

## FREE WEEKEND PROGRAMS:

### MARTINEZ BEAVER FESTIVAL - SUSANA PARK

Saturday, June 30th

11 am - 4 pm

This annual event celebrates the beavers of Alhambra Creek in downtown Martinez. The festival includes environmental displays, live music, and children's activities that combine craft-making with environmental learning. Visit Worth a Dam's Web site to learn more: <http://www.martinezbeavers.org>.

### BAT CHAT!

Sunday, June 10th

1 pm - 2 pm

Did you know that a single bat can eat up to 1000 mosquitoes in a single hour or that bats are more closely related to humans than to rodents? Join Corky Quirk and a few of her "winged friends" (live bats!) from NorCal Bats to learn the truth about these mysterious flying mammals. NorCal Bats is dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation, and release of bats throughout Northern California. Space is limited. Contact Kelly at [kdavidson@mvsd.org](mailto:kdavidson@mvsd.org) to RSVP.



**Thinking of cleaning your garage, working on a do-it-yourself (diy) yard or house project, or just doing some spring cleaning? Hire a permitted waste hauler and keep your community clean.**

Businesses hired to collect unwanted junk, appliances, construction debris, and other solid waste in the unincorporated areas of Contra Costa County now need permits issued by Contra Costa Environmental Health (CCEH) to operate.

The Board of Supervisors recently changed the county ordinance to require a Non-Franchise Solid Waste Collection and Transport Permit, to curb illegal dumping and other environmentally unfriendly practices.

Franchised waste haulers (your weekly curbside pick-up) are exempt from the new rule, as are contractors taking construction or landscaping debris from their job site directly to an approved facility. Property owners can also still haul their own waste without a permit.

When hiring a hauler to collect solid waste from your property, if you live in the unincorporated areas of the county, ask if your hauler has the annual permit required beginning March 1.

CCEH will screen all permit applicants to ensure they carry adequate insurance, obtain performance bonds, and know the county rules about collecting and transporting solid waste.

CCEH also inspects all permitted vehicles annually, and issues permit decals to each vehicle.

For information about applying for a permit, the ordinance changes and operating standards, visit [cchealth.org/eh/solid-waste/non-franchise-permit.php](http://cchealth.org/eh/solid-waste/non-franchise-permit.php).

## A Day in the Life of an MVSD Board of Directors Member

In past editions of the *Mt. View Monitor* we've introduced you to some of the leadership that guides the District. In this edition, we want to provide you with a glimpse into a day in the life of our Board of Directors. As an independent public agency, MVSD is governed by a five-person Board of Directors. The Directors are elected from the District's service area and serve a four year term. The next Board election will be held in November 2018 when two Board seats will be filled.

District Directors are responsible for directing and evaluating District Policy. This obligation requires that Directors stay abreast of current wastewater treatment requirements, which, as you can imagine, means reviewing lots of technical documents before monthly Board meetings. Board members also are expected to prepare for and attend a number of Special Board meetings each year, as well as the annual February Strategic Planning Session. At the Strategic Planning Session, Directors and staff review the District Strategic Plan to

evaluate the progress made during the prior year and identify any needed updates.

Additionally, Directors attend regular standing committee and Ad Hoc committee meetings and are expected to provide direction. Standing committees meet and review District functions and activities related to the operations of the District. MVSD's Ad Hoc committee consists of two Board members selected during a Regular Board meeting, who meet with District Staff and Consulting firms to discuss and provide recommendation to the Board regarding specific items not covered by the standing committees. All of these meetings require hours of preparation by Directors so they can provide the necessary guidance to District staff on key operational issues.

In addition to the responsibilities described above, as elected officials, Board Members often serve as the face of MVSD to the community and are happy to do so. The next time you meet one of your Directors at the local market or a community event, feel free to ask them questions about the service you receive from MVSD!

## Meet the New Faces at MVSD!

MVSD is pleased to announce the arrival and promotion of two staff members whose roles are crucial to ensuring that the District's day to day operations run smoothly. For the first time in its 95 year history, the District has hired a full time District Engineer.

Chris Elliott has joined the District to fill this important role. The District previously relied on consultants to provide this expertise. Chris previously served as Associate Engineer at Union Sanitary District. In his new role at MVSD, Chris is responsible for overseeing all the activities of the Engineering Department.

"I really enjoy the day to day challenges presented by working in a smaller district. Plus, the marshes and wildlife that surrounds the Plant provide a daily reminder of the importance of our work-keeping water clean and improving our environment!" said Elliott. In his spare time Chris enjoys family time, home improvements and, tending a home garden and orchard.



Chris Elliott(left) and Jeff Greer (right) are excited to be filling their new roles at MVSD.

Jeff Greer has assumed the role of Wastewater Operations Supervisor. He joined the District in 2015 as an Operator and has steadily advanced to his new role as Wastewater Operations Supervisor, with responsibility for overseeing the operations, plant maintenance and collections system work. "I love that I wear many different hats during the work day- it makes every day interesting and fulfilling," said Greer. In his spare time Jeff likes to work on classic cars, ride his mountain bike, and play with his 5 year old son.

## Collection System Rehabilitation Project Underway



Please remember to slow for our work crews when driving through the construction zone.

MVSD will be starting an important collection system rehabilitation project as part of its ongoing efforts to maintain the collection and treatment system that helps protect the public health and environment. The District has awarded part one of a two part Collection System Rehabilitation project to Kerex Engineering. This \$352,300 project is expected to begin in May. The scope of the work calls for spot repairs of sagging pipes, offset joints and root intrusion throughout the oldest sections of the District. Residents who may be affected by these repairs will be notified by the contractor in advance of the work. MVSD asks that residents please keep the safety of working crews in mind while driving through the construction zones.



**MT. VIEW SANITARY DISTRICT**  
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## May is American Wetlands Month

American Wetlands Month was created to celebrate the vital importance of wetlands and to educate the public about these valuable natural resources. The Peyton Slough Marsh Complex, which includes McNabney and Moorhen Marshes, is enhanced by treated MVSD effluent, resulting in an ecosystem that is rich and diverse in wildlife. The wetlands are an important stop along the Pacific Flyway for many migratory bird species, who use the wetlands as foraging habitat.



Keep an eye out for our billboard celebrating Wetlands Month on I-680 during the month of May.

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
MARTINEZ, CA  
PERMIT NO. 45



Mexican Free-tailed Bat. The Mexican Free-tailed bat can reach speeds of 60 mph! (photo courtesy of USFWS).

## Meet the Mexican Free-tailed Bat!

Northern California is home to 17 bat species. One of the most common is the Mexican free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*). This half-ounce flying acrobat has a 12-inch wingspan and can reach speeds of approximately 60 mph. Females give birth to a single pup in early summer. Pregnant or nursing bats are voracious feeders and will eat more than two-thirds of their body weight in insects every night!

This species is known to roost in enormous colonies. The largest is at Bracken Cave in Texas, with an estimated 20 million individuals. One of the biggest California colonies is found at the Yolo Causeway on I-80 that connects the cities of Davis and Sacramento. The causeway and associated wetlands provides habitat for 250,000 bats and the colony is still growing. Learn more about these amazing mammals at the June 10th Bat Chat!



If you would like to receive an electronic version of the *Mt. View Monitor* in your e-mail, please visit [www.mvsd.org](http://www.mvsd.org) to sign up.

For a sewer emergency 24/7:  
Call (925)228-5635



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