

P.O. Box 4857
Stockton, CA 95204

Reclamation District 1608

September 2015

Dear Homeowners and Businesses:

You are appreciated every day for your help in keeping our levees clean and safe. The safety of our Reclamation District neighborhoods depends upon the commitment and cooperation of each property owner and resident, and your individual efforts contribute to your safety and the safety of all.

As stated in a previous newsletter, a levee is a living organism that expands and contracts with rain and drought. Both weather conditions are stressors. Our area has experienced extreme drought this year, and weather forecasters are cautioning that we must now anticipate a potential El Nino storm or storms. We must be prepared.

Please join us in welcoming the new Consulting Engineer for our District—Christopher Neudeck. As you can see from the accompanying article, Chris has worked at Kjeldsen, Sinnock & Neudeck, a local engineering firm, since 1982 and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the District. Feel free to call him or District Superintendent Joe Bryson to report your observations on levee conditions or with any other comments or questions.

Sincerely,
Board of Trustees
Reclamation District 1608

[WWW.RD1608.COM](http://www.RD1608.COM)

The District's website is active and available to you. At www.RD1608.com, you will find the district's newsletters; agendas and minutes of board meetings; the District Engineer's and the District Superintendent's reports; and levee encroachment standards and permit application information. You will also find a listing of the current board members, a district map, and information on how to contact the district.

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

Christopher H. Neudeck, P.E.

District Engineer Chris Neudeck has extensive experience in the field of civil engineering, focusing on the planning, design, and construction of a wide variety of water resource- and public works-related projects. As a principal in the firm of Kjeldsen, Sinnock & Neudeck, Inc. since 1989, Chris is responsible for planning, designing, estimating, contracting, and managing projects undertaken by the firm. His background provides him the expertise and capability of handling all phases of project development, from the initial planning stages through the operation of the completed project.



Revised Emergency Response Plans

The District is currently revising and enhancing its Emergency Response Plan which is one of the most prominent in this region. The Plan is of particular interest at this time, given the El Nino conditions anticipated by weather forecasters. When complete, the Plan will be posted on the District's website.

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
Christopher H. Neudeck
(209) 946-0268
Kjeldsen, Sinnock & Neudeck

Permits on Levee Lots Are a Requisite

Permits for planting. Permits for construction. Permits for large pieces of play equipment. Permits first!

Living on property with a levee on or immediately adjacent to it requires that you first apply for an encroachment permit before you begin any work within the levee area. Be sure to review the permit requirements and process for every project set forth in the District's Levee Encroachment Standards available on the website. Be very specific as to exactly what kind of plants, shrubs, or trees you plan for. The eventual growth of any plants, shrubs, or trees must be considered, also.

If you are considering any type of construction within the district easement or property line, you must first obtain a permit. Replacing an existing fence is one example of construction work that requires a permit. Be sure to include a schematic of the planned improvements in your permit request. Joe Bryson, RD 1608 District Superintendent, can help guide you through the permit process. If you live on a district levee, please send your email address to Joe Bryson at joebryson@gmail.com.

District Do's and Don'ts

- Do consider purchasing flood insurance.
- Do report any stolen or damaged signs to Joe.
- Do report any forms of vandalism.
- Do call Joe Bryson at (209) 298-3307 if you see any bonfires on the levee.
- Do call Joe immediately if you spot gophers, squirrels, and other rodents on the levees.
- Do discourage children (and adults!) from playing on the levees.
- Don't move any of the rocks.
- Don't allow your trees to overhang the fence onto the levee.
- Don't bicycle or skateboard on the levees except in Grupe Park.
- Don't throw trash from your backyard onto the levees. It's unsightly; and even more important, trash creates dangerous conditions and attracts scavenging seagulls and destructive rodents.
- Do pick up any plastic. Plastic is particularly destructive.

Questions? Comments?

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

