



A DEPARTMENT OF THE  
Florin Resource Conservation District  
9829 Waterman Rd.  
Elk Grove, CA 95624

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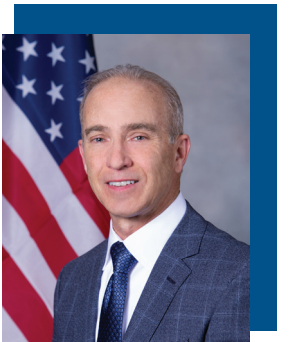
| Spring 2023

# The Water Drop

ELK GROVE WATER DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

## Message From the General Manager

There have been so many atmospheric rivers soaking Elk Grove this winter that I have lost count. In addition to all the rain, California has received historic snow accumulations in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The central and southern Sierra Nevada mountains are on track to break the all-time record in 1983, and the northern region is not far behind. The record amounts of rain and snow are putting a big dent in the three-year drought the Sacramento region has been withstanding. Maps from the U.S. Drought Monitor website shown below show the stark change in how California has recovered from the drought.



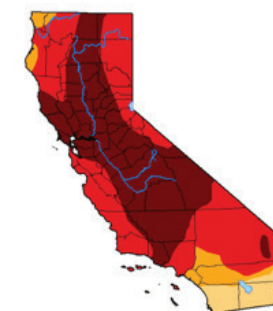
On March 24, 2023, Governor Newsom rolled back many of the drought emergency provisions, effectively ending the official declaration of a drought in our area. This means that customers are no longer being asked to voluntarily conserve 15% water consumption.

On March 14, 2023, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency proposed new primary drinking water regulations for six of the most common per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). PFAS have been in the news a lot. They have been dubbed "forever chemicals" because it takes a long length of time for the chemicals to break down. PFAS have been used widely in all kinds of products such as nonstick cookware, water-repellent clothing, some cosmetics, and some firefighting foams to name a few. The effect of PFAS on human health is still being studied to be more fully understood. In 2020, the Elk Grove Water District (District) tested all its active water wells for PFAS. The results were either non-detect or below state detection limits. The District is currently conducting another round of PFAS testing to comply with a new state-wide order.

For the past five months, the District has been conducting a Water Rate and Connection Fee Study. The District does this every five years to ensure that the revenues collected are sufficient to cover ongoing operating, capital and debt service costs. The District formed a Community Advisory Committee consisting of 10 customers to help guide the study. I have been impressed with the committee's engagement throughout the process. They have been instrumental in helping staff and the District's consultant work through the study's details. Their recommendations and input have helped the board of directors make decisions. One thing the committee told me I should do is remind our customers that the District has a track record of only implementing rate increases if warranted. Although the last five-year rate study recommended rate increases in three of those years, the District, through prudent financial management, was able to forgo rate increases for two of those years, ensuring our customers' rates remained unchanged for a total of four years. My commitment to you is the District will continue to work along these lines and only implement rate increases as needed.

*B. M. Pappas*

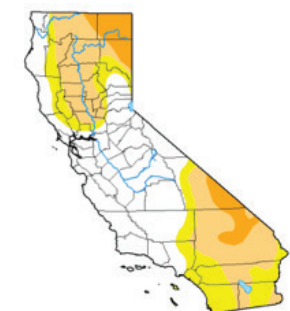
U.S. Drought Monitor  
California



September 28, 2021  
(Released Thursday, Sep. 30, 2021)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



U.S. Drought Monitor  
California



March 14, 2023  
(Released Thursday, Mar. 16, 2023)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



## Upcoming Regular Board Meetings

Florin Resource Conservation District regular board meetings are held every 3rd Tuesday of the month. The board meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. Location information can be found on Elk Grove Water District's website ([www.egwd.org](http://www.egwd.org)) every month.

April 18th  
May 16th  
June 20th  
July 19th

Take the Be Water Smart pledge!

# CHECK THE SOIL AND SAVE

A MOISTURE METER TELLS YOU IF YOUR YARD NEEDS WATER



TO LEARN MORE VISIT [BEWATERSMART.INFO](http://BEWATERSMART.INFO) OR [SAVEOURWATER.COM](http://SAVEOURWATER.COM)



# GET YOUR YARD SPRING AND SUMMER READY!



Spring is here and with it typically an increase in outdoor water use. You can be water-wise and have a healthier, happier yard by using these techniques:

**Check the Soil Moisture Level:** Looks can be deceiving. The best way to tell if your plants need water is by checking the soil moisture level. You can get a complimentary moisture meter from EGWD office while supplies last.

**Check for Leaks:** Over the winter landscape irrigation can break which could cause an unexpected mess or high usage come Spring. While setting up for change to your irrigation system for the spring check each zone to make sure there are no leaks in the system. Need help call our office and we can set you up with a complimentary water audit.

**Water Early in the Morning:** Make sure to set your sprinklers to run first thing in the morning to reduce water loss from evaporation.

**Upgrade Your Sprinklers:** Replacing your pop-up sprinklers with efficient rotator sprinklers can help you use 30 percent less water every time you turn on your sprinklers and have healthier plants. Rotator sprinklers deliver heavy droplets of water at a slower rate that is more easily absorbed by the soil. They make sure more water gets to your plants and less is lost to evaporation or run off.

If you're looking for more gardening or landscape tips visit [BeWaterSmart.info](http://BeWaterSmart.info).



## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT *Alan Aragon*

Alan Aragon (Utility Supervisor) leads our utility department, which is busy installing water mains as part of the Districts Capital Improvement Program. Alan and his team install over 3,000 feet of water main pipe a year. You can find him and his crew working on Locust St for the next few months. In April, Alan will be celebrating his 10th anniversary with the District and is a valued member of the team. When not working, Alan is a family man and an avid football and 49er fan, having been the commissioner of his fantasy football league for the last 15 years.



## Now Available! Recurring Credit Card Payments

Visit our website or give our office a call to set up a recurring credit card payment. Upon completion of setup, it will take one billing cycle to take effect. If you have any questions, please contact our office.

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