The Madera Irrigation District (District or MID) Board of Directors adopted a new logo at the board meeting of July 7, 2015. The District’s previous logo was used for many, many years and no longer reflected the District accurately.

Earlier this year, the District held a logo design contest for local Madera County high school students. MID staff presented to several local high school classes on the vital role the District plays in the community and discussed the logo design contest. Numerous entries were received. The winning design came from recent Madera High School graduate, Elizabeth Romero. Elizabeth’s design was taken to a graphic designer to digitize for use throughout the District. For her efforts, Elizabeth was awarded a cash prize of $250.00. The adoption of the new logo is another example of the continual progress being made at the District.

The mission of Madera Irrigation District is to obtain and manage affordable surface water and groundwater supplies in a manner which will ensure the long-term viability of irrigated agriculture in the District.

Be sure to visit Madera Irrigation District’s Booth this year at the Madera District Fair, September 10-13, 2015.

Scan the code below to link directly to the District’s Facebook page.

Deep Ripping and Underground Service Alert (USA)

If you have performed deep ripping near a District pipeline within the past two years, please contact the District Office for inspection. Patching pipeline leaks during the irrigation season is very costly and burdensome. The District wants your help to identify leaks before they happen, protect the aging pipeline infrastructure, and save MID growers from costly repairs and potential loss of water delivery. The District encourages everyone who is digging, excavating, drilling, trenching, grading, ripping, etc. to call 811 before you dig. Your personal safety as well as the safety of the community is important!

Check the District Maps available on the MID website at http://madera-id.org/index.php/district-maps for the locations of MID facilities. Note, the District map is not all inclusive and you should still contact the Engineering Department prior to starting a project.

The MISSION OF MADERA IRRIGATION DISTRICT is to obtain and manage affordable surface water and groundwater supplies in a manner which will ensure the long-term viability of irrigated agriculture in the District.
Madera Irrigation District, in conjunction with Chowchilla Water District, Fresno Irrigation District, and Gravelly Ford Water District, has recently formed a new water advocacy organization, Friant North Authority (Authority). On August 3, 2015 the Authority was officially formed and named David Orth as its Executive Officer.

The new Authority is fully separate and apart from the Friant Water Authority (FWA). The Madera and Fresno Irrigation Districts ended their FWA memberships earlier this year. Chowchilla Water District withdrew several years ago and Gravelly Ford Water District was never a member. All four agencies hold Class 1, Class 2, or both Class 1 and 2 water contracts with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for water stored in Millerton Lake.

The Friant North Authority plans to actively engage in current and ongoing common interests, activities, and issues. Those include dealings with Reclamation, the Interior Department agency that oversees the CVP. The new Authority also intends to interact with the FWA, other Friant Division contractors, the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors, and the San Joaquin River Restoration Program.

“MID is looking forward to working with Chowchilla Water District, Fresno Irrigation District, and Gravelly Ford Water District on common goals that will enhance the water supply of our region”, said MID General Manager Thomas Greci. “This will provide a great opportunity and platform for MID to pursue benefits for our District and its growers.”

**MID BOND RATING UPGRADE**

Standard & Poor’s (S&P) Ratings Services announced it raised its long-term rating from A-minus to A on Madera Irrigation District’s water revenue refunding bonds. This was following General Manager Thomas Greci, Assistant General Manager Dina Nolan, and Controller Anna Swanson’s presentation to S&P last month.

“The raised rating reflects our view of the district’s strong financial performance despite challenging drought conditions, and improved liquidity position,” said Standard & Poor’s credit analyst Tim Trung in The Bond Buyer.

General Manager Thomas Greci stated, “The recent strengthening of the District’s financials are due to sound policy decisions by the Board of Directors. The financial success is a result of a number of factors including significant reductions in the District’s operational costs and the implementation of supplemental water supply programs that brought new water to the District and generated water sales revenue, even on years with a zero allocation. I am excited to see Standard and Poor’s acknowledgement of the District’s hard work and commitment to its landowners during this challenging time of severe drought.”

**UNAUTHORIZED DISCHARGES INTO DISTRICT CANALS**

To avoid costly repairs, all growers are encouraged to contact the District at (559) 673-3514 prior to any new filter system and backflush installation. The cost of damages to District facilities by unauthorized discharges will be billed to the responsible property owner. Damage and repair costs can be avoided by understanding the District’s Rules and Regulations for Distribution of Water and Maintenance of Ditches and Pipelines.

Section 16: Discharges Into District Facilities states:

16.01 All discharges of water into District conveyance or other facilities from any source, including but not limited to storm water, irrigation tail-water and filter system flushing, are prohibited unless such discharges have been permitted or otherwise approved by the District.

16.04 No Filter Flush discharges are allowed into the District facilities unless a permit was previously issued by the District. All filter system flushing permits previously approved by the District will be re-evaluated and reconsidered for further approval.

Water Users are encouraged to pick up the free copy of the Rules and Regulations at the District Office in order to better understand the daily operation of the District. A digital copy is available on the MID website: [http://madera-id.org/](http://madera-id.org/)

**UTILITY CROSSINGS**

Contact the District’s Engineering Department to discuss proposed utility installations (pipeline, electrical, etc.) across District facilities or right-of-ways. The Engineering staff will work with you on project requirements, if any. The MID encroachment permit is available on the MID website at [http://madera-id.org/index.php/services/engineering-department](http://madera-id.org/index.php/services/engineering-department).

If you are unsure if there is a District facility in the vicinity of your project, you can refer to the District map at [http://madera-id.org/index.php/district-maps](http://madera-id.org/index.php/district-maps). Note, the District map is not all inclusive and you should still contact the Engineering Department prior to starting a project.