



Town of Discovery Bay
A California Community Services District
"Friday Letter"
To the Board of Directors
April 17, 2015

From: Rick Howard, General Manager

General Manager/Administration:

- ✓ This week's past special Board meeting was excellent. I knew that the topic matter was going to be extensive, and I'm very appreciative of the time spent and the level of commitment that the board made to this extremely important topic. The Urban Water Management Plan draft is being updated based upon the Board's comments, and it will be distributed for circulation and comment in the next week. I'll forward a copy to you as well as post to the website for public input as well.
- ✓ The *Brown is the New Green* campaign will be hitting the streets soon. Let me know if you want to "Join the Effort", and I'll get a sign out to you. We'll be advertising it soon via the Town's Facebook page, as well as our mailing list and media outreach campaign.



- ✓ Internally, we've begun the conversation about some of the ideas that were discussed at this week's meeting, including the hire of a temporary/seasonal employee to monitor for leaks and water wasters; monitor metered customers monthly usage; send postcards to all residents with watering tips, schedules, and fines for non-compliance; hosting a Water Summit at Community Center with all commercial/large users; and possibly establishing a tiered volumetric pricing on commercial/large user accounts or water waster penalties.
- ✓ I mentioned last week that I was attending a meeting in Martinez with the County Office of Emergency Services. Due to conflicting events, I was unable to attend in person, but I did participate via conference call. All I can say is that is one hour I'll never get back. The County had good intentions when the meeting was first laid out, unfortunately, however, a member of the State Office of Emergency Services took over and lectured everyone about how wonderful he is and how ineffective local agencies are in the overall process. I expressed my displeasure to the host of the meeting off-line afterwards, and she confirmed that my feelings were generally those of the rest of the meeting participants. Too bad, because the meeting had merit.
- ✓ The latest edition of the Pipeline was sent to the printer this week. Here's a preview of the front page:



DROUGHT ENTERS 4TH YEAR

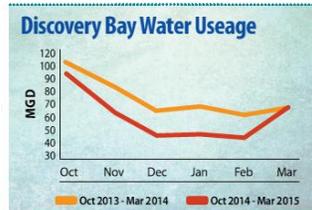
Following the lowest snowpack ever recorded and with no end in sight to the unprecedented 4 year drought, Governor Brown recently issued an Executive Order announcing mandatory 25% reductions of water use by all Californians. The new restrictions impact all residents in the Town of Discovery Bay, and we encourage everyone to do their part to conserve.

There are a number of simple and easy approaches that everyone can do to help conserve water in and around the home. Rethinking the way you use water – both indoors and outdoors – will help stretch our limited supplies and ensure water is there when we need it.

- Little leaks can add up to a lot of wasted water. A small drip can waste 70 gallons of water in a day, while a steady leak just one-sixteenth of an inch in size can send more than 1,000 gallons a day down the drain. Fix leaky faucets and toilets right away.
- Use the washing machine for full loads only to save water and energy. Install a water-efficient clothes washer.



- Run the dishwasher only when full to save water and energy. Install a water and energy efficient dishwasher.
- Install low flow shower heads in the bathroom, encourage everyone to take shorter showers, and turn water off when brushing teeth or shaving.
- Check your sprinkler system frequently and adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.
- Choose a water-efficient irrigation system such as drip irrigation for your trees, shrubs, and flowers.
- Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants to reduce evaporation and keep the soil cool. Organic mulch also improves the soil and prevents weeds.



CHECK OUT THE
Discovery Bay Activity Guide
ON THE FLIP SIDE!

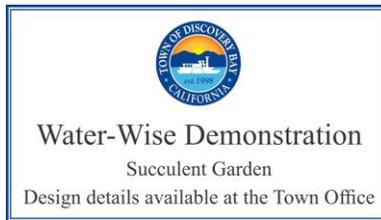
Continued on pg. 2

Parks, Landscape and Recreation Services

- ✓ If you've driven by Lift Station "F" recently you may have noticed a succulent garden that has recently been planted. Shanae Armstrong specializes in succulents, and I had asked her to see if she could improve the area around the lift station. I think that the photos below prove the point!



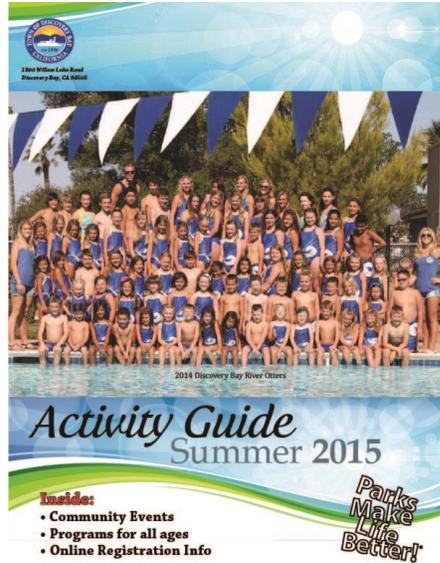
- ✓ The sign, below, will be placed at the garden and residents that want to learn more are encouraged to contact us.



- ✓ The annual Earth Day celebration is taking place on Saturday April 25th at the Community Center. We have 30 vendor booths, and it's going to be a nice family festival!



- ✓ The Summer 2015 Recreation Guide is at the printer, but it's also posted on our website's home page. Click on the picture below and it will take you to the guide! It will be delivered the last week of April.



Important Dates

Upcoming important dates are as follows:

- Earth Day – Saturday April 25, Community Center – Noon to 4:00 p.m.
- CSD Regular Board Meeting – Wednesday, May 6 at 7:00 p.m.