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| Spring 2022

The Water Drop

ELK GROVE WATER DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Message From the General Manager



In spite of the COVID pandemic, I am pleased to report that the Elk Grove Water District (District) continues to maintain all operations and services to its customers without any interruptions. On May 17, 2021, we reopened the District office to the public and have kept it open as COVID waves have ebbed and flowed. Those of us in the office are answering customer's calls and doing the District's business. Our field operation crews are busy installing new water mains and maintaining the water system. It is important to us that through thick and thin, we meet our commitment of delivering exceptional customer service and high-quality water.

On a regional level, several important milestones have occurred that I want to share with you. These milestones will guide District decisions around water supply operations. The first milestone is the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority's (SCGA) submittal of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) to the California Department of Water Resources. SCGA is an agency that is responsible for managing groundwater in our region. It is comprised of 16 board members of which I am a board member. The GSP is a comprehensive plan to ensure the groundwater basin, from which our district and other water agencies pump water, is operated sustainably. Recently passed state law requires every groundwater basin in California to have a GSP that shows how the basin will reach sustainability within 20 years. Good news! The GSP shows our basin is currently operated sustainably, but as the region develops, projects will be needed to ensure basin sustainability. The SCGA will have many discussions around operating the groundwater basin in the months and years to come. I encourage you to get involved and attend the SCGA board meetings. To learn more about SCGA and the GSP, visit the SCGA website at <https://scgah2o.saccounty.net/Pages/default.aspx>.

The second milestone is the Sacramento region received record rainfall in late October 2021, and then more rain in December 2021. The heavy rainfall and snow in the mountains gave our region relief from historic drought conditions going into this year's rainy season. However, a dry January and February are reminding us that we may still be in a drought at the end of the rainy season. I ask all our customers to continue to voluntarily reduce water use by 15%. We must be prepared if drought conditions persist in 2022. Thank you for your support, and all of us at the District look forward to serving you in 2022.

B. M. Um'bs

Sign up for paperless billing:

- Visit www.egwd.org
- Customers
- Pay Your Bill
- View Account

You can register for a new account or update your existing account with your email address. Please remember to include your email address when registering for the first time.



**GO GREEN!
GO Paperless!**

Upcoming Regular Board Meetings

Florin Resource Conservation District regular board meetings are held every 3rd Tuesday of the month from 6:00pm – 8:00pm. Location information can be found on Elk Grove Water District's website (www.egwd.org) every month.

March 15
April 19
May 17
June 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



Water-Wise Tips for *Spring*

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 Weather

Make sure to check the weather and turn off your sprinklers if rain is in the forecast. With California experiencing drought like conditions its important to turn off and dial back irrigation timers to prevent wasting water.

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 the EGWD office while supplies last.

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.

Cycle and Soak

It's not a way to make your whites brighter, but it will make your plants happier. For those with traditional, non-weather based sprinkler timers, cycle and soak is a method for applying water to your yard in three to four minute increments spaced an hour apart. Programming your sprinkler timer this way will allow the water to be better absorbed by the soil and reduce run off.

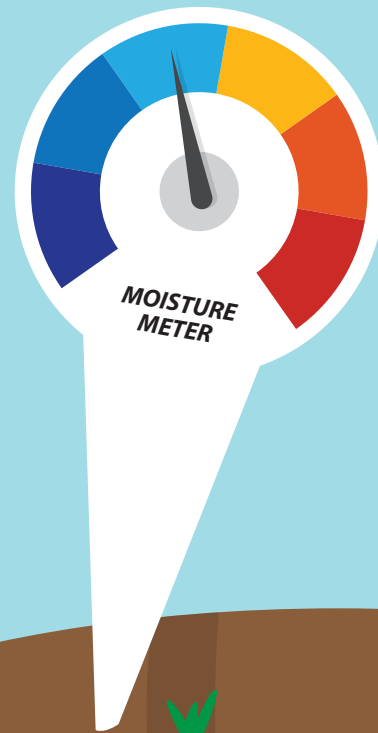
Here's how it works:

- Cycle: Run your sprinklers for three minutes or until you see runoff.
- Soak: Wait an hour.
- Check the soil moisture.
- Repeat, if needed, until moisture reaches the roots.
- Program your sprinkler timer to cycle and soak.

Water Early in the Morning

Make sure to set your sprinklers to run first thing in the morning to reduce water loss from evaporation.

Learn more at www.BeWaterSmart.info



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

David Frederick

David Frederick just celebrated his ten-year anniversary working for the Elk Grove Water District (EGWD). David has worked in the water industry for 24 years and is one of EGWD's most technically proficient operators. David helps the distribution team in numerous ways, replacing service lines and fire hydrants, and repairing water main leaks. His honesty, trustworthiness, and problem-solving skills make David a valued member of the EGWD team. Outside of work, David is first and foremost a family man and spends most of his spare time helping his sons to develop through sports and other healthy extra-curricular activities.

IN REMBERANCE Board Director, Bob Gray

On December 26, 2021, Board Director Bob Gray passed away. He is honored for his 15 years of active participation with the district, eight of which he served as a Director of the Board. Bob dedicated his time graciously to the District, and was well known for his understanding of complex technical issues and his attention to details. For 15 years, Bob provided steady and thoughtful guidance to the district, first as a regular attendee of the public at board meetings, and later as a Director of the Board. Bob cared deeply about providing excellent representation for the ratepayers of the District. The Board and staff valued Bob's opinions and direction greatly. On a personal note, Bob was an avid cyclist who from time-to-time would ride his bike to jobsites to check on staff's progress with capital improvement projects. I have fond memories of meeting Bob at jobsites and talking shop. Bob will be missed dearly by the Board of Directors and staff.

-Bruce Kamilos, General Manager