

Monterey Bay Air  
Resources District

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831.647.8411  
www.mbard.org

# Clearing the Air

*News, Views, and Announcements*

Volume 1 - Issue 3

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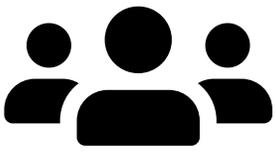


## **EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: Isabel Navoa and Scott Norton**

**Three Decades of  
Dedicated Service**

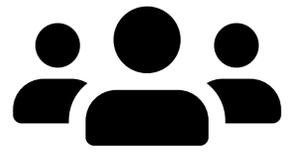
# 30

See their stories on pages 5 & 6



# Message From the Advisory Committee

Janet Brennan, Committee Chair



## CHANGING ROLES FOR THE MBARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The MBARD Advisory Committee is appointed by the Board of Directors with each Board member having two appointees. It provides recommendations to staff and the Board on matters referred to it by staff. Having served on the Committee in the 1980s and from 2005 to the present, I have observed many changes to the Committee's role during the last 30 years. These changes primarily reflect the changing responsibilities of the District itself.

In the 1980s through early 2000s, focus was on control measures to meet State and federal ozone standards. Air quality plans were prepared and control measures adopted. In addition to controls on area and stationary sources, the District worked with AMBAG to encourage reduced vehicle trips. The Advisory Committee considered these plans and programs with lots of controversy and active participation from the community. It is interesting to note that the pandemic has achieved trip reductions which districts were not able to achieve with more and more employees working at home instead of commuting.

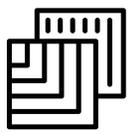
In the 1980s, MBARD was the first district in the State to adopt a air toxic control measure. Rule 1000 was complex and controversial. Its consideration required active participation by the Advisory Committee often requiring one-on-one meetings between Committee members and their respective Board members. Over the years, the Air Resources Board has pre-empted the field placing requirements on districts while limiting local discretion.

With the 21st century, climate change took center stage. With it came new State controls on motor vehicle emissions leading to substantial improvements in air quality statewide. Climate change requirements also ramped up greater Air Resource Board requirements on districts.

With improvements in regional air quality, the District will be re-designated as a maintenance area and new controls will be unnecessary unless climate change impacts lead to increased ozone levels. The District will continue to focus on grants to reduce greenhouse gases and diesel exhaust and constraints imposed on air pollution sources due to changing climate conditions. With these changes, matters considered by the Advisory Committee will continue to be less controversial and demanding than in previous years.

"Without community service, we would not have a strong quality of life. It's important to the person who serves as well as the recipient. It's the way in which we ourselves grow and develop."

-- Dorothy Height



# What is Asbestos?

**Shawn Boyle,**  
**Air Quality Compliance Inspector**



Asbestos is a generic term for natural fiber-like minerals that can cause certain types of cancers including mesothelioma if inhaled. It has been and continues to be manufactured in various building materials. Asbestos can also be found naturally in the environment.

A big misconception is that asbestos is banned in the United States. It's not. Even though more than 55 countries around the world have banned it. Another misconception is that asbestos went away a long time ago. It didn't. In fact, it is surprisingly everywhere.

MBARD regulates and enforces the federal Asbestos NESHAP (National Emission Standards of Hazardous Air Pollutants) regulation which applies to projects ranging from various renovation activities, tenant improvements (T.I.), load-bearing structural removal and complete demolition of structures. This includes asbestos survey review, inspections, and investigations of non-compliance, all to protect public health from unnecessary asbestos exposure.

Building owners, property management firms, contractors, consultants, architects, and others have a responsibility to thoroughly survey for asbestos as part of their project, no matter the age of the structure. Any asbestos planned to be disturbed or removed as part of a project, must be conducted by certified and trained asbestos abatement contractor and disposed at proper landfill that can accept asbestos as hazardous waste.

The Asbestos NESHAP regulation covers construction projects for all commercial, industrial, institutional buildings, various structures and facility components, and some residential buildings. MBARD always recommends surveying for asbestos prior to any renovation or demolition project. Please contact MBARD with any question regarding your project at 831-647-9411.

More information on the Asbestos Program can be found at [www.mbard.org/asbestos-renovation-demolition](http://www.mbard.org/asbestos-renovation-demolition)



*What good is the warmth of summer,  
without the cold of winter  
to give it sweetness?  
- John Steinbeck*



Visit us online!  
[www.mbard.org](http://www.mbard.org)



# Wood Stove Change Out Program

Chris Duymich, Air Quality Planner



In September, MBARD will be launching a Wood Stove Change Out Program (WSCOP) throughout Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito counties. This program is part of a statewide Woodsmoke Reduction Program supported by California Climate Investments which provides billions in grant money to invest in clean technologies to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, strengthen the economy, and improve public health and the environment—particularly in disadvantaged communities and low-income areas.

MBARD's WSCOP helps households replace non-EPA-certified wood stoves, wood inserts, or open hearth fireplaces used as a primary source of heat with a cleaner burning and more efficient heating device. The WSCOP will offer incentives toward the purchase and installation of a qualifying device. Additional grant incentives are available for qualified low-income households. Priority enrollment will be provided to qualified low income households and those who live within disadvantaged communities and low-income areas. For more information, please visit the MBARD Wood Stove Change Out webpage at: <https://www.mbard.org/wood-stove-change-out-program>

## MBARD STAFF MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

*The following staff members were recognized at the December 16, 2020 meeting of the Board of Directors for their loyalty and dedication to the District:*

**Isabel Navoa, Senior Administrative Assistant, 30 years**

**Scott Norton, Air Monitoring Specialist, 30 years**

**Lynn Kievlan, Administrative and Fiscal Specialist, 5 years**

**Armando Jimenez, Air Quality Engineer, 5 years**

**Seong Kim, Air Quality Engineer, 5 years**

## We're Still Here for You!

Our offices are remained closed to the public, but staff is still on duty and ready to assist you. You can contact us individually by going to

[www.mbard.org/contact-us](https://www.mbard.org/contact-us)



# Isabel Navoa, Senior Administrative Assistant

## 30 Years With the District



Isabel came to work for MBARD in January 1990 as an Administrative Assistant for the Compliance Division. Prior to joining the District, Isabel worked for the Monterey County Sheriff's Department in the Warrants Division for eleven years.

In her role as support staff for Compliance, Isabel works closely with the inspection staff to provide a variety of assistance from general administrative support, to handling public complaints and reviewing reports. She has been a supporting staff member for a variety of programs in Compliance. Her commitment and enthusiasm never falters. She is courteous and pleasant and is always willing to help when assistance is needed.

Over the years, Isabel has seen many changes at MBARD. Early in her career she purchased handheld voice recorders for the inspectors. This allowed the inspectors to record their inspection findings so Isabel could type up the reports. She was also one of the first staff to get a computer at her desk. Although a lot has changed over the years, Isabel's positive attitude has remained steadfast.

Outside of work, Isabel can be found playing with her grandchildren or hula dancing at local events.

Isabel expressed appreciation for being able to work with what she considers to be a great group of people who are united in working to guard and improve the environment. "And it has been that way from the very beginning of my working for the District until now. It's good to be part of something that is doing good and serving the community and to work with people that have the same goal."

When asked to relate some memories, Isabel said, "After thirty years there are so many memories, it's hard to pick even a few favorites, but the best ones are when staff has gathered for potlucks and holiday parties." She noted that the simplest plan for a staff gathering would always result in an enthusiastic response with everyone pitching in and bringing more than enough to make for a plentiful and festive atmosphere. She always enjoyed the feeling of closeness and the chance to catch up with members of her "work family" who she didn't always get to see during a normal work day. At this time when such gatherings are not allowed, and much of the District's staff is not in the office, Isabel finds this is what she misses the most and looks forward to the time when staff can come together again in a relaxed and friendly setting.

Isabel's decades of loyalty and dedicated service to the District and the community were recognized at the MBARD Board of Directors' meeting on December 16, 2020.

Thank you, Isabel, for being an essential and valuable member of the Air District team!



# Scott Norton, Air Monitoring Specialist II

## 30 Years With the District



Scott has been with the Monterey Bay Air resources district for 30 years. During this time he has remained with the Planning and Air Monitoring Division as an Air Monitoring Specialist and has seen many changes over the course of his time here. The air monitoring group has managed many equipment and station changes over time with his help and input. Scott has displayed an enthusiasm for new technology which has made many of these transitions easier. This has included helping the division acquire a drone and being the first to get a drone operator's license, helping to develop new forms and reports as the Air Monitoring group switched to more digital recordkeeping, and mastering new equipment hardware and software as monitoring instruments were upgraded over time. Scott also likes to keep abreast of new computer technology.

Scott is a talented photographer. During a full solar eclipse a couple of years ago, Scott took a couple of days off to travel to Oregon and took some beautiful photos of the sun's corona during the eclipse which included some amazing detail of some of the sun's surface features around the edge of the moon. Scott helped coordinate production, selection, and display of the amateur photos throughout the office. Scott has also taken and shared some amazing vacation photos over the years and has photographed various staff events and retreats.

Scott enjoys interacting with others and has been sociable with many of the District staff. He was a member of a band that used to practice at the office after work, and performed at several staff events. He has brought cookies to the office during holidays and brought food to various staff parties. He has made friends with many of the staff and has been a very active both professionally and socially during his time here.

Scott and his wife Kathy moved to the Monterey Bay Area nearly 40 years ago so he could attend school at UCSC. They fell in love with the area ("Who would not?") and decided to stay here to enjoy life on the California coast and to raise their family. He feels he was lucky to find his way to the Air District and has enjoyed many aspects of his work with the District.

Scott says he has enjoyed the working relationships with the teams he has worked with and has developed some quality friendships over the years. He feels the Air District does good, important work and he is happy to be a part of that.

Some of Scott's favorite memories are from several years of mentoring AP Science students at San Lorenzo Valley High School. He says the students really got into the challenges and fun of scientific research and it was very rewarding to see several of them go onto the colleges of their choosing.

What Scott says he likes most about his job is being of public service in his own small way. And being able to do so with a team of dedicated coworkers and friends.

Scott's decades of loyalty and dedicated service to the District and the community were recognized at the MBARD Board of Directors' meeting on December 16, 2020. Thank you, Scott, for being an essential and valuable member of the Air District team!

# GRANTS, INCENTIVES, AND PROGRAMS



## Diesel Engine & Equipment

### Replacement Grant Program

Monterey Bay Air  
Resources District

**APPLICATION WORKSHOP**  
**JANUARY 12, 2021**  
**10 AM – 12 NOON**

#### WHERE

Online Via Zoom  
Visit [www.mbard.org](http://www.mbard.org)  
for meeting information

#### DETAILS

Guideline updates. Funding available for  
off-road / ag equipment replacement,  
marine engine replacement, and on-road  
electrification.

**APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED JANUARY 13 – March 19, 2021**

For more information, please go to [www.mbard.org](http://www.mbard.org) or contact  
Hanna Muegge at [hmuegge@mbard.org](mailto:hmuegge@mbard.org) or call (831) 718-8021

## ELECTRIC VEHICLE INCENTIVE PROGRAM

24580 Silver Cloud Court  
Monterey, CA 93940  
831.647.9411

FY 2020-21  
Purchase ON or AFTER  
July 1st, 2020

	NEW	USED
HYDROGEN FUEL CELL	\$2,500	n/a
ELECTRIC	\$2,000	\$1,000
PLUG-IN HYBRID	\$1,000	\$700
ELECTRIC MOTORCYCLE	\$300	n/a

\*low income qualified applicants  
MAY qualify for DOUBLE the  
shown incentive amounts!

For residents of Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties

For more information visit our website at  
**[www.mbard.org](http://www.mbard.org)**

For Residents of  
Monterey, Santa Cruz,  
and San Benito  
Counties\*

## Wood Stove Change Out Program

OFFERING REBATE INCENTIVES  
TO CONVERT QUALIFIED  
WOOD BURNING DEVICES TO  
CLEANER HEATING DEVICES

CONVERT TO	RECEIVE UP TO
Natural Gas	\$1,500
Propane	\$1,500
Electric	\$1,500
Ductless Mini-Split Heat Pump	\$1,500
*Pellet Stove/Insert	\$1,000
*Qualified Wood Burning Stove or Fireplace Insert	\$1,000
Additional Incentive for Low Income	\$2,000

\*Any replacement Wood Burning Device MUST  
be new, cleaner, and 2020 EPA Compliant

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[www.mbard.org](http://www.mbard.org)

WWW.MBARD.ORG/WOOD-STOVE-CHANGE-OUT-PROGRAM

# spare the air

## San Lorenzo Valley