

MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT



WATER IS OUR FUTURE

2025-26 Annual Report

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Image provided by Nolan Nitschke

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With the conclusion of Fiscal Year 2026, MCWD General Manager, Mark Busby, formally retired after 30 years of Mammoth Community Water District (MCWD) employment. The position was filled by Clay Murray, former MCWD Water and Wastewater Operations Superintendent who has been employed by the District for over 20 years and brings extensive leadership experience.

MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Mammoth Community Water District's 2026 fiscal year was marked by important accomplishments, continued progress, and a meaningful leadership transition. This annual report highlights the District's work over the past year, including investments in our water and wastewater systems, long-term planning, facility and operational improvements, conservation efforts, and continued service to the Mammoth Lakes community.

As incoming General Manager, it is my honor to continue serving the community through the work of the Mammoth Community Water District. I am grateful for the strong foundation built by Mark Busby and those who came before me, and I recognize the lasting impact of Mark's steady leadership, thoughtful guidance, and genuine care for District staff.

Looking ahead, the District will continue to support its talented team, strengthen relationships with the community, and advance the planning, projects, and operational improvements necessary to provide reliable water and wastewater services. We remain committed to responsible stewardship of our water resources, accountability, and transparency. MCWD strives to always deliver high-quality service to our customers today and for generations to come.

-Clay Murray

OUTGOING MESSAGE FROM GENERAL MANAGER MARK BUSBY

It has been my privilege to serve this community and to work alongside the dedicated employees of MCWD. The accomplishments reflected in this report are the result of the talent, professionalism, and commitment of District staff, as well as the continued support of the Board of Directors, our ratepayers, and community partners.

I am proud of the progress made in 2025 and throughout my career with the District. As I conclude my tenure as General Manager, I am pleased to pass the torch to Clay Murray and am confident that the District will continue to make strides while maintaining its commitment to reliable service, responsible stewardship, and support for its dedicated staff.



ABOUT THE DISTRICT

The Mammoth Community Water District was founded in 1957 and has consistently provided reliable water and wastewater services to the Town of Mammoth Lakes, California. All of MCWD's water resources are located in the Mammoth Lakes Basin, no water is imported to the service area. Sources of water include surface water, groundwater, and recycled water. Surface water from Lake Mary, and groundwater from nine production wells, is treated by the District and distributed to service connections using over 80 miles of water lines, eight storage reservoirs, and three treatment plants. Water is transported within an elevation range between 7,600 and 8,600 feet.

OUR MISSION

The Mammoth Community Water District is committed to carefully and effectively managing and maintaining our local water resources. The District provides water and wastewater services to meet the health and safety needs of the community. All work is conducted in a safe, financially sound, and high quality manner. We are committed to our customers and the environment in which we live.

Board of Directors

Tom Smith

Tom Cage

Dennis Domaille

Gary Thompson

Elizabeth Hylton

ENGINEERING, OPERATIONS, & MAINTENANCE



The District continued to maximize resources by leveraging the expertise of its in-house staff to complete a wide range of technical projects. Throughout the year, MCWD's Engineering staff designed multiple projects for in-house implementation. Outside contractors were brought in for specialized services requiring specific technical expertise. By primarily using in-house staff, the District kept control of key decisions and quality, ensuring the best version of the final product. This hands-on approach demonstrated the value of the District's internal capabilities and advanced its ongoing mission to enhance and preserve assets in compliance with regulatory requirements.

Highlighted Projects

- Campus Paving Project
- Tank T-7 & Lake Mary Tank Rehabilitations
- Roof Replacements
- Laurel Pond Monitoring Wells Replacement
- Old Mammoth Road Fire Hydrant Installation
- Hill Street Lateral and Meter Upgrade
- Air Relief Valves

- **Campus Paving Project**

The Campus Pavement Rehabilitation and Drainage Project addressed severely deteriorated asphalt at the MCWD main parking lot and water treatment plant, where cracking, potholes, raveling, and uneven surfaces created safety concerns.

Full-Depth Reclamation was completed across the campus, creating a stabilized base topped with four inches of new hot-mix asphalt. The project also included drainage improvements, new curbing around the Administration Building, and heated concrete and pavers at key building entrances to improve winter safety and accessibility.

These improvements enhanced safety, ADA compliance, operations, and facility appearance while providing an estimated 20 to 30 years of reliable, low-maintenance service.



- **Tank T-7 & Lake Mary Tank Rehabs**

The Tank T-7 (1.0 MG capacity, built in 2008) Potable Water Tank and Lake Mary Backwash (LMBW) (0.05 MG capacity, built in 1979) Tank Rehabilitation Project was undertaken to restore and extend the service lives of two critical water system storage facilities while addressing age-related deterioration and structural deficiencies.



The project included removal and replacement of outdated hardware, abrasive blasting of interior steel surfaces, and application of new protective coating systems in accordance with American Water Works Association (AWWA) standards to provide corrosion protection and maintain water quality integrity. In addition, the 50,000-gallon LMBW tank received structural retrofits to address identified vulnerabilities related to seismic loading and snow load demands, strengthening the tank shell and support system to meet current structural performance expectations.



• Roof Replacements

In 2024, the Mammoth Community Water District and their structural consultant performed structural risk and hazard assessments of buildings, tanks, and additional key infrastructure. The pump stations for water storage tanks T-2, T-3, and T-5 and the wastewater treatment plant's filter building had the highest risk ratings and were selected for further analysis and retrofit designs.

The key project goals were to bring the structures up to current snow and seismic codes and performance standards appropriate for essential infrastructure. Roof replacements consisted of stronger ledgers, rafters, trusses, lateral seismic restraints, and PVC membranes.



• Laurel Pond Monitoring Wells Replacement

The MCWD Wastewater Treatment Plant discharges treated effluent about 4 miles from the plant into Laurel Pond, a former spring-fed ephemeral pond. In 2021, MCWD replaced four shallow, often-dry groundwater monitoring wells with four deeper wells; however, after 1.5 years of compliance sampling, it became clear that more precise monitoring in the upper aquifer, closer to the surface, was needed.

MCWD Engineering and Wastewater Operations collaborated with contractors on the plan development, and drilling was completed thereafter. In September 2024, sonic drilling began on four dual-completion wells that will support eight total monitoring bores, enabling continuous vertical profiling of the geological zones of interest around Laurel Pond.

MCWD conducted quarterly compliance sampling and additional testing of the new wells and Laurel Pond, providing clearer insight into the area's hydrogeology and resolving longstanding questions.



- **Old Mammoth Road Fire Hydrant Installation**

Old Mammoth Road and Valentine Reserve were identified as having elevated wildfire risk by the Mammoth Lakes Fire Department. Staff determined that installing an additional fire hydrant would improve fire protection in the area. To support this improvement, staff installed a 6-inch lateral extension to serve a new fire hydrant.



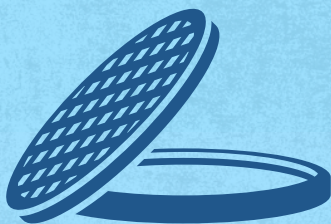
- **Hill Street Lateral and Meter Upgrade**

As part of the District's multi-year effort to replace aging infrastructure, staff identified areas with a high concentration of outdated meters and laterals. In 2024, Hill Street was identified as one of these, and work began to replace laterals and meters. In 2025, the remaining portion of Hill Street's galvanized laterals were replaced with polyethylene (PE) laterals, and meters were replaced with updated models.

- **Air Relief Valves**

Installing a water air relief valve (ARV) is a proactive measure used to help prevent air entrapment in the distribution system. As water is pumped through the distribution system, air can become trapped at high points in the pipeline. These pockets reduce pumping/system efficiency. When enough air accumulates inside the ARV, the internal float drops, opening a small vent to release air into the atmosphere. As water rises back into the valve, the float rises and seals the vent preventing any overflow.

Staff completed ARV upgrades at 48 locations. This work required removing aging or outdated materials and relocating select assets, resulting in increased efficiency for future inspection and maintenance activities.



52 Manhole Collars Replaced

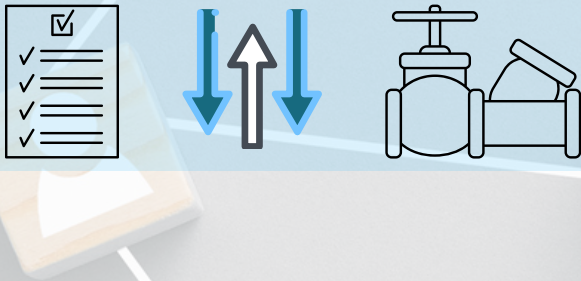
34 Sewer Patches & Top Hat Replacements

REGULATORY SERVICES

- **Cross-Connection Control Program**

MCWD retained a contractor to complete the required five-year, community-wide Cross-Connection Control Survey in summer 2025. The contractor surveyed customers, conducted follow-up field inspections, and submitted a final report recommending compliance improvements while recognizing the District's strong program and commitment to protecting the public water system.

In the same year, District staff finalized updates to the Cross-Connection Control Policy to ensure alignment with current State requirements. A luncheon was hosted with local backflow prevention assembly testers to review policy updates, operational procedures, and regulatory expectations. Feedback from attendees was positive for the District's updated policy and program.



- **Clean Up The Lake**

MCWD continued supporting Clean Up The Lake's four-year effort to protect and restore lakes in the Mammoth Lakes Basin, an important source of the District's water supply. In 2025, the organization completed a submerged litter survey of Lake George, sampled aquatic invasive and native plant species throughout the Basin, removed approximately 550 pounds of litter, and surveyed 4.5 miles of shoreline. The work also evaluated underwater habitat and invasive species threats to help guide future conservation efforts.



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- **Community Wildfire Protection**

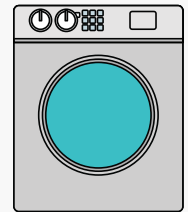
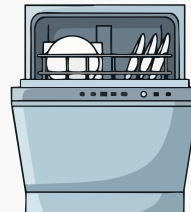
The Mammoth Lakes Wildfire Task Force was established in April 2025 to coordinate wildfire prevention planning and community outreach. Members include the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District, Mammoth Disposal, the Whitebark Institute, and MCWD. The group supported defensible space inspections and held monthly neighborhood events featuring yard waste removal, public education, and community engagement.

CONSERVATION

MCWD continues to incentivize water conservation by providing customers with rebates when upgrading to new dishwashers, toilets, or clothes washers. During Fiscal Year 2026, **\$28,706** was issued in rebates.

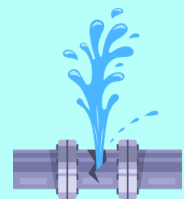
REBATES PROMOTE EFFICIENCY

- **23** Dishwashers installed
 - **104** High-efficiency toilets installed
 - **10** Clothes washers installed
- ★ **363,043 gallons saved!** ★



LEAK ALERT!

In 2025, 640 notices of leaks were provided to customers. Utilizing the Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) hourly water use data, staff are able to identify leaks and notify customers before they receive a high bill or experience property damage. Customers are also now able to enroll in automated notifications from our leak detection system.



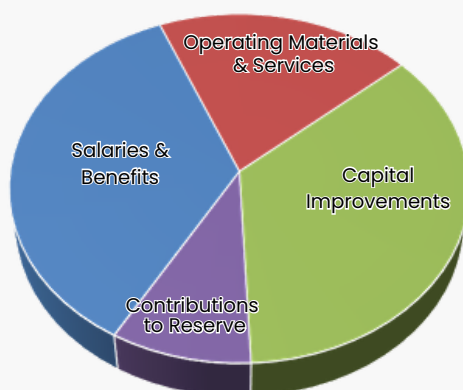
We are always looking for opportunities to engage with our community. You can find MCWD at local events like sustainability fairs and Earth Day celebrations, where we share water conservation resources, answer questions, and help community members learn simple ways to save water.



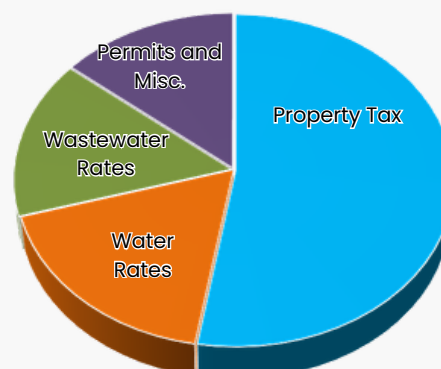
DISTRICT FINANCES

The District receives sufficient revenue to provide water and wastewater services and to maintain reserve funds for financial resilience and required infrastructure projects.

Expenses

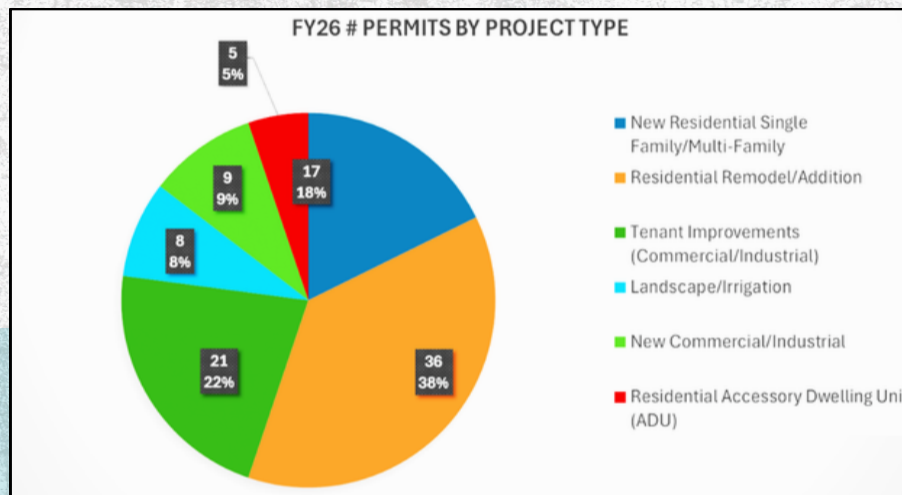


Revenue

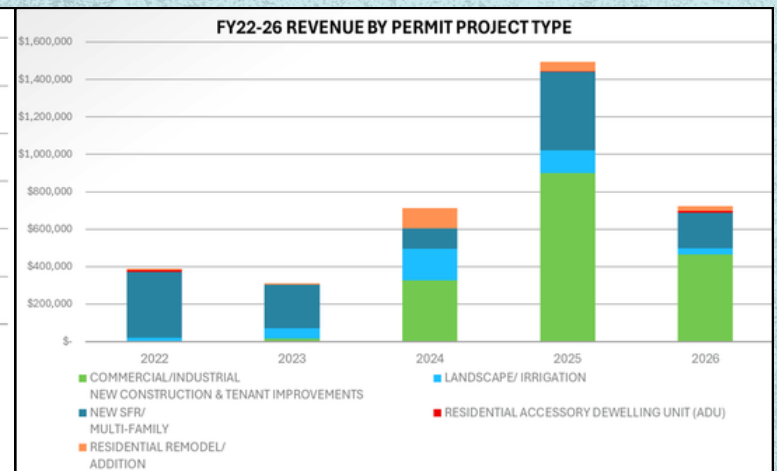
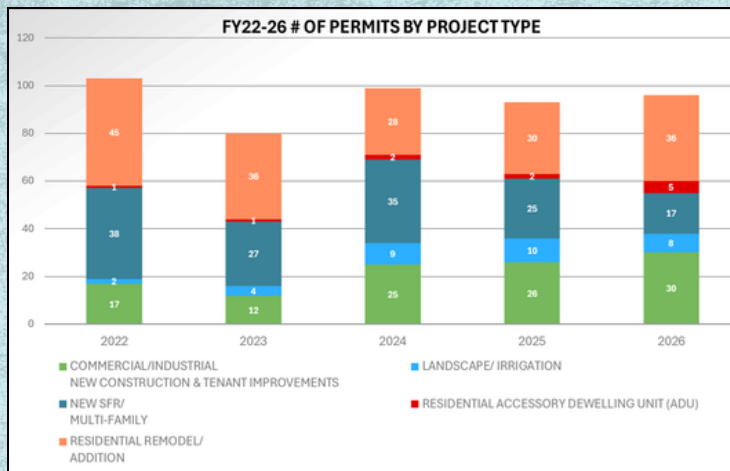


SUMMARY OF PERMITS

The District tracks both the number and types of permits issued, as well as the revenue generated by each permit category. This information helps the District stay informed about overall build-out within the community, while also monitoring supply and demand for water and wastewater service. Using this data, the District can better anticipate future needs and plan infrastructure and capital projects to ensure that reliable water and wastewater services continue to meet the community's needs over time.



FY2026	# OF PROJECTS	REVENUE
New Residential Single Family/Multi-Family	17	\$ 189,127
Residential Remodel/Addition	36	\$ 24,373
Tenant Improvements (Commercial/Industrial)	21	\$ 31,220
Landscape/Irrigation	8	\$ 34,025
New Commercial/Industrial	9	\$ 434,063
Residential Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU)	5	\$ 9,224
Grand Total	96	\$ 722,032



QUESTIONS? CONTACT US

We are ready to assist.



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