

District News

Greetings and Welcome to our first quarterly newsletter of the new year and best wishes in 2013! It has been a few years since the District published a regular newsletter and we are excited about reestablishing this avenue of communication with our customers. We hope you find this information useful and we encourage you to let us know what you'd like to see in upcoming editions.

Sincerely,
Michael S. LeBrun, General Manager

2012 - A "Service" Year in Review

2012 was a busy and productive year for the District. Here are just a few highlights:

Operations: Operations are the reason we are here. The District currently employs 12.5 operations staff. The team is lead by a Utilities Superintendent. In 2012 the team produced, treated, and delivered over 800 Million Gallons of safe potable drinking water (at a cost of a fraction of a

penny **per gallon**); collected, treated, and reclaimed more than 250 Million Gallons of wastewater (sewage); 100% on-time regulatory (State Health, State Water, County Air) reporting with zero fines or violation notices; minor localized water delivery interruptions; and zero wastewater spills.

Administration: Through continued yet measured process auto-

mation and improvement, District administrative staffing levels have remained constant through twenty years of growth. The District employs four full-time administrative staff: General Manager, Finance Director, Billing Clerk, and Board Clerk. A part-time Public Information Assistant was added in 2013. During 2012: 26th consecutive independent annual financial audit with clean opinion; received a AA

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History of the Nipomo Community Services District

After four confirmed cases of typhoid fever in the early 1960's, the San Luis Obispo County Health Department tested private wells in the community and found high concentrations of nitrate and chlorides in the water. Coliform bacteria was also found in some of the private water wells in Nipomo. It was determined that wastewater was seeping into the water supply. The County Health Department established a direct relationship between the occur-

rence of infant methemoglobinemia (Blue Babies) in the community and the presence of nitrates in the drinking water. On June 4, 1964, County Hydraulic Engineer Mr. Bob Born made a report to the County Board of Supervisors on the water and sanitary problems in Nipomo. Mr. Born's report concluded with the recommendation that a public entity be formed to address the water and sewer problems in Nipomo.

On January 28, 1965, Nipomo Community Services District was formed under the Community Services District Law of California Government Code Section 61000. The first elected Board Members were William C. Black, Cecil E. (Gene) Davis, James A. Kitchen, Oren W. (Jim) Miller and John R. Mylan. The Board of Directors immediately pursued the construction of the District's first public water system. A bond election was held on February 15, 1966, and the property owners whose land was

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Board of Directors

Jim Harrison
President

Larry Vierheilg
Vice President

Dan A. Gaddis
Director

Bob Blair
Director

Craig Armstrong
Director

Staff

Michael S. LeBrun, P.E.
General Manager

Lisa Bognuda
Finance Director

Peter Sevcik, P.E.
District Engineer

Tina Grietens
Utilities Superintendent

Jessica Matson
Public Information Assistant

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2012 - A "Service" Year in Review (continued)



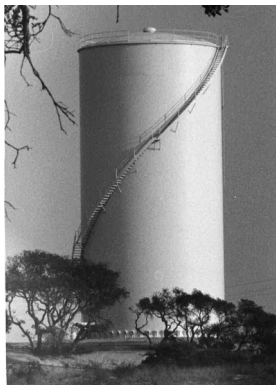
Southland Wastewater Treatment and Reclamation Facility Upgrade Under Construction

Bond rating from Standard & Poor's allowing District's Town Sewer division to raise nearly \$10 million in bond sales at an investment grade rate of 4.05%; retired two debts with a total principal value of \$246,172 at a significant savings to the District; and expanded electronic bill pay options. **Engineering:** The District currently employs a District Engineer and is recruiting to fill an Assistant Engineer Position. In 2012 the District

Engineer: completed construction of a \$2.2 million South Frontage Road sewer trunk replacement project 13% under budget; finalized design, permitting, and commenced construction on a \$13,000,000 upgrade of the Southland wastewater treatment and reclamation facility; redesigned supplemental water pipeline project to allow phased construction – significantly lowering initial capital costs allowing funding for future project phases

to be funded by development as needed; completed a \$350,000 upgrade of the District operations monitoring and control network which allows remote monitoring of the District's twenty-seven remote facilities (wells, water storage tanks, wastewater collection lift stations, and wastewater treatment plants); the District Engineer also implements the District's Safety Program which boasts zero loss-time accidents in 2012!

History of the Nipomo Community Services District (continued)



Nipomo Water Tower Built in 1993

covered by the new District approved a property tax measure to support the sale of bonds worth \$650,000. These funds paid for the acquisition, construction, and installation of the District's first water system. Construction began in June 1966, and was completed in November 1966, at which time water began to flow. This 25-year bond issue was paid off June 15, 1991. Today, the District serves over 4,000 water system connections through over 90-miles of buried water lines. The Dis-

trict operates eight wells to produce water and holds over 4-million gallons of water in storage for system reliability and emergency (fire) response. In 2007, the District water system was valued at over \$90,000,000. As far as sewer services, today, there are approximately 2,500 connections to the District's 'Town' sewer system via thirty-miles of buried sewer collection lines. Wastewater is conveyed to the District's Southland treatment and reclamation plant located at

the intersection of South Frontage Road and Southland Road. The Southland facility is currently in the middle of a \$13,000,000 upgrade to meet strict new regulatory requirements for treatment and reclamation of wastewater. The upgrade project is scheduled to be complete in May 2014. In 2007, the Town Sewer collection and treatment system was valued at nearly \$40,000,000. In 2007, the stand-alone wastewater collection and reclamation serving the 560 homeowners in Blacklake Village was valued at \$10,000,000.

Less Landscape Watering, More Money in Your Pocket!



Save water, save money!

For many customers the difference between winter water bills and summer water bills can be hundreds of dollars. Almost half the water use of a typical residential customer goes to landscape irrigation. Most landscapes are overwatered. For instance, in winter months most

grasses and shrubs need little or no irrigation other than the natural rainfall. Closely monitoring your landscape irrigation can save hundreds of dollars every year. The District has many tips on how to check for leaks and address common irrigation issues. Learn more by calling 929-1133 or visiting

www.ncsd.ca.gov. However, if tinkering with valves and automatic sprinkler controllers are not for you, consider having a local landscape contractor review your irrigation system once or twice yearly. In many cases the service call charge will be more than covered by the cost savings of more efficient irrigation.

Meet the District's General Manager

Michael S. LeBrun started his career with the United States Navy as a Nuclear Electrician/Plant Operator and Navy Diver in 1979 and served on active duty through 1985. Following his honorable discharge from active service in 1985 he joined the United States Navy Reserves until 1992. During this time, he studied Engineering at Golden West Junior College in Huntington Beach, CA and then at California Polytechnic University in San Luis Obispo, CA. After graduating college with honors in 1993, Michael worked

full time with the California Regional Water Quality Control Board as a Water Resource Control Engineer (1993-1996), Associate Engineer (1996-2000), and Senior Engineer (2000-2004). During this time, Michael also received his State of California license as a Professional Civil Engineer (1996). In September of 2004, Michael joined the Nipomo Community Services District as its General Manager. In May of 2006, Michael left the District and provided professional engineering consulting services while also working

with the Land Conservancy of SLO County as a Restoration Program Manager and Special Projects Manager until December of 2009. In December of 2009, Michael returned to Nipomo Community Services District as its General Manager and currently leads the District in its efforts to provide reliable, quality, and cost-effective services to the Nipomo community. When Michael is not at the office or out in the field, he enjoys spending time with his wife, two daughters and grandchildren as well as gardening, camping and cycling.



NCS D General Manager,
Michael S. LeBrun

High-Efficiency Clothes Washer Rebates

As a NCS D customer, you may be eligible for a \$75 rebate on a new high-efficiency clothes washer!

Old clothes washers use about 20% of indoor water use—up to 60 gallons per load of wash! The new high-efficiency washers use up to 50% less water and energy, and 2/3 less detergent. Most are large enough to wash bulky items like quilts, pil-

lows and sleeping bags. In addition, they are gentle on clothing because clothes are tumbled and not agitated.

To find out if you are eligible for the clothes washer rebate, visit the NCS D website at www.ncsd.ca.gov, click on the "High Efficiency Washer Rebate" link under Quick Links, then scroll down for the clothes washer rebate information.

If you have any questions, stop by the office at 148 S. Wilson in Nipomo, call NCS D at 929-1133 or email info@ncsd.ca.gov.

"Old clothes washers use about 20% of indoor water use - up to 60 gallons per wash!"

Frequently Asked Questions

What's with my water pressure?

Our system is pressurized by gravity so system pressure varies by elevation. Typical system pressure is approximately 60 pounds per square inch (psi). In higher elevations of our service area, pressure will be lower. In lower elevations pressure will be higher.

What is a special district?

In plain language, a special district is a separate local government that delivers a limited number of public services to a geographically limited area. Special districts, like NCS D, have a governing board, provide services and facilities, and have defined boundaries.

Can NCS D fix a pothole?

NCS D does street repair only if it is a result of a water leak repair. SLO County Road Department handles all other road maintenance and can be reached at 800-834-4636.

We welcome your feedback and questions! If you have a question or comment, feel free to contact info@ncsd.ca.gov.



Providing the community with reliable, quality, and cost-effective services now and in the future.

Nipomo Community Services District
148 South Wilson Street, Nipomo, CA 93444
Phone: 805-929-1133 | Fax: 805-929-1932 | E-mail: info@ncsd.ca.gov | www.ncsd.ca.gov



Upcoming Meetings and Dates to Remember

Mon, February 18th

Office CLOSED for President's Day

Wed, March 27th @ 9:00 am

Board Meeting at NCSD Office
(public welcome)

Wed, February 27th @ 9:00 am

Board Meeting at NCSD Office
(public welcome)

Wed, April 10th @ 9:00 am

Board Meeting at NCSD Office
(public welcome)

Wed, March 13th @ 9:00 am

Board Meeting at NCSD Office
(public welcome)

Wed, April 24th @ 9:00 am

Board Meeting at NCSD Office
(public welcome)

Check ncsd.ca.gov for updates

Pay your bill online!

www.ncsd.ca.gov

For customer convenience, Nipomo Community Services District continues to offer an online bill paying service. This service accepts Visa, Master Card, Discover, and American Express, as well as debit cards and e-checks. Customers can also pay in the office Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm, except holidays. There is a payment drop box in the driveway.

CONSERVATION TIP

Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.



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