



# Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District

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February 10, 2017

Stephanie Kister  
Conservation Representative II  
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District  
5 Harris Court, Building G  
Monterey, CA 93940

Dear Ms. Kister:

Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (MPRPD) is a local special district with the mission of protecting and preserving parks and open space for public enjoyment. MPRPD is requesting funds for the installation of three permanent outdoor interpretive exhibits and native plant identification placards (Table 1) for the drought resistant Native Plant Demonstration Garden and Arboretum adjacent to the recently renovated Visitor Center at Garland Ranch Regional Park (Garland Park). The focus of the garden is to create an educational space where school groups, organizations and visitors can learn about drought tolerant, fire resistant, and bee, butterfly and insect attractant native plants that can be used to landscape their own spaces.

**Table 1: GRRP Native Plant Garden and Arboretum Interpretive Panels and ID Placards**

Item	Description	Cost	Total Cost
Rainwater catchment* system and cistern <i>*system donated by MPWMD</i>	26" x 36" framed interpretive sign encourages visitors to create their own rainwater-harvesting system and highlights low-maintenance rainwater system that provides high quality water for irrigation.	Graphic Design= \$1,500 Panel= \$325 Frame= \$420 Est. shipping= \$60	\$2,305.00
Native plant demonstration garden sign	36" x 48" framed interpretive sign "Create Your Own Drought Tolerant Pollinator & Native Plant Garden."	Graphic Design= \$1,500 Panel= \$375 Frame= \$475 Est. shipping= \$70	\$2,420.00
Arboretum Welcome Sign	36" x 48" framed interpretive sign orients visitors to the diverse habitats in arboretum and the Carmel River watershed	Graphic Design= \$1,500 Panel= \$375 Frame= \$475 Est. shipping= \$70	\$2,420.00
Engraved Plant ID markers	5" x 7' engraved native plant id placards with holders for demonstration garden and arboretum	71 signs = \$2,850 Holders= \$385 Tax= \$283 Est. shipping= \$55	\$3,573.00
		<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$10,718.00</b>

Since the completion of the Visitor Center renovation MPRDP has installed six introductory habitat interpretive panels in the Arboretum, three river ecology interpretive panels along the Carmel River to the Visitor Center and is currently designing three indoor, interactive interpretive exhibits for the Visitor Center. The final interpretive planning stages for the GRRP Native Plant Garden and Arboretum includes the design and installation of

1. Arboretum "welcome" sign which orients visitors to the diverse habitats in the Carmel River watershed, and the trails and locations that these habitats can be found.
2. Rainwater catchment panel that encourages visitors to create their own rainwater-harvesting system and highlights low-maintenance rainwater system that provides high quality water for irrigation.
3. Native plant demonstration garden sign that highlights creating "Your Own Drought Tolerant, Pollinator & Native Plant Garden."
4. Plant identification placards that easily identify each plant with both common and scientific names, blooming season and the habitat best suited for the plant.

The Native Plant Demonstration Garden and Arboretum project promotes low water landscaping, safe drinking water and water conservation. Nestled along the Carmel River, each year the Visitor Center, and surrounding gardens, draws tens of thousands are visitors annually. It is a gathering location that connects people of all ages to our regions natural and cultural resources and provides a place to share conservation messages. It is the site for community stewardship and restoration activities, as well as, dozens of Let's Go Outdoors! programs seasonally.

Your funding support allows MPRPD to save money by working with a single graphic artist, bulk purchasing of the signage and on shipping cost. It also provides MPRPD the opportunity to reach a broader audience, greatly enhancing our ability share the conservation message and showcase the diversity of the Carmel River watershed. MPRPD will honor your funding support by recognizing the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District on the signage.

I look forward to receiving your response. Please contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached by phone at (831) 372-3196 x 109 or email at [nelson@mprpd.org](mailto:nelson@mprpd.org).

Sincerely,

*JACKIE NELSON*

Jackie Nelson,  
Environmental Education Supervisor