

# The Water Drop

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## Special points of interest:

- **Volunteers are being sought for our Customer Advisory Committee**
- **May is Water Awareness Month!**
- **Free landscape irrigation reviews and indoor water efficiency surveys are available**

## Elk Grove Water District

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Mark Madison, General  
Manager

*Committed to supplying our customers with high quality, safe water along with outstanding customer service for current and future generations.*

## Water Rate Study in Progress

Every five years, the Elk Grove Water District (District) reviews the water rates to ensure that they are sufficient to meet the operational, debt service and capital needs of the District over a five-year timeframe. The last water rate study was completed and the rates were implemented in July, 2007. The District has hired Willdan Financial Services to provide the District with a study which will include a five year financial plan, a cost of service study and an Assembly Bill (AB) 1600 Nexus Study.

The five year financial plan will give recommendations to the District on future water rates needed to generate revenue for operations, capi-

tal and debt expenditures over the next five years. The cost of service study will recommend the future rate structure for the District's customer service types, which primarily include residential, commercial, and fire



service. The AB 1600 Nexus Study will make recommendations to the District for water connection fees that reflect the cost of adding new customers to the District's water system based on their related costs of additional facilities and capacity needed

to service them.

The District expects the study to be concluded in August of this year and potential implementation of the recommendations in the months following the completion. For information about the study, contact Dennis Coleman of the Finance Staff at (916) 685-3556.

## May is Water Awareness Month!

Celebrate Water Awareness Month with the Elk Grove Water District! Since 1989, California has designated May as Water Awareness Month, presenting an opportunity for water agencies like EGWD to draw attention to this important resource. EGWD will be hosting a booth at the Western Festival and participating at other events this spring to share information about water and our water service. Stop by to meet the staff and to learn about our latest projects.

Water Awareness Month is a great time to save money and save water! Stop water waste before it happens by getting a thorough evaluation of your sprinkler systems and checking for leaky toilets and other fixtures. Please call EGWD's Ellen Carlson at 685-3556.

## Fluoridated Water May be Coming your Way

Sacramento County supplies water to the Elk Grove Water Service in Area Two, which is located east of Waterman Road to Grant Line Road and most of the water service between Bond and Sheldon roads. Water being supplied by the Sacramento County Water Agency will be treated with fluoride beginning late summer or

early fall.

The water provided by the Elk Grove Water Service in their older areas between Highway 99 and Waterman Road will not be fluoridated. The County has indicated that there will be no charge for the first two years for fluoridation, as a grant will cover the costs.

## The Water Drop

# Water System Flushing

Elk Grove Water District conducts an annual flushing program of its water distribution system to help ensure continued high-quality water service. Flushing the water system entails sending a rapid flow of water through the water mains. The water is discharged through fire hydrants or blow-off valves. As part of the flushing program, fire hydrants are checked and operated to help ensure fire protection in the community.

Flushing the water distribution system is performed every year primarily to remove sediment in pipes. These sedi-

ments, which do not pose a health concern, are comprised mostly of minerals which have accumulated over time in the pipes. An annual flushing program helps to keep fresh and clear water throughout the distribution system.

While a flushing program is underway in your community, you may experience a slight drop in water pressure or temporary water discoloration. Please refrain from doing laundry during the time of day the flushing program is taking place in or near your neighborhood. If tap water is discolored, we recommend allowing several

cold-water faucets to run for a short time until the water runs clear. Using more than one faucet allows the water to clear faster.

**Water Distribution Operator John Diaz flushes a line in preparation for repairs.**



## Community Advisory Committee

As part of the water rate study, the Board of Directors feel strongly about involving the community in the analysis of the District's financial needs. For this reason, the Board has directed that a Community Advisory Committee be reestablished to assist and review the District's work in preparing the rate study.

In January 2007, a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) was established to help the District with the last water rate study. During that proc-

ess, the CAC was helpful in providing ideas and feedback regarding water quality, changes in water rates, and the future needs of the District. Between January and May of 2007, the District held several Community Advisory Committee meetings. Ten members of the community (residents, property owners, and business owners) participated in those meetings, which provided constructive and purposeful insight to the District from the customer's perspective.

The new Community Advisory Committee meetings are anticipated to begin during the summer of 2012. We will advertise for volunteers through our website and the Elk Grove Citizen. The District looks forward to meeting with individuals from our community, in an effort to serve our customers with all interests in mind.



## Slamson Did It and You Can Too!

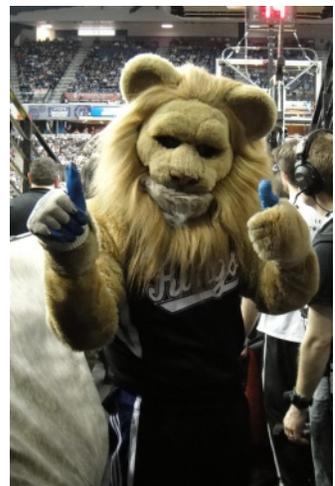
***Take the Blue Thumb pledge and be entered to win a signed Kings jersey!***

Take the Blue Thumb pledge to use water efficiently at [BeWaterSmart.info](http://BeWaterSmart.info) and be entered to win a Sacramento Kings jersey autographed by #15 Center DeMarcus Cousins, compliments of the Regional Water Authority, Elk Grove Water District and local water providers.

From stopping runoff to using a shut-off nozzle on hoses, you too can make a personal pledge to use water efficiently outdoors and win

cool prizes like an official pair of Blue Thumb garden gloves. And if you submit a photo of yourself wearing the gloves and giving a Blue Thumbs up to [BeWaterSmart@rwah2o.org](mailto:BeWaterSmart@rwah2o.org) by June 27, 2012, your chances of winning the jersey will increase.

Learn more about the Kings jersey give-away and take the Blue Thumb pledge today at [BeWaterSmart.info](http://BeWaterSmart.info).



**Slamson took the Blue Thumb pledge!**