

Air Mail



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New logo, same agency



After more than 20 years, it was time to update the MDAQMD's official brand.

The long-standing logo that had been the graphical identity of the District since at least 1997 was retired at the end of 2018. A new logo, featured in this publication and on all agency materials as of Jan. 1, 2019, now represents the District's mission and staff as its 26th year as an independent agency gets underway.

"A quarter of our current staff has been hired in the last two years," said Brad Poiriez, the agency's executive director who took the helm in 2016. "After more than 20 years with the same logo, we thought it was time to update it."

MDAQMD celebrated its 25-year anniversary as an independent agency in 2018, adding the years in service to the

logo that had been in use for more than 20 years. With that 25th year now officially in the books, District leadership decided to fully modernize its branding to kick off the New Year.

"We were mindful to keep the elements that residents and stakeholders recognize from the logo used for the last 20 years, such as the roadrunner and the curved 'M' in 'Mojave,'" said Community Relations and Education Specialist Martial Haprov, who handled the artwork and design of the new logo. "We've also added a Joshua tree and a silhouette of a mountain range to reflect some of the distinct physical and natural features of our vast geography."

Anyone interested in learning more about MDAQMD's efforts can contact Ryan Orr in the Community Relations and Education section at Rorr@mdaqmd.ca.gov or 760-245-1661, ext. 3001.

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Laughlin, Nevada hosted a markedly successful 2018 CDAWG Conference.

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PERMITS & COMPLIANCE

As of Feb. 1, 2019:

Active Permits: **4,058**

Permitted Facilities: **1,272**

October – December 2018

Applications received: **121**

Complaints: **16**

Violation notices: **28**

Certificates of Occupancy: **134**

District welcomes new board members

As a result of the 2018 election, the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) welcomed 11 new primary and alternate members to its Governing Board.

In January, the District hosted a board orientation that included a presentation from MDAQMD Executive Director Brad Poiriez, and introduction to senior staff and a tour of the District's headquarters.

The MDAQMD is honored to introduce new governing board members:

City of Adelanto

- Mayor Gabriel Reyes, alternate;
- Councilman Ed Camargo remains as primary member;

Town of Apple Valley

- Councilwoman Kari Leon, primary;
- Councilman Curt Emick, alternate;

City of Barstow

- Councilman James Noble, alternate;
- Mayor Pro tem Carmen Hernandez remains as primary;

City of Hesperia

- Councilwoman Rebekah Swanson, primary;
- Councilman Cameron Gregg, alternate;

City of Needles

- Vice Mayor Edward T. Paget, alternate;
- Mayor Jeff Williams remains as primary;

County of San Bernardino

- 3rd District Supervisor Dawn Rowe;

City of Twentynine Palms

- Councilwoman Karmolette O'Gilvie, primary;
- Mayor Steven Bilderain, alternate;

City of Victorville

- Mayor Pro tem Rita Ramirez, alternate;



New MDAQMD Governing Board members Curt Emick (alternate, Apple Valley), left, Kari Leon (primary, Apple Valley), center and Rita Ramirez (alternate, Victorville) take the oath of office at the board's Jan. 28 meeting. Also shown is Merl Abel (primary, Yucca Valley), back right, and MDAQMD Executive Director Brad Poiriez, back left.

- Councilman Jim Cox remains as primary;

Town of Yucca Valley

- Councilman Merl Abel, primary;
- Councilman Jim Schooler, alternate.

At its first meeting of 2019 in January, the Governing Board voted unanimously to reappoint Barbara Cram Riordan as the public member of the board.

Also at the January meeting, Member Swanson — her first meeting as the

City of Hesperia's primary member — thanked District staff for hosting the Orientation and said she found it educational and helpful in order to hit the ground running.

"We're very excited to continue our forward progress, and couldn't be happier with the enthusiasm shown by the new board members," said MDAQMD Executive Director Brad Poiriez. "I think the board is going to be a great team and can't wait to see what we can accomplish together."



Williams, Hernandez take board leadership positions

After an incredibly smooth and productive two years at the helm, MDAQMD Board Chair Jim Cox's term ended and former Vice Chair and newly elected Mayor of Needles Jeff Williams was voted into the chair position unanimously by the board. City of Barstow Councilwoman Carmen Hernandez was unanimously chosen as Vice Chair. Congratulations to MDAQMD's new board leadership.

2019 Lawn and Garden Equipment Exchange: MDAQMD increases available funding

This year's Lawn and Garden Equipment Exchange, hosted by the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD), aims to be the largest in District history. Coming off of a new record in equipment exchanges in 2018, the District increased the funding for the 2019 event hoping to further reduce the emissions from gas powered lawn and garden equipment.

Despite the countless yards that are being converted from lawn to xeriscape due to the drought and successful incentive programs like Mojave Water Agency's Cash for Grass program, there is still a significant amount of gas powered equipment being used throughout the District.

"Each year, the number of pieces of equipment exchanged increases, which shows us there is still a need to get this equipment swapped out for quieter, healthier alternatives," said Jorge Camacho, MDAQMD's Grant Specialist.

For those who think that simple lawn and garden equipment doesn't significantly impact air quality, think again. The Environmental Protection



Participants line up to recycle their gas-powered lawn equipment and to receive their new, zero-emission EGO equipment at the 2018 Lawn and Garden Equipment Exchange event.

Agency (EPA) estimates that more than 17 million gallons of fuel, mostly gasoline, are spilled each year while refueling lawn equipment.

One gas mower running for an hour emits the same amount of pollutants as eight new cars driving 55 mph for the same amount of time, according to the Union of Concerned Scientists. Electric blowers and trimmers are available

for \$75 and lawn mowers for \$125 with the exchange of eligible, working gas equivalents. The first 100 prepaid registrants will receive the exclusive price of \$99 for an electric mower. Participants must preregister to participate by visiting www.thegreenstationproducts.com/mdaqmd.html. The exchange will be held April 20, 2019 at the SBC Fairgrounds.

Another successful CDAWG in the books

For more than 30 years, the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District has been hosting the annual California Desert Air Working Group (CDAWG) conference, and the 2018 event in Laughlin was another success.

Commencing on the day after the 2018 General Election, more than 70 guests heard from speakers on topics ranging from legislative updates to converting a fleet from diesel to CNG and navigating regulatory hurdles on the new legal cannabis industry.

"We had an extraordinary team of staff that worked around the clock to make the conference run seamlessly,"

said MDAQMD Executive Director Brad Poiriez. "There is no better testament to the importance of the topics raised at CDAWG than seeing familiar faces returning to the conference year after year as well as greeting several new industry leaders each year who are discovering the event and its importance."

The 2018 CDAWG featured a Colorado River Cruise Mixer and several networking opportunities. The money brought in by the annual conference all goes to the Mojave Environmental Education Consortium, a non-profit organization focused on educating youth on the

importance of environmental science and stewardship.

"CDAWG has become an important funding source in expanding MEEC's reach and vision to students throughout the area," said Samantha Murray, MEEC's Program Specialist. "In addition, we feature some of our most enthusiastic local teachers at CDAWG who really illustrate to the attendees the impact our programs have on local youth."

The planning for the 2019 CDAWG conference has already begun in earnest so visit mdaqmd.ca.gov/cdawg in the coming months as more details are announced.



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Executive Director/
Air Pollution Control Officer

Governing Board
Jeff Williams, Chair
City of Needles

Carmen Hernandez, Vice Chair
City of Barstow

Ed Camargo
City of Adelanto

Kari Leon
Town of Apple Valley

Joseph "Joey" DeConinck
City of Blythe

Rebekah Swanson
City of Hesperia

Supervisor V. Manuel Perez
County of Riverside

Supervisor Robert Lovingood
County of San Bernardino, 1st District

Supervisor Dawn Rowe
County of San Bernardino, 3rd District

Karmolette O'Gilvie
City of Twentynine Palms

Jim Cox
City of Victorville

Merl Abel
Town of Yucca Valley

Barbara Cram Riordan
Public Member

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CONGRATULATIONS



30 years of continued service

MDAQM District Counsel Karen Nowak celebrated 30 years of service to the Mojave Desert Air Basin on Feb. 6, 2019. Karen's career here began during the days of the San Bernardino County Air Pollution Control District, before it became an independent agency as the Mojave Desert AQMD. Karen is the District's full time attorney, providing legal advice and generally ensuring the District receives appropriate legal services necessary to function properly according to the laws of the state of California and the United States. We thank Karen for her continued service to the agency and the residents of our jurisdiction!