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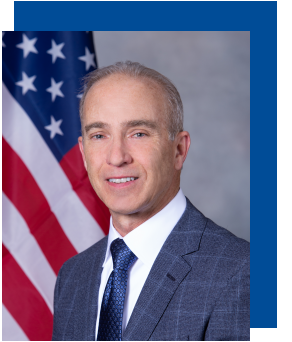
| Summer 2023

The Water Drop

ELK GROVE WATER DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Do we have your most up to date contact information? Contact Customer Service at 916-685-3556 to add or make changes to your contact information.

Message From the General Manager



It's hot! Fortunately, California's reservoirs this summer are great places to recreate and cool off. What a relief! Shasta, Oroville, and Folsom lakes are respectively at 90%, 96% and 92% capacity. The snowmelt not only filled the state's reservoirs, it also percolated into the ground and replenished groundwater aquifers. Elk Grove Water District (EGWD) monitors groundwater elevations in its area and the news is good. Groundwater elevations continue to rise as regional water purveyors use more surface water when available and less groundwater. This practice, known as "conjunctive use", allows groundwater to be banked, creating a reliable water supply that may be withdrawn during periods of droughts. Water managers in the region are hard at work to expand conjunctive use as work continues on the development of the Sacramento Regional Water Bank.

On July 18, 2023, the Florin Resource Conservation District Board of Directors approved the EGWD 2024-2028 Water Rate Study. The Water Rate Study is the culmination of eight months of hard work. The 10-member community advisory committee's input throughout the process was invaluable. Staff and the water rate consultant prepared the Water Rate Study based on the committee's recommendations. The Water Rate Study strikes a good balance of keeping water rate increases low while providing necessary funding to maintain the water system in a good state of operation, now and for the future. Staff will closely monitor financial conditions each year. If conditions allow rate increases to be lessened or deferred, EGWD will do so.

Finally, I am pleased to report that EGWD has completed testing of its water supply wells for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The State Water Resources Control Board (Board) issued a state-wide general order requiring all water agencies to test for PFAS. The general order required EGWD to test for PFAS in four wells. EGWD felt an obligation to its customers to test for PFAS in all seven wells it operates. The results of the testing found that PFAS is not present in any of the wells. That is excellent news, and I am happy to share it with you. I hope you have a great summer!

B. M. Lewis

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) every month.

August 15
September 19
October 17
November 21

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 OR SAVEOURWATER.COM



NOW AVAILABLE!

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 at (916) 685-3556.





Summer Yard Care

Summer brings outdoor barbecues and backyard play for children of all ages. As many people spend more time outdoors during the summer months than any other time, follow these tips for a healthy, water-wise yard.

☀️ **Water Correctly** | Many people think the summer months mean watering more frequently - but the way you water is more important than the frequency with which you water. Grass and plants are resilient and have mechanisms that help them deal with summer heat. Efficient tips for watering include:

- Water your plants less often, but deeply.
- Water in the early morning or evening hours so the sun and heat don't steal moisture from your plants.
- Use drip irrigation instead of sprinklers and hoses. Drip irrigation waters plants slowly so the water doesn't run off or evaporate.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Justin Mello

Justin Mello is celebrating his 10th year working with Elk Grove Water in August. Justin primarily works in the utility department assisting with the replacement of old and undersized water mains. He holds the title of Safety Officer for the utility crew, which means he oversees all the potential hazards of the job and acts to correct them. Justin is a great operator, but an even better husband and father to his two kids. His love of sports is limitless and to say he is a fan of the 49ers and Giants would be quite an understatement.

☀️ **Choose Wisely** | Choosing the right plants to begin with. Plants that are native to your region will be best adapted to your weather conditions and will need less water. Even if you choose natives, be sure those natives are listed as drought tolerant since even some natives prefer wetter conditions. You can also choose drought-resistant or low-water plants and turf varieties.

☀️ **Consider drip irrigation** | Drip irrigation puts water where plants need it most—at the roots. Some even have timers so you can prevent overwatering which is one of the biggest reason plants die.

☀️ **Water Audit** | Elk Grove Water District offers free water audits through Water Wise. A certified technician will visit your home free of charge to examine your home's irrigation system and will prepare a report to help you maximize your system's benefits while minimizing your water use. They can also evaluate your water efficiency inside your home. Contact customer service at 916-685-3556 to request your free water use audit.

If you're looking for plant ideas perfect for our region, check out the plant guides at [BeWaterSmart.info](https://www.elkgrovewater.com/BeWaterSmart/info).



Capitol Improvement Update

Every year the District updates its five-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The CIP provides the District with a roadmap for repair and maintenance work to District infrastructure on a rolling five-year schedule. This past year the District completed water main replacements on Adams St, 2nd Ave and Grove St Ally. The next scheduled water main replacement projects are located on Locust St, Summit St Ally, School St and Deer St. If you would like to learn more about other projects the District will be doing, please visit the Technical Services Department section of our website - www.egwd.org/technical-services.

