

Maricopa Flood Control District

P.O. Box 609 • Maricopa, AZ 85139

April 8, 2021

Concerning Pool Backwash or Other Discharges into Santa Rosa Wash

Dear Resident:

If your property is adjacent to the Santa Rosa Wash, commonly known as the "404 Wash", this letter concerns you.

Maricopa Flood Control District ("MFCD" or "District"), a political subdivision of the State of Arizona, is a district formed to protect lands threatened by the normal flow, flood, or overflow waters of any natural watercourse, stream, or wash located in the now City of Maricopa ("City"). One of MFCD's responsibilities is to maintain substantial portions of the Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz Washes running through the City, which have been channelized for flood prevention purposes. Such washes are considered floodways that must remain free from obstruction so that a 100-year flood can be conveyed downstream. The District performs regular maintenance in these washes so they perform as they should, namely, to divert floodwater through the City rather than onto adjacent properties.

If your property is located adjacent to the Santa Rosa Wash be advised you are prohibited from releasing water, especially pool water, through backwashing or for the purpose of draining the pool for service or repair or any other reason. Backwashing into the channel causes erosion, which inevitably worsens and has to be repaired at considerable expense. It is also a violation of a number of state and federal laws which control the environmental impact of storm water introduced into a waterway of the United States.

It is also important to monitor any irrigation systems on your property to ensure they are not sending water over, under or through the wall, since those malfunctions also cause erosion.

Finally, disposing of trash, yard-waste and tree trimmings in the channel is prohibited. This causes a number of problems, such as attracting rodents (which attracts snakes) and can also be a fire hazard. Refuse left on the channel floor floats downstream during a flood event and can lodge against bridge pillars, creating a dam.

MFCD is supported by your property taxes. The District has spent nearly \$500,000 over the last few years making sure the channels are able to perform as needed. We partner with the City and with Pinal County Flood Control District to manage the channels running through Maricopa efficiently.

Thank you in advance for your help in the matters I have described. If you have questions, you can email our District Manager at dalley@maricopafcd.com or call 480-980-0531.

To stay up to date on our efforts, you can go to maricopafcd.com where you can sign up for our monthly newsletter. You are also invited to our monthly meeting. The details are available at maricopafcd.com.

Regards,



Dan Frank
President

Cc: Brad Hinton, Secretary
Scott Kelly, Director
David Alley, District Manager
Karen Nally, General Counsel