

## EGWD Welcomes New Program Manager

Sarah Jones joined the Elk Grove Water District in October of 2016 as the Program Manager. This is a newly created leadership position tasked with providing project and program management for finance, operations, and administration, public information and legislative affairs.

Sarah has over a decade of natural resource management experience and previously worked at the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency in the Stormwater Department and she was the Water Conservation Specialist with South Tahoe Public Utility District, where she managed the Water Conservation Programs.

She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Liberal Studies and a Master of Applied Science in Environmental Policy with an emphasis in natural resource management. She is an outdoor enthusiast who enjoys road cycling, mountain biking and hiking. Sarah is a welcome addition to the EGWD team.

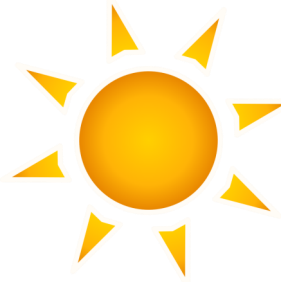
### Get Involved

Elk Grove Water District has five open Associate Director positions. For more information, please contact Stefani Phillips, Board Secretary at [sphillips@egwd.org](mailto:sphillips@egwd.org).

## District Happenings

### Summer Projects:

The Elk Grove Water District as part of its capital improvement program has several projects coming up this summer and into the new year. Currently, our crews are working on installing a fiber optic cable to improve communications between our district office and the water treatment plant. Other projects soon to be started are:



**Kent St. Water Main** – Installs a new 8-inch water main to replace the existing old 4-inch water main in Kent St.

**Service Line Replacements** – Replaces any remaining 3/4-inch service lines with 1-inch service lines.

**Backyard Water Mains Replacement** – Replaces 4-inch and 6-inch water mains located in backyard public utility easements with 8-inch water mains to be installed in the street right-of-ways.

**Well 8 Pump Replacement** – Replaces the existing water well pump with a pump designed to eliminate sand production at this well site.

For a complete list of capital projects, visit our website at [www.egwd.org](http://www.egwd.org).



# THE WATER DROP

ELK GROVE WATER DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Spring/Summer 2017

## Message From the General Manager

Over the past five years, California experienced one of the worst droughts on record. During this time, the Governor issued several emergency orders resulting in mandatory water use reductions in all areas of the State. To comply with these orders, the Elk Grove Water District (EGWD) implemented elevated stages of our Water Shortage Contingency Plan which imposed numerous impacts on you, our customers.

The drought is officially over in California and I am pleased to report that EGWD's water use between June 2015 and December 2016, which was perhaps the most critical period of the drought, was down by over 31 percent. This reduction is due entirely to your efforts in conserving water. The EGWD did not accomplish this - you, our customers did, and for that, we thank you.

Fortunately, because of California's wet winter, we are no longer subject to mandatory water use reductions imposed by the emergency drought declaration. Therefore, it is anticipated that EGWD will remain at the Normal Water Supply Stage throughout the summer. While some water use restrictions have been lifted, water waste is still prohibited. We can all appreciate that using water efficiently will be the way of life for all Californians in the future.

-Mark J. Madison

For more information on what constitutes water waste, please visit our website at [www.egwd.org](http://www.egwd.org), or give us a call at (916) 685-3556.



## Join EGWD at the Elk Grove Western Festival !

When: May 5-7

Where: Elk Grove Regional Park

For more information visit:

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



## Upcoming Regular Board Meetings

May 17 @ 6:30 p.m.	June 21 @ 6:30 p.m.	July 19 @ 6:30 p.m.	August 16 @ 6:30 p.m.	September 20 @ 6:30 p.m.	October 18 @ 6:30 p.m.
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Office Hours: **Monday—Thursday:** 7:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m. | **Every other Friday:** 7:30 a.m.— 4:00 p.m.

9257 Elk Grove Blvd. | Elk Grove, CA 95624 | Phone: (916) 685-3556 | Fax: (916) 685-5376

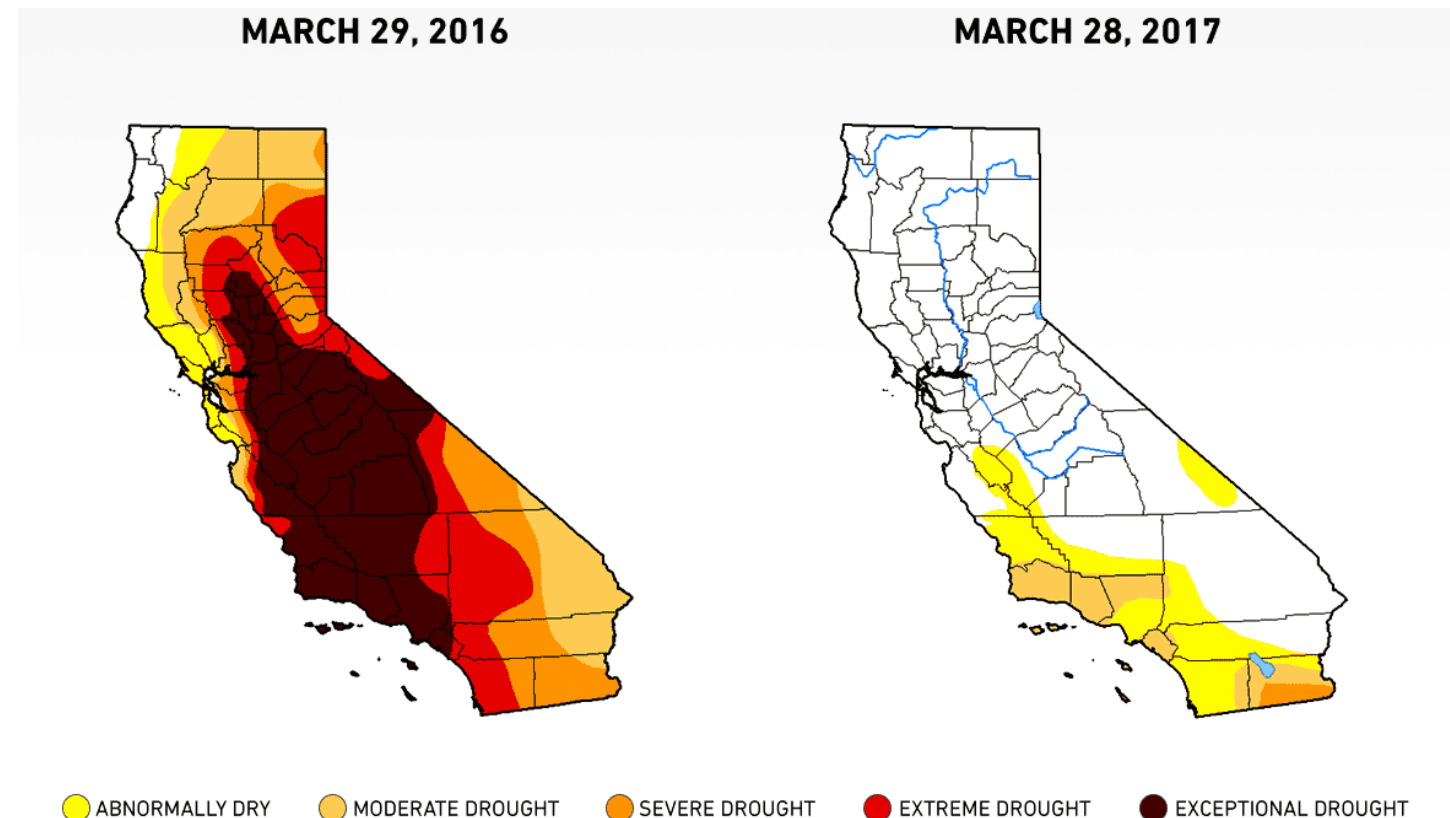
## Drought Emergency Ends in California

On Friday, April 7th, 2017 Governor Jerry Brown issued an executive order that ended the drought emergency declaration in most areas of the state that had been in effect since 2014. This has been one of the wettest winters in California, with record breaking rain and snowfall across the state. California's critical April snowpack reading came in at 164 percent of the historical average, and the U.S. Drought Monitor showed that less than 8 percent of the state was experiencing some form of drought, a drastic turnaround from the same time last year when 90 percent of the state was critically dry. While this is great news, the prolonged drought does have some lingering negative effects including diminished groundwater, subsidence from over pumping aquifers and tree mortality.

In addition to ending the Emergency Drought declaration, Governor Brown released the final draft of Executive Order B-37-16: *Making Water Conservation A California Way of Life*, which outlines new efficiency standards for urban water suppliers and permanent prohibitions on wasteful water practices including hosing of sidewalks and irrigating turf street medians.

While most of California is no longer in a drought, it is still important to use water efficiently and not waste water. Currently, the Elk Grove Water District is not experiencing a water supply shortage, therefore **“Normal Water Supply Stage”** restrictions are in effect which include prohibitions against using hoses without a nozzle, spraying sidewalks or driveways, watering for 48 hours after a rainfall event, allowing irrigation to run-off property into gutters and ditches and the use of non-circulating fountains.

For more information visit: [www.egwd.org](http://www.egwd.org)

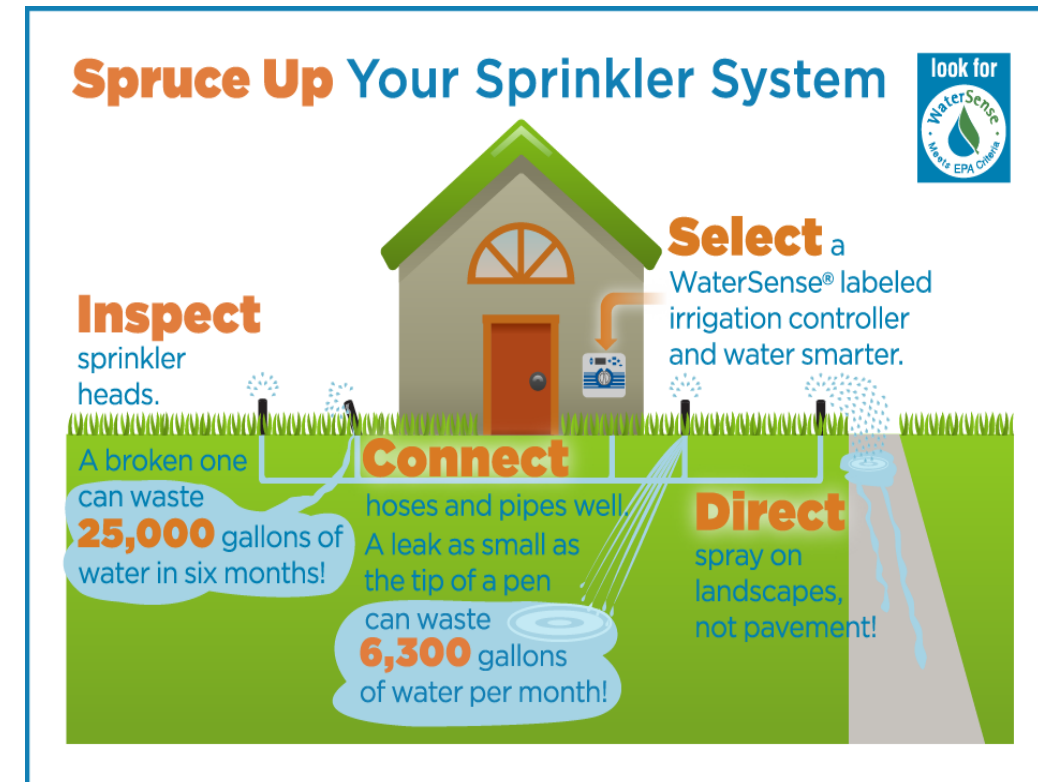


SOURCE: US DROUGHT MONITOR

## Sprinkler Spruce Up

The onset of warmer weather can lead to an increase in landscape irrigation. So, before you ramp up your watering, be sure to spruce up your irrigation system. System maintenance can help save you a lot of money and water. Cracks in pipes can lead to costly leaks, and broken sprinkler heads can waste water and money. You could be losing up to 25,000 gallons of water and more than \$90 over a six-month irrigation season!

Now is the perfect time to spruce up your irrigation system. To get started, follow these four simple steps—inspect, connect, direct, and select:



**Inspect.** Check your system for clogged, broken, or missing sprinkler heads. Better yet, go with a pro—find an irrigation professional certified by a WaterSense labeled irrigation program to do the work for you.

**Connect.** Examine points where the sprinkler heads connect to pipes/hoses. If water is pooling in your landscape or you have large soggy areas, you could have a leak in your system. A leak as small as the tip of a ballpoint pen (1/32 of an inch) can waste about 6,300 gallons of water per month.

**Direct.** Are you watering the driveway, house, or sidewalk instead of your yard? Redirect sprinklers to apply water only to the landscape.

**Select.** An improperly scheduled irrigation controller can waste a lot of water and money. Update your system's schedule with the seasons, or select a WaterSense labeled controller to take the guesswork out of scheduling.

For more information visit: [www.epa.gov/watersense/outdoor](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/outdoor)