

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR OPERATIONS OWNERS AND OPERATORS OF AGRICULTURAL PROPERTIES AND/OR NURSERY OPERATIONS

The San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) is the state regulatory agency responsible for protecting surface and groundwater within the 3,900 square mile area that forms the San Diego Basin. On October 10, 2007 the Regional Board adopted Conditional Waiver #4 for Discharges from Agricultural and Nursery Operations (Order No. R4-2007-0104). Conditional Waiver #4 specifies detailed regulatory requirements that must be observed by all agricultural properties and nursery operations in the San Diego Region that employ irrigation. Owners and operators who do not enroll under the Waiver or otherwise fail to comply with Waiver conditions are subject to enforcement action including monetary penalties from the Regional Board.

The major requirements of Conditional Waiver #4 are as follows:

- Submit a Notice of Intent to enroll under Conditional Waiver #4
- Submit a Monitoring and Reporting Plan and Quality Assurance / Quality Control Plan for testing of site-related discharges
- Conduct water quality monitoring
- Submit a monitoring report
- Implement any necessary measures (Best Management Practices or BMP's) to minimize or eliminate the discharge of pollutants

The Regional Board and the following agencies, Mission Resource Conservation District (MRCD) www.missionrcd.org/ and University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) www.ucanr.edu/sites/agwaterquality/ will provide assistance and education in determining what BMP's can be applied to reduce sources of erosion and pollution and control discharges from properties.

A critical feature of the waiver process is the decision to participate in the required monitoring program as an individual operator or as a member of a monitoring group. In nearly all instances, it would be in the best interest of all owners and operators to consider joining a monitoring group to share the cost of the required monitoring.

For more information on Conditional Waiver #4 please contact Dat Quach, Irrigated Lands Program Project Manager (619) 521-5899 or email Dquatch@waterboards.ca.gov or visit the Regional Board website at www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/irrigated_lands/irrigated_ag.shtml.

Rainbow Municipal Water District (RMWD), from direction of the RMWD Board of Directors (Directors) has formed a monitoring group. RMWD is in the process of forming a Limited Liability Corporation (LLC) for the monitoring group to have separate accounting and liabilities from RMWD. The monitoring group will be known as the North County Irrigated Lands Group (NCILG). The one-time set up costs to be a member of the NCILG will not exceed \$250 per irrigated acre with a maximum cost of \$1250. Costs could be lower as the NCILG obtains more participants.

Information on the NCILG will be posted and updated periodically on the RMWD website www.rainbowmwd.com/

If you submitted an application in 2010 or 2011, you are still a member of the monitoring group. To join the NCILG you will need to fill out an application. E-mail Chuck Sneed at csneed@rainbowmwd.com with your name and contact information or call RMWD Customer Service at (760) 728-1178.

CUSTOMER SERVICE IS MOVING

**RAINBOW
MUNICIPAL
WATER
DISTRICT**

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**2013
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Due to delays in construction and upcoming holidays, the Rainbow MWD Customer Service Department will start the process of transitioning its move to the Fallbrook Public Utility District during the month of December.

In December, the Fallbrook PUD location will provide full customer services during the hours of 8:00 am-5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Fallbrook Public Utility District offices are located at 990 E. Mission Rd., Fallbrook, CA.

Rainbow MWD will continue to provide customer services at the Hwy 395 location for a transitional period of time.

WINTER HOURS FOR RAINBOW OFFICE

**November - December
Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm**



BECK RESERVOIR PROJECT UPDATE

Located near the center of the District, Beck reservoir provides RMWD customers with 204 million gallons of treated water storage. Without Beck in service, the District lacks the total emergency storage needed to provide reliable service to our customers during an outage of the San Diego County Water Authority aqueduct or a natural disaster.

In 2012, the District was forced to take Beck temporarily out of service due to non-compliance with an Environmental Protection Agency water treatment regulation. To be in compliance, Beck reservoir must either be covered or facilities must be installed to provide disinfection treatment. The District has completed studies regarding the best long-term use for the reservoir in order to comply with these requirements. Based on additional analysis, it was determined that installing Ultraviolet Disinfection at Beck Reservoir was the best approach for the District to retain the emergency storage provided by the reservoir. The California Department of Public Health granted conditional approval for a UV Disinfection Facility and RMWD has selected a design team.

Over the next several months, the District's engineering staff will be working closely with the outside design team to develop project options. At the same time the District plans to establish an advisory committee to solicit neighborhood input regarding project construction and final esthetics.

