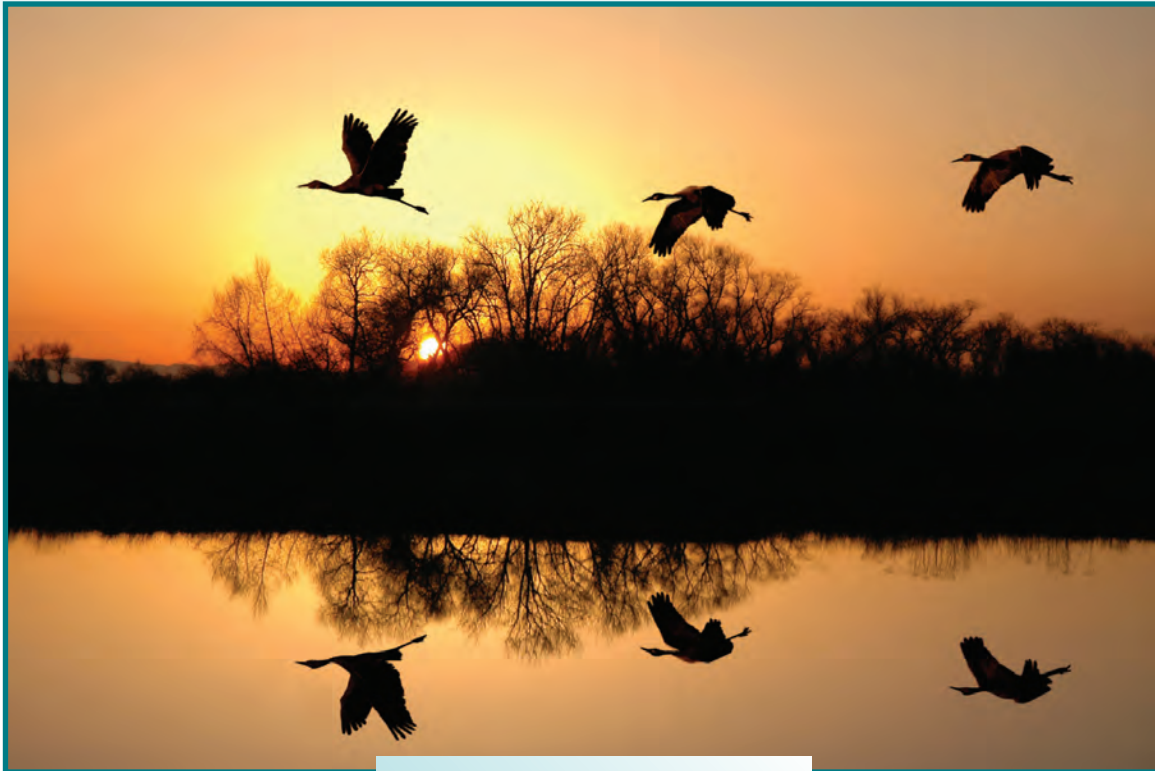


P.O. Box 4857
Stockton, CA 95204

Reclamation District 1608

August 2012



Dear Homeowners and Businesses:

First, thank you for your help in keeping our levees clean and safe. It requires the commitment and cooperation of each property owner and resident of the District, and your efforts are appreciated.

You may have seen some recent media publicity following a survey that measured awareness of flood dangers in the San Joaquin Delta region. Survey results showed that a large number of people are not aware of the likelihood of flooding throughout the year, not just in the wet season. We live in an area surrounded by water and protected by levees, and constant vigilance is required by each of us to appropriately and safely maintain our levees.

Please review the information on the reverse side of this newsletter. Your safety and the safety of our District

CONTACT INFORMATION



DISTRICT TRUSTEES
Michael Panzer, D.D.S., President
Drew Meyers
Brett L. Tholborn, C.P.A.

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT/
HOTLINE
Joe Bryson (209) 298-3307

ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT
Dan Schroeder (209) 948-8200

CONSULTING ENGINEERS
Johnnie Mack
(916) 436-6050
HDR Engineering, Inc.

neighborhoods are dependent on our attention to maintaining a strong levee system. Also, feel free to contact our District Superintendent for clarification on any of these items.

Sincerely,

*Board of Trustees
Reclamation District 1608*

**Thank you for your efforts in keeping
our levees safe and well maintained.**

Permits for Planting...and More

Any work on your property on or near the levee requires an encroachment permit. Please call Joe Bryson, District Superintendent, before planting or building to ensure that you are aware of the permit process and requirements. When requesting a permit for planting, be very specific and provide the number and type of plants, shrubs, or trees you wish to plant. For instance, a rose is not just a rose, but comes in many varieties that may affect the environment where grown. Also, please take into consideration the eventual growth of the plants, shrubs, or trees. Also, if you are considering any type of construction within the district easement or property line, you must obtain a permit. Construction examples include adding to your fences, a swimming pool, steps on the levee, anything encroaching on easement-line, and more. Your permit request must also include a schematic of the planned improvements.

Looking for Leaks

Please remember the requirement for homeowners to maintain visibility from the top of the levee to the levee toe. Mr. Bryson, who performs regular and frequent inspections of the levees, must be able to see clearly all the way down to the toe for any problems while he drives on the top of the levee. And, remember that



vegetation and structures on the levee are prohibited without a permit from the District. If you have a permit, the vegetation must be trimmed off of the ground for visibility.



Good Riddance to Rodents

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we are experiencing an increase in displaced rodents from the Interstate 5 construction project. Gophers, squirrels, and other pesky rodents endanger the integrity of our levees. Be observant. Call our District Superintendent immediately if you spot these destructive mammals on our levees.

Stay Off the Slopes

No unpermitted building or planting is allowed on or within four feet of the levee slopes (shoulders) in those sections of the levee where planting may be permitted. The levee shoulders must be kept clean and clear of vegetation and unauthorized items or other construction.



No Lawns on Levee Crowns

Our levee roadways are designed, and must be designed, for maintenance and flood protection, not for aesthetics. The importance of having an all-weather road surface throughout our entire levee system is paramount to the safety of our residents. The District is endeavoring to replace any and all lawns on levee crowns, with pre-approved rock.

Joe's Maintenance Minders

Maintaining our levees is a daily task for your Board of Directors, District Superintendent Joe Bryson, and our residents. You can help:

- The levee is not a playground. Please prohibit children (and adults!) from playing on the levees and from throwing rocks in the area.
- Please discourage bicycling or skateboarding on our levees.
- Throwing trash from your backyard onto the levees creates dangerous conditions and attracts scavenging seagulls and rodents.
- Please report any stolen or damaged signs to Joe.
- Remove any and all unpermitted wood steps from the levees.
- Do not install trampolines and other large items next to a levee without a permit granted by the District. Contact Joe to apply for a permit.
- If you see a bonfire on the levee, call Joe immediately. Bonfires destroy the geosynthetic mats under the rocks, and subsequently damage the underlying levee structure.
- Please keep plastic off the levees.

Questions? Comments?

Feel free to call the District Hotline at (209) 298-3307 with any questions or comments, or attend the board meetings. Board meetings are held the first Friday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at the offices of Neumiller & Beardslee, 509 West Weber Avenue, 5th Floor, Stockton. An opportunity for public comment is offered at each board meeting.