sites, and work closely with major entities at Rancho Murieta, such as RMA and RMCC. Implementation of these regulations will occur during the next several years.

## Special Household Hazardous Waste Pickup

Mark your calendars – Saturday, April 21, 2007 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. residents will have the opportunity to drop off household hazardous waste (HHW) in Rancho Murieta! CSD has contracted with ROMIC Environmental Technologies Corporation in West Sacramento to collect

and dispose of HHW at no charge to residents. The collection site will be the parking lot at the FAA Building, 14670 Cantova Way, across the street from the Catholic Church.

This is your opportunity to legally dispose of paint, antifreeze, pool chemicals, aerosols, batteries,

fluorescent tubes, electronic equipment and computer monitors. Information about specific items for disposal will be forthcoming in flyers and at [rmcsd.com](http://rmcsd.com). Reminders will be included with your CSD bills and other notification.



## Water Rights Permit Extended To 2020

In 1975, the State Water Resources Control Board issued a permit to divert water from the Cosumnes River into storage at Rancho Murieta from November 1 through May 31 of each year. Under this permit, a total of 6,368 acre feet can be diverted annually, when there is adequate flow in the river. Of this total, 3900 acre feet can be put in storage in our reservoirs. The purposes of use include municipal, recreational, industrial, and irrigation.

The permit stated that water was to be applied to full beneficial use

by December 1, 1990. However, on request in 1982, the State granted a ten-year extension of time for use of the water through December 1, 2000. As build-out has been slower than originally anticipated, the District recently applied for a twenty-year extension. The State has approved the petition for extension of time to December 1, 2020.

The CSD diverts approximately 2000 acre feet per year into storage to meet the community's current water needs.

## New Rules For Golf Carts

As of January 1, 2007, federal and state requirements to operate golf carts and Neighborhood Electric Vehicles (NEVs) on state or public roadways go into effect.

These requirements apply **only if golf carts and NEVs travel across Highway 16**. Only licensed drivers are permitted to drive in the community and vehicles may not be operated in an unsafe condition or not safely loaded.

The California Vehicle Code Section 345 requires certain safety equipment, depending on whether it is daylight or after dusk. The minimum safety equipment requirements are listed below.

Additional safety equipment, such as rear view mirror, parking brake, seatbelts, front and rear turn signal lights, and windshield are recommended but not required. Additional information is available at the Rancho Murieta Association (RMA) office and at [rmcsd.com](http://rmcsd.com).

Minimum Daylight Safety Criteria	Minimum Darkness Safety Criteria
Brake Light One Rear Reflector Horn	Brake Light One Rear Reflector Horn Head Lamp Tail Lamp

## Groundwater Monitoring Wells Installed

In accordance with the Cease and Desist Order issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board), three new monitoring wells have been installed. PC Well Drilling of Rocklin drilled two wells upstream, generally north of the Wastewater Treatment Plant on CSD property, and one on the western edge of the plant on CSD property. These wells are in addition to the five existing wells around the south and west perimeter of the facility.

Carlton Engineering of Shingle Springs will provide onsite inspection monitoring and geotechnical service. The wells will capture groundwater as it flows under the treatment plant, and the constituents of the water will be analyzed to determine if the groundwater has degraded. The wells will be monitored monthly during 2007.

Recently, the Board of Directors approved expenditure of \$108,000 for geotechnical monitoring and sampling of the eight wells. The total expenditure for this effort will approach \$200,000, which will culminate in a comprehensive statistical analysis next December. If degradation of the groundwater is confirmed, the CSD will be required to undertake further studies to determine appropriate mitigation.

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## Safety Center In Operation

The James L. Noller Safety Center is in operation. The facility houses the CSD Security Patrol Offices, as well as space for the Sacramento County Sheriff's Deputies, the California Highway Patrol, and the Volunteers in Partnership with the Sheriff (VIPS).

If you would like to participate in the VIPS program, please call Lou Lopez at 875-5709 to learn more about the training schedule. Volunteers are needed in this vital function.

## Pedestrian Bridge Completed

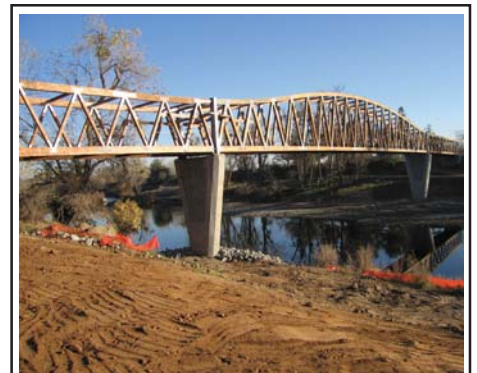
Construction of the long-awaited pedestrian bridge across the Cosumnes River, joining Murieta North and South is now completed. The formal opening will be sometime in January or February.

The bridge, constructed by Viking Construction Company, owned by resident Randy Jenco, is restricted to pedestrians, bicycles, and golf carts, and will be open 24 hours a day. The bridge was made possible through developer funds and is an asset to the community.

CSD Security will patrol the bridge routinely and cameras on the bridge will be monitored by Security. Safety for children and residents is the highest priority.

The bridge will provide residents a way to access recreation facilities on both sides of the river in a safe manner.

Residents are urged to use the identified access points and trails to avoid trespassing on private property or the golf course.



*The long awaited pedestrian bridge is now completed.*