

From: mprice@the-acorn.com
To: [Board Comment](#)
Subject: From a nervous customer
Date: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 8:17:46 PM

Dear Marin Water Board,

I am getting quite nervous since as a county we are not counting back our water use as you have suggested. I would recommend that you look at tactics being used by water boards that have been successful in getting their residents to cut back an appropriate amount of water and use those same tactics in Marin. We are all in this together and we all have to contribute but if voluntary measures are not working, we need more regulations that have to be followed.

Thank you for considering my request.

Marilyn Price
Mill Valley

From: [Enrique Goldenberg](#)
To: [Board Comment](#)
Subject: Current water shortage
Date: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 5:26:20 PM

Comment

Appreciate that the MMWD understand what the population of Marin is going through and has decided to publicly inform what are the plans, studies and solutions to a problem I have personally experienced since my family and I move to Marin more than 50 years ago. All Marin residents are eager to understand why, in the richest country in the world and in one of the richest counties, with any technology available to us, we have to endure this long recurrent problem. You have a big staff of engineers and other technical personnel that should have been working full time solving this situation.

Lastly, a webinar has been suggested by MMWD to address the water shortage. I would like to know why we have to wait more than two weeks to have the first webinar. If you really had been working on solving the situation, instead of relying only on conservation, you should have had something to talk to us in a couple of days, not weeks.

Submitted by:
Enrique Goldenberg PE

From: [Sunrise Movement Marin](#)
To: [Board Comment](#)
Subject: Concrete action on Marin's drought
Date: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 9:16:17 PM

Dear Board of Directors,

As you know, drought dominates everyday life in Marin now. July 2021 was the driest time in the last 127 years of the county's history, and our reservoirs are at their lowest capacity in 40 years, when capacity was expanded. Every action we take day to day is calibrated based on how much water it will use.

Although we're amazed by your water-saving tips and rebates and programs, we are set to run out of water in the next year. We are down to our last drops, and it is time for concrete action. I would like to see strict ordinances put in place for water use, and the widespread employment of new water saving technologies, such as the collection and storage of rainwater, and greater graywater reuse programs. We would like the banning of irrigation of lawns, and more enforcement and transparency about enforcement of water use restrictions.

Looking forward to working together as a community to save water.

Best,
Hayley Ballard

From: [Andrea Taylor](#)
To: [Board Comment](#)
Subject: Water ordinances
Date: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 8:50:10 PM

Hi there,

I am a landscaper in Marin that practices permaculture and have to say that MMWD is doing an exceptionally poor job at protecting the little water we have less.

We need strong ordinances with teeth. Fine them and fine them a lot. But give everyone a real target number per household, per person, and make it obvious each bill that they have or have not met the target goal.

Fine them and fine them often. I work for multimillionaires that scoff at the threats and are ready to pay the oooh \$250 fine. After a warning. And the water will be gone before they even get through that process.

Make clear this water may run out next year. What does that mean? What the hell does that really mean? PAINT THE PICTURE and make it real. Animate it.

Offer real solutions not just suggestions that they don't water during the day and have hose sprayers on. OMG.

Give us rebates and support on water BARRELS and catchment systems off the roof. Laundry to garden is SO limited. I know that the kind of garden you can have in laundry water is not the kind of garden I want. I can't grow tomatoes, lettuce and beans. I can't grow certain flowering plants.

Give us ROOF CATCHMENT SYSTEMS, from gutter to cisterns. Look at Australia, the tropics for examples. We are going to go into the Third World practices without any abilities to deal at all, which means the wealthy will buy water and the poor will suffer.

Support landscapers that do permaculture. We do swales, we do soil regeneration so the water stays on the land.

Understand that when the fire suppression people have residents scrap their hills down to dirt that when the atmospheric river shows up overhead for 2 hrs, that hill will be ruined, no water caught and sent underground, so the aquifers remain depleted. Landscape practices that hold water on the land must be taught.

Make running water walk, and walking water sleep.

Andrea

From: [Emily McFarland](#)
To: [Public Information](#); [Terrie Gillen](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Jack Gibson](#); [Larry Bragman](#); [Cynthia Koehler](#); [Larry Russell](#); [Customer Service](#); [Water Conservation](#); [Emma Detwiler](#)
Subject: motivating people to conserve water
Date: Monday, September 13, 2021 12:00:56 PM

Hello,

I know that you all have an incredibly difficult task before you right now under such extraordinary circumstances with the drought. My family has been working hard to conserve water these past 8 months. We purchased a new home in January and have done no landscaping as we wait to see how things unfold among other efforts. The redwood tree in our yard has lost half of its leaves in the last few months.

After seeing two recent articles in the Marin IJ we are losing any motivation to conserve. If the limited number of people who play golf are able to use the millions of gallons the golf courses in Marin require and if you are only now contemplating fining people who use excessive amounts ... then we feel our sacrifice is completely uneven. It appears that you are taking a long time to enact measures that should be in place now.

Until water is limited to a set amount based on the number of people/animals in a household; the golf courses can no longer use reservoir water; and fines are replaced with a better system (they mean very little to some of Marin's wealth residents) we feel no motivation to conserve and watch our redwood tree suffer as our sacrifice feels like it's only allowing others to consume more than is fair.

Please consider policies that more evenly distribute the drought burden to all.

Thank you.

Emily McFarland
Fairfax, CA

From: roylatka@gmail.com
To: [Jack Gibson](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Larry Bragman](#); [Cynthia Koehler](#); [Larry Russell](#)
Cc: [Roy Latka](#)
Subject: Drought: Key votes near for Marin emergency water pipeline
Date: Thursday, September 9, 2021 9:10:06 AM

To the Board of the MMWD: Below is a letter I wrote to Will Houston, of the Independent Journal, in response to his article. I would add that the only possible long-term solution to the water shortage in Marin County is desalinization!! The existing supply is finite, unreliable, not going to increase in relationship to the Counties growth and denies the impact of climate change. Conservation is well intended but it is not a plan for the growing needs of the County and the certain dwindling future supply.

THE PIPELINE IS A WASTE OF RESOURCES THAT COULD BE USED TO BEGIN FUNDING A DESALINIZATION FACILITY AND IT IS AN IMMORAL TEMPORARY SOLUTION THAT STEELS WATER AND JOBS FROM THE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY FOR WEALTHY MARINITES.

San Diego did it as proclaimed below from their website:

“We make clean, safe water from a drought-proof source - the ocean

The Claude “Bud” Lewis Carlsbad Desalination Plant is the largest, most technologically advanced and energy-efficient seawater desalination plant in the nation. Each day, the plant delivers nearly 50 million gallons (56,000 acre-feet per year (AFY)) of fresh, desalinated water to San Diego County – enough to serve approximately 400,000 people and accounting for about one-third of all water generated in the County.”

Hi Will: (whouston@marinij.com)

Read your article titled above in the IJ this morning. Thank you for the excellent summary of our NO-WIN situation regarding water for Marin county. My wife and I have lived in San Anselmo for the past 22 years. I lived in Tiburon from 1968 to 71 after returning from my army service in VN to practice architecture in SF. My first wife and our two children lived in SF during the 1976 – 77 drought and know how hard it is to raise two diaper-age kids on 45 gallons of water a day!!!!

WE HAVE SUFFERED THROUGH THE COUNTY AGENCIES NEGLECT TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE WATER SINCE I FIRST LIVED IN THE COUNTY IN 1968!! THE ISSUE IS ALWAYS THE MONEY IN THE WEALTHIEST COUNTY IN THE COUNTRY WHEN IT SHOULD NOT BE FOR SOMETHING AS ESSENTIAL AS DEPENDABLE WATER.

The MMWD AND THE OTHER DISTRICTS have been irresponsible and have ignored the responsibilities given to them for the delivery of water to the residents of Marin County. Their failed responsibilities in my view are:

1. Provide adequate and reliable water to all businesses and residences.
2. Plan for the fluctuation of our natural water resources and develop reliable reserves for drought years.
3. Plan for the impacts of Climate Change that have been acknowledged by Science for decades.
4. Plan for the growth of the County population and businesses.
5. Accept and plan for the State mandated additional housing units required by law.

The Residents' and Businesses' responsibilities are:

1. Pay for the water we use on a graduated rate scale that insures all income levels pay their fair share for the volume of water they use.

The only way possible to achieve the above responsibilities is to develop water desalination facilities adequate to meet the present and future needs. Stealing water from the Valley agricultural industry is immoral and bad business as it eliminates both critical jobs and vital food sources for a growing population. Expecting people to continue to buy Marin property without dependable water supplies is not realistic.

WITHOUT DEPENDABLE WATER, THE MEDIAN PRESENT VALUE OF \$1.8 MILLION FOR A MARIN HOME IS NONSENSE!!! Who will continue to buy Marin without a dependable water supply? Houses in Marin will become worthless without a dependable future water supply and my guess is that sooner than later lenders will stop financing Marin houses and businesses as that is not a sound business practice.

Roy Latka
roylatka@gmail.com

From: [Ray Taylor](#)
To: [Monty Schmitt](#); [Cynthia Koehler](#); JCGibson@marinwater.org; [Larry Bragman](#); [Larry Russell](#); [Larry Russell](#)
Subject: Water distribution
Date: Saturday, September 11, 2021 11:16:14 AM

Good morning. Last night, I hoped you were viewing the Bill Maher show on HBO. In his closing monologue, “New Rules”, he articulately laid out the logic, practicality and need for building pipelines to distribute fresh water from places of abundance, the Northwest and East, to places of drought, our West.

Judging by letters to the editors of various newspapers and other media, this solution to our growing and very probable permanent problem is dawning on many. There are no cheap and easy solutions, so it’s time to bite the bullet. I suggest we start by developing a pipeline from the Columbia River area to Lake Shasta as I outlined in my earlier message to President Koehler.

Respectfully,
Ray Taylor
6027 Shelter Bay Ave.
Mill Valley, CA 94949

From: [Bob Rigler](#)
To: [Cynthia Koehler](#)
Subject: Marin Water
Date: Wednesday, September 15, 2021 4:16:45 PM

Dear Director,

We live at 148 Sycamore Avenue, Mill Valley. We feel it is your duty to take immediate action to provide water to your customers, now and in the future.

We feel desalination AND the pipeline should be instituted in tandem to insure a future water supply. Please do not wait. Do not waste money on consultants. Pull out the old studies from the 1970s and PROCEED.

SINCERELY,

Bob and Bobbe Rigler

From: [Gregory Dyer](#)
To: [Cynthia Koehler](#)
Subject: Water
Date: Wednesday, September 15, 2021 11:18:09 AM

Dear Ms. Koehler.

I continue to be both surprised and very unhappy that MMWD has been so slow in getting a pipeline built and/or some other types of water supply.

Many of us, myself included, have been diligently conserving and reducing our water consumption for many years.

To tell us again and again that we have to conserve more, is unfair and unrealistic.

I lived through the 1976/1977 drought. We had a drought just 2 or 2 years ago. We are going to have another drought after this one.

I have paid for insurance for decades that I have never used. Does that mean I didn't need it ?

Yesterday I read in the IJ that the MMWD Board was hesitating to fund the pipeline because "we might not need it if rains come this winter". This absolutely astonished me.

Frankly, the pipeline should have already been built.

Sincerely

Greg Dyer
Mill Valley

From: [Ocean Michelle Nagle](#)
To: [Public Information](#); [Engineering Services](#); [Water Conservation](#); [Cynthia Koehler](#); [Larry Russell](#)
Subject: Recycled water
Date: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 8:55:18 PM

Hello Marin Water,

I appreciate what you all are doing to help folks conserve water.

I learned that there are a lot of sites in Marin County that use recycled water, which I understand that to be treated sewer water.

I am in favor of being intelligent with resources, in terms of recycling water, and have concerns about the long term ramifications of the contaminants that are still present after sewer water is treated.

Numerous studies found pharmaceutical drugs still present in treated water, among other things.

The article below was of particular interest to me since it involves EBMUD and our precious Bay. I think we need to be doing a lot more to change our lifestyles and being even more in touch with and in tune with how we are affecting the Earth, bodies of water, each other and the critters that roam these lands.

All the best to you,
Michelle Nagle
Somatic Therapist
San Rafael

<https://www.ewg.org/research/down-drain>

Environmental Working Group (EWG) and East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) researchers analyzed samples of wastewater from residential, commercial, and industrial sites in the San Francisco Bay Area. 18 of 19 wastewater samples examined contained at least 1 of 3 unregulated, widely-used hormone disruptors – phthalates, bisphenol A, and triclosan; 2 samples contained all 3 substances.

From: [Susan Gahry](#)
To: [Jack Gibson](#)
Subject: Recycled Water Station
Date: Thursday, September 9, 2021 2:06:18 PM

Love this new feature but it would be great if it was open on the weekend. My husband works and cannot go on the days it is open so as a-work at home, I have to do the filling. He is much better at this kind of stuff. It would also be nicer to have it open earlier than 10. After noon, it gets too hot to fill and/ or water.

Best regards,

Susan Gahry
415 499 8051
Sent from my iPad

From: [Jes Richardson](#)
To: [Board Comment](#)
Subject: Climate Change
Date: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 8:23:45 PM

To whom this may concern:

Please listen to our young people, especially those in the local Marin group, the “Sunrise Movement”! They will be inheriting our ecological errors and we need to do what we can to support them.

Thank you!

Jes Richardson

From: [Alizee Colmant](#)
To: [Board Comment](#)
Subject: Marin County is in a severe drought!
Date: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 8:43:11 PM

Hello MMWD,

My name is Alizée and I am a Junior at San Domenico school. I am a part of the Climate Hub, a group of environmental activists. I am writing this email in concern of Marin County's severe drought (as I am sure you are aware of).

One point I wanted to highlight is that **our situation will only get worse!! We can shove this problem into the back of our closets but this drought is not going away!**
Implicating and enforcing stricter restrictions are extremely important!

50% of Marin's 300 cropland has been left bare due to extremely low water levels! This is causing ranchers to **import grain for their livestock!**

We are expected to get very very low rainfall levels this upcoming winter again and our reservoir levels are **the lowest that they have been in the last 40 years!!**

There are so many points I could touch on and so many devastating facts I could share with you in this email but action needs to take place immediately! Marin County is expected to run out of water!

This problem will only get worse with time! Acting now will save Marin County from a HUGE drought disaster! Acting now will save our precious Marin County hills and help us set aside water for life-threatening problems such as California's wildfires!

Act now! Make the change! Be the change! This is serious! Droughts are not a problem to act on at the last minute, Marin County could be devastated economically!

Thank you so so much for your time in reading this email and I sincerely hope the change will come soon!

Thank you so much and I look forward to hearing from you and seeing the change.

Thank you,
Alizée

From: [Benton Carroll](#)
To: [Board Comment](#)
Subject: Water Conservation
Date: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 8:21:54 PM
Attachments: [F9919E39-7AA1-4C44-AA66-399ED354D52E.png](#)

Please see attachment. I am a member of the Sunrise Movement Marin Hub and as part of our most recent meeting we discussed drought and water conservation in Marin County. The attachment shows a list of facts related to drought in Marin and arguments for more action on the part of MMWD to increase water conservation.

Sincerely,
Benton Carroll

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Benton Carroll

Talking Points to Use in MMWD email

FACTS:

- July 2021 driest time in the last 127 years of county history, and 2021 is the 4th driest consecutive year
- NIDIS' long-term drought indicator has us remaining in exceptional drought
- The seasonal forecast is that drought will persist in Marin
- Marin was just added to a drought emergency list by Governor Newsom in July 2021
- Marin's reservoir storage levels are the lowest they have been in the last 40 years (since capacity was expanded)
- NOAA says 70% chance that November 2021- January 2022 will be another La Niña winter, which means continued low rainfall
- 150 acres, or 50% of Marin's 300 acres of cropland have been fallowed (left bare) and ranchers have had to import grain for livestock

ARGUMENTS:

- Lack of water beginning to negatively impact local economy (farmers and ranchers)
- Stricter restrictions are necessary since we are going to get very low rainfall again this coming winter
- Our situation will only become worse if we do not take stronger action as the exceptional drought is set to continue

From: [Cecilia Osborn](#)
To: [Board Comment](#)
Subject: Not Enough Action
Date: Friday, September 10, 2021 10:48:18 PM

Hello Marin Municipal Water District,

I am a high school student living in Marin and I am frankly quite scared about the future of Marin let alone California. July 2021 was the driest time in the last 127 years of county history and 2021 is also the 4th driest consecutive year. MMWD is simply not taking enough action to conserve water that will potentially be gone in a year with the rate of our rainfall.

All I ask is that you do some research or compare our progression to other areas that have figured out productive ways to use water, and follow their example not only for the sake of Marin, but to be a leader for other countries as well.

Let's take action and understand the urgency of our situation!

- Ceci