

MEETING MINUTES

Monterey County Greywater Working Group

Thursday, May 28, 2009

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Monterey County Business Council – Conference Room

1732 Fremont Blvd, 2nd floor

Seaside, CA



1:30 PM

Attendees:

Terry Black, Brac Systems and H2-O Mizer
Annette Chaplin, Sustainable PG
Kay Cline, Sustainable Seaside
Mike Dawson, President AMAP, Member at Large SAC
Regina Doyle, MPWMD, Director District 4
Oona Gabersek, BFS Landscape Architecture
Kim Ha, Monterey County Business Council
Tom Hood, Thomas B. Hood Architecture
Bryce Kantz, CSUMB undergrad, Class of '09
John Kuehl, City of Monterey
Stephanie Pintar, MPWMD
Richard Rudisill, RCA Enterprises
Patrick Teffrey, Monterey County EHS
Roger Van Horn, Monterey County EHS
Michael Waxer, Carmel Development

Subcommittee Updates and Action Items:

- Education – Kim Ha
 - Catherine, Stephanie, Sarah, Kim met to plan deliverables:
 - Develop tri-fold brochure on rainwater catchment for public outreach this summer in preparation for water rate hikes – what is possible, what are best practices
 - Kim passed around examples from SF PUC / Dept of Public Health / Dept of Bldg Inspection: 1) double-sided tri-fold on rainwater harvesting, and 2) one-page brochure on how to install a rain barrel.
 - Per suggestion of committee, Kim e-mailed SFWater.org program manager to obtain templates and waiting to hear back.
 - Ensure proper graphics used (ie., SFWater.org's brochure had cartoon that looked like person was watering neighbor's lawn). Cartoons are simpler and easier to understand than detailed photographs.
 - Develop Web site to link to resources, showcase pilot projects, and include FAQs.
 - Get pictures, track project from start to finish giving real examples.
 - Possibly provide catchment calculator and irrigation calculator.
 - Develop PPT presentation to put on Web site and also to allow other organizations to use for public outreach on rainwater catchment and greywater in Mo. County.
 - Ask other organizations to get involved? NOAA? Stormwater groups?

- “Urban Water Reuse” is the primary focus of the public outreach.
- Jurisdictional / Regulatory / Permitting – John Kuehl
 - John reported that the subcommittee had discussions via e-mail.
 - Greywater draft provided by Mary Anne Dennis at last meeting.
 - o Need to give feedback to her and Richard LeWarne.
 - o Mo Co EHS is jurisdiction of authority for all of Monterey County (MOUs with cities in process).
 - o Kim to distribute draft to rest of working group – will not post to Web site for public access since it’s only a draft document.
 - Catchment water
 - o Building officials talked about this topic last Thursday (ICC meets the 3rd Thursdays) and it is a tri-county discussion.
 - o Monterey is a huge county, have large parcels with people who get “creative.”
 - o From permitting standpoint, building code allows provision for < 5K gallons water tank without need for building permit. If code doesn’t specify permitting requirement, then need to create code which is a process in itself.
 - o At this point in time, requiring permit for catchment system is not advisable.
 - o What is accepted standard for catchment systems from a recognized agency? Look to the innovation / design / tech group to get examples and provide best practices.
 - o Jan 2011 is next round of building code updates (July 2010 new building codes, then jurisdictions have 6 mos to implement). Don’t have authority to require permits at this time; if need to do this, then put it into 2011 code changes.
 - o Want to understand permitting threshold – when is permit required, when is it not required? For example, if storage tanks with pump, then requires permit for electrical code compliance. Also, just because you don’t need a permit doesn’t mean you can break planning or zoning rules.
 - o Discussion about rainwater catchment systems that do not require permits:
 - No connection to potable water
 - < 5,000 gallons (rain barrels typically 55 gals, cisterns typically < 5K gals)
 - X distance if have septic tanks
 - For outdoor irrigation
 - For use within property
 - NOT toilet flushing (require cross connections, residential check valves) nor stormwater run-off (pavement has surface contaminants that need treatment)
 - Perhaps provide diagram of water sources (rooftops), how to capture (types of storage), and where to use (irrigation).
- Innovation, Design and New Technologies – Mike Dawson:
 - Mike reported that the subcommittee had discussions via e-mail and will meet soon.
 - Mike provided Oona’s suggestion of what this subcommittee’s goals are: “As part of the innovation group it would be great to research and catalog greywater and rainwater harvesting techniques as well as local suppliers. I think it would be important to stay on top of what is available for our area and what local projects have been successfully completed. We could create a resource as one of the results of our innovation group. Based on our research it would also be up to our group to be proactive and recommend new techniques/products to the Greywater Workgroup committee.”
 - Discussion about working with manufacturers to donate materials for some of the pilot projects – helps to advertise where people can get supplies locally and what products are available. Ask MAL to help solicit support / donations from businesses in area.
 - Look for case studies under alternate means of construction, such as PG Natural Museum project. Building officials willing to work with subcommittee to look at pilot projects. Send Mike ideas / projects for subcommittee to vet.
 - Netherlands installed 100K gal cistern with nursery for irrigation.
 - Provide list of risks to make homeowners aware.

- Legislative – Mary Ann Leffel:
 - No report since MAL absent.
 - Solicit subcommittee members – Stephanie will ask MPWMD board member on legislative committee to volunteer.
 - State will develop greywater standards in 2011 – ask Richard LeWarne for update.

PRESENTATION:

**"Harvesting Rain: Addressing Water Needs of the Monterey Peninsula"
by Bryce Kantz, CSUMB '09**

Please see our Greywater Work Group Web site for a link to Bryce's PowerPoint presentation of his CSUMB Capstone project, which utilized GIS data to analyze rainwater harvesting opportunities on the Monterey Peninsula.

He can be reached at Bryce_Kantz@csumb.edu, if you wish to contact him directly.

2:30 PM

ADJOURN

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, June 25, 2009, 1:30 – 2:30 at MCBC Conference Room, 1732 Fremont Blvd, 2nd floor, Seaside.

Prepared by: Kim Ha



Competitive Clusters (C²) is a program of the Monterey County Business Council, in partnership with the County of Monterey for regional economic development.