



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*

September
2017

KEEPING RAINWATER FROM CARRYING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DOWN A STORM DRAIN

What You Can Do With Household Hazardous Waste: Which products are hazardous?

- Automotive: Oil, transmission fluid, gasoline/diesel fuel
- Home improvement: Oil-based products, glue, rust remover
- Pesticides/weed killers
- Cleaners: Tub and tile, oven
- Other: nail polish, hair relaxer, mercury thermometer, alcohol-based lotion, prescription medication, aerosol cans
- [Get more information](#)

How do I store my products?

- Keep unused products in their original containers with their label intact.
- Keep all lids and caps on and tightly closed. Store products inside dry, cool areas, away from kids and pets.
- Only buy what you need and maintain a small inventory.

How do I dispose of my products?

- Never dump household hazardous waste down storm drains, sinks, or on the ground. Take them to a recycling location.
- Contact your local community or county for household hazardous waste collection options.

What alternatives can I use?

- Try using baking soda, white vinegar, and essential oils when cleaning your house. For example, sprinkle baking soda and vacuum to clean carpets. Spraying vinegar water is an easy way to clean windows.

What You Can Do About Storm Drains:

- Sweep extra fertilizer, grass clippings, and dirt on your driveway back onto your lawn
 - Hosing down your driveway sends these pollutants into storm drains that lead to lakes, streams, and beaches.
- Only allow rain to go down the drain
 - Never dump motor oil, chemicals, pet waste, leaves, dirty or soapy water, or anything else down the storm drain. All of these materials pollute our lakes and streams.

What You Can Do With Landscaping:

How can I maintain my lawn and garden while protecting our waterways?

- **Go native**
 - Select plants native to Central Valley. Native plants are better able to tolerate Central valley's climate, require less fertilizer and water, and are more disease resistant.
- **Plant a rain garden**
 - Use native plants in low areas where rainwater collects in your yard to trap, absorb, and filter stormwater.
- **Diversify your plantings**
 - Use a wide variety of plants to help control pests and minimize the need for pesticides.

SCHEDULE OF MHCS D EVENTS

Board meetings and committee meetings are held in the Michael Forbes McGrew Board Room at the CSD office. For class and event locations please see below. If you would like additional information on the classes or events please contact Angel Lamb at alamb@sjgov.org. Please subscribe to the Google Calendar.

Farmers' Market

Date: Every Sunday until November 19th

Time: 8:00a - 12:00p

Location: Wicklund Community Park

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

Youth Action Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Time: 7:00 pm

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

Public Safety Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Conference Room A

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

Assemblyperson Susan Eggman's Office Hours

Date: Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Time: 10:00a-11:00a

Location: Boardroom

MHCS D Board of Directors Meeting

Date: Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Boardroom

Youth Action Clean-up Campaign

Date: Saturday, September 16, 2017

Time: 11:00am - 2:00 pm

Location: Hansen Village

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

Music in the Park

Date: Saturday, September 16, 2017

Time: 5:00p - 8:00p

Location: Central Park

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

- **Place a thick layer of mulch (four inches) around trees and plants**
 - This helps retain water, reduce weeds, and minimizes the need for pesticides.
- **Plant a tree**
 - Trees can provide many benefits, such as soaking up water, which improves the environment and quality of life in your community. A typical, medium-sized tree can capture 2,380 gallons of rainwater per year.
- **Rake it or leave it**
 - Follow your community's leaf pick-up guidelines. Avoid raking leaves into storm drains or roadside ditches. Try mowing leaves into your lawn—they also make a good fertilizer!
- **Use pesticides and herbicides sparingly**
 - Limit application of these chemicals to problem areas only.
- **Capture the rain**
 - Use a rain barrel to water your plants. Don't forget to empty it when it's full.

What You Can Do About Pet Care:

How can I keep harmful bacteria out of our lakes, rivers, and beaches?

- **Dispose of it promptly and properly**
 - Whether in your yard or on a walk, promptly dispose of your pet's waste in the trash.
- **Pick up before lawn watering**
 - Pick up after your pets before watering your yard or cleaning patios or driveways. Don't use a hose to clean pet waste off driveways or sidewalks.
- **Share the message**
 - When at a park, community meeting, or talking with your friends, spread the word about the positive impact picking up after your pet can have on water quality.

MHCSD UTILITY BILL

Effective September 1st 2017, MHCSD utility customer accounts that become delinquent and receive a 48-hour notice will be assessed an additional \$25 delinquent processing fee.

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.

Mountain House Community Services District
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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.

Mountain House Rotary Meeting

Date: 2nd Friday of the Month

Time: 9:00am – 10:00am

Location: Firehouse

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

Mountain House Rotary Mixer

Date: 4th Thursday of the Month

Time: 6:00pm – 7:00pm

Location: TBD

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

VANDALISM AND OUR COMMUNITY

Vandalism will always be present in our communities. The perpetrators of these crimes are often never caught. We see evidence of graffiti, playground structure damage, smashed park lighting, drinking fountain damage, etc. The list is long and the efforts to repair these issues regularly exceed our staff levels to complete. This requires hired contractors to complete, dramatically increasing costs at the tax payer's expense.

In a 4 week timeframe ending on 8/14/2017 we have discovered items that have resulted in the repair or cleanup of the following:

	Wicklund Park	Bethany Park	Central Park	Altamont Park
Graffiti Incidents	Over 15 incidents, staff labor	Every picnic table, staff labor	Each restroom, staff labor	
Play Equipment (Severe Damage)	Severe damage to upper play structure, \$2,500. Several other incidents		Splash fountain spray nozzle damaged, \$500. Rubber surface mat damaged, \$2,000. Teeter-totter damaged. \$250	
Park Lighting	Gazebo light broken, \$150		Basketball park lights smashed, \$750	
Drinking Fountain Damage	Clogged with rocks, \$250	Damaged from kicking, \$750	Clogged with rocks, \$250	Damage from impact. \$300
Other		Small tree broken in half, \$150		

Vandalism in our community has reached an all-time high. Community outreach and involvement is necessary to control the acts of vandalism. Combining efforts with community volunteer groups will help. Staff is currently reviewing a plan to post signs starting with Wicklund Park citing vandalism ordinances with information on who to contact when vandalism is witnessed. The MHCSD will prosecute under the full extent of the law and seek reparation cost to correct.

Photos of the most significant damage recently experienced:

