



Mountain House Community Services District Newsletter

*The Mission of the District is to Provide
Responsive Service to our Growing Community
that Exceeds Expectations at a Fair Value*

**April
2020**

COVID-19

As the COVID-19 situation evolves, the Mountain House Community Services District is committed to keeping our citizens informed about potential impacts to District services.

We are equally committed to the safety of our employees. We have taken proactive steps to ensure that our staff and their families are protected, including providing up-to-date guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on prevention and directing staff to stay home when they are sick. We are stressing the importance of social distancing. We will share information as soon as we have it to protect the health and wellbeing of our residents, partners, and employees.

CHANGES TO CUSTOMER SERVICE

Initially, we planned to keep both the Finance Front Counter/Lobby open to the public. However, due to an abundance of caution we have decided to close both.

See the notice below for details.

FINANCE LOBBY AND COUNTER CLOSURE NOTICE

With the safety of the citizens and the employees of the Mountain House Community Services District in mind, the Finance Department will be closing its Finance Department lobby and counters to the public starting Tuesday March 17th, 2020 at 8:00 AM. We realize that this could cause inconvenience for some customers looking to make their utility payments. We encourage the use of alternative forms of payment such as those listed below:

- Online bill pay www.PayMyInframarkBill.com
- Make payments by phone at 800-441-4501
- Drop off payments in the library drop box located at the new Town Hall. The new Town Hall is located at 251 E Main Street (near Central Park and the old Library building).
- Any additional utility issues can be answer by calling 855-327-0900

We thank you for your understanding and patience during this time.

PARK RESERVATIONS

Make and pay for your park and activity reservations online. You can reserve spaces in any of Mountain House's parks or classes that are offered, online with a credit card. Visit MountainHouseCSD.org and click on the blue "Park Reservations" button select the park and the area or the class you want to reserve. Your receipt and permit will be emailed to you once you have emailed your insurance policy.

SCHEDULE OF MHCS D EVENTS

Board meetings and committee meetings are held in the boardroom at the Town Hall located at 251 E. Main Street. For class and event locations, please see items below. If you would like additional information on the classes or events contact Angel Lamb at alamb@sjgov.org. Please subscribe to the Google Calendar on our website www.mountainhousecsd.org.

Youth Action Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday, April 7, 2020

Time: 7:00 pm

For more information contact Director Tingle at btingle@sjgov.org

MHCS D Board of Directors Meeting

Date: Wednesday, April 8, 2020

Time: 7:00pm

Mountain House Vintage Seniors Meeting

Date: Monday, April 13, 2020

Time: 10:30a - 11:30a

Location: Town Hall TH-2

For more information, email Angel Lamb at alamb@sjgov.org

Mountain House Vintage Seniors Bunco

Date: Monday, April 20, 2020

Time: 10:30a - 11:30a

Location: Town Hall TH-2

For more information, email Angel Lamb at alamb@sjgov.org

INTERACTIVE WATER FOUNTAIN

The interactive water fountain is scheduled to begin on April 1st. The times will be as follows:

April 1 – Memorial Day.....Noon to 5 p.m. Daily
Memorial Day – Labor Day.....10a.m. to 7 p.m. Daily
Labor Day – October 31.....Noon to 5 p.m. Daily
November 1 – March 31.....Fountain is off for the winter season.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

If your group has an activity open to the community in Mountain House please send that information to Angel Lamb no later than the 10th of the month to be included in the newsletter.

Sahaja Yoga

Date: Every Sunday

Time: 10:00am

Location: Firehouse

For more information see <https://www.sahajayoga.org/>

Mountain House Rotary Meeting

Date: 2nd Friday of the Month

Time: 9:00am – 10:00am

Location: Firehouse

For more information, contact Sachin Pingle at mountainhouserotary@gmail.com

KEEP MOUNTAIN HOUSE BEAUTIFUL

It is beginning to warm-up outside, and we will be spending more time in our beautiful parks and on the creek trail. Please help keep these areas beautiful by cleaning up after yourself. There are several garbage containers located in every park. If you are planning a party in one of the parks, be sure to bring extra trash bags and tie your garbage up to set near the trashcans. Helping to keep our parks and town clean is also a great way for students to earn community service hours. If you or a group would like to organize a Cleanup your Park Day, contact Angel Lamb at alamb@sjgov.org.

SEASONAL WATER CONSERVATION

Sunnier days are here! Soon trees will be blossoming and your lawn will be growing. The first yard clean-up will include leaves, weeds, pruning shrubs and lawn trimmings. It will also include branches from tree pruning which is best left up to a professional if your tree stands over 20 feet. This is also a good time to mulch shrub beds with fresh wood chips or bark. The application of a 4-inch layer of mulch will help preserve the moisture content of the soil and provide nutrients to the plants. The final task is to check every sprinkler head in the turf and shrubs to ensure they are not damaged or leaking. Activate your irrigation clock one station at a time and while checking each head, also adjust the direction of the spray so it hits the targeted area. Once you have completed the irrigation inspection you must now decide whether to schedule watering. In most cases, the need to water is not necessary until about two weeks after the last rain. If the weather stays cool and we experience precipitation once per week, you may get away with keeping your irrigation off until May. The best way to check the need for irrigation is to take a shovel and insert the shovel in about 4 inches into the turf or shrub bed and pull back to check the moisture content. For those of you that have subsurface irrigation, it is very important you do not insert the shovel too deeply, just enough to get a good sample of the soil. The other method you can use is to simply watch the condition of the turf and when it takes on a smoky look or loses its luster, it might be time to give it a few minutes of watering. Fall and spring are the most critical periods for saving water. Many people turn on irrigation too early in the spring or leave it on too long in the fall. Remember, half of all water consumption during the warmer months is for irrigation.

RTD BUS SERVICE

Due to Covid-19 there will be changes to the Direct Connection to the Vasco Station. Please check with RTD for the service change announcements.

NEW ADDRESS

The Mountain House Community Services District office and Library have moved to our new Town Hall/Library building located at 251 E. Main Street. We are near Central Community Park and the old Library.

Mountain House Community Services District
251 E. Main Street
Mountain House, CA 95391
209-831-2300
mountainhousecsd.org

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE MHCS D STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

- 1. Why are we placing a warning sticker at each catch basin?**
Storm drain messaging is a great way to remind people that storm drains are for clean rainwater only. It is a visual reminder that pollution prevention is important.
- 2. Where does the storm drain go?**
Water that flows down driveways and streets into a gutter goes into a storm drain which flows directly to Mountain House Creek and then to the Old River and San Joaquin Delta.
- 3. What is the purpose of the storm drain system?**
Its purpose is to prevent flooding of streets by quickly and efficiently transferring rainwater into creeks, and eventually the Delta.
- 4. What can you put down the storm drain?**
Local ordinances prohibit anything other than uncontaminated rainwater from entering the storm drain system. Never pour anything into a gutter, street or storm drain.
- 5. Who fixes clogged storm drains?**
Please report localized flooding or clogged storm drains to MHCS D immediately. Call 209-831-2300 weekdays, between 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and 209-820-6702 all other times, including weekends and holidays.
- 6. Why shouldn't yard trimmings and soil go into the storm drain? Doesn't rain-wash the same kind of material into the creek anyway?**
When natural materials, such as yard trimmings, break down, oxygen is drawn from the water. In a natural setting, the amount of this debris would be limited to the leaves of those plants and trees bordering creeks. However, in our urban setting, leaves and dirt on paved areas are washed into creeks. A lot of natural debris can ruin the natural balance of the creeks, and harm fish.
In addition, pesticides, oil leaked onto roads and driveways, and other pollutants are scoured from all the paved surfaces throughout our Community and washed directly into our creeks and ultimately the Delta.
- 7. Why isn't storm water treated before it goes into the creek?**
Each storm drain goes to the nearest creek outfall. As a result, storm water is not collected into one location where it can be cleaned. Instead, it flows through hundreds of separate pipe systems, each emptying into the creek. Preventing pollution at the source is a much more effective and less costly way to prevent storm water pollution.
- 8. What do I do if I see someone dumping something other than rainwater down a storm drain?**
Call the number on the curb. 209-831-2300.