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| FALL / WINTER 2017

The Water Drop

ELK GROVE WATER DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Board Meetings

Florin Resource Conservation District/ Elk Grove Water District
Regular Board Meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month
from 6:30 -9:00 pm at 9257 Elk Grove Blvd., Elk Grove, CA 95624

November 15, 2017
December - TBD
January 17, 2018
February 21, 2018
March 21, 2018

The Elk Grove Water District occasionally receives calls regarding water quality issues including discolored water and debris. Quite often, the cause of these issues is lack of maintenance of home water softener systems. The following maintenance tips are provided as general information for homeowners, and do not represent a comprehensive maintenance plan or requirements for all water softeners.

FOUR TIPS TO MAINTAIN WATER SOFTENER SYSTEMS:

1. Use pure salt with iron remover. Standard rock salt is less expensive, but the contaminants it contains will cost you more in the long run.
2. Don't add salt until almost all the salt in the tank is used up. Then refill the tank no more than two-thirds full.
3. Use Iron-Out once a year to clean the resin bed and the parts in the control valve.
4. Clean the brine tank once a year. Even pure salt contains contaminants.

Specific questions regarding the maintenance and repair of your water softener system should be directed to a local water treatment dealer or plumber

Message From the General Manager

Did you know that the Elk Grove Water District (EGWD) is actually a department of the Florin Resource Conservation District? There are about 100 resource conservation districts (RCD's) in the State of California and these RCD's are generally charged with protecting the natural resources we all share.

One of the most important natural resources is water. More specifically, our State's groundwater supply is a resource which in many areas has been over pumped causing land subsidence, loss of groundwater storage, and even physical damage to structures and utilities. Fortunately, none of those problems have occurred in Elk Grove and our region's groundwater basin is very stable.

In 2014, the Governor signed into law what is now referred to as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). In my opinion, SGMA is the most significant change in California water law (in literally 100 years) from when California water rights laws were first put into place.

The significance of SGMA is that, unlike in most other states, groundwater in California has never been regulated. Granted, there are some groundwater basins predominantly in Southern California that are "adjudicated", but the rest of the State has never been controlled. Yep, it has always been the "wild west", but SGMA is going to change that.

In our area, SGMA will require the formation of a regulatory agency to ensure that our basin remains stable, or "sustainable". The EGWD has been working with other partners in our region, already formed as the Sacramento Central Groundwater Agency, to satisfy this requirement and implement a plan to keep our groundwater basin in a healthy condition.

Why is this important to you? The answer is that our water (your water) is primarily supplied from the ground and preserving that supply is necessary to safeguard our future.

We here at the Elk Grove Water District are heavily involved in that effort and we encourage public involvement. If any of you, as our customers, would like to become more involved in the protection of our groundwater basin, or simply would like more information, please give me a call. I'd be happy to get you on our team.

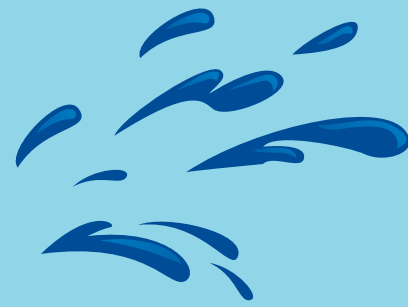
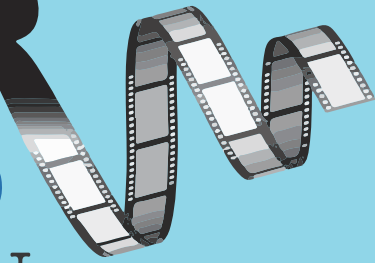
- Mark Madison



REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY

WATER SPOTS

VIDEO CONTEST



FREE!

COMMUNITY CONSERVATION WORKSHOP SERIES

Students are challenged to show off their super video skills by creating a 30-second public service video focused on the 2018 theme: H2O Hero

The Water Spots Video Contest challenges young film makers to create compelling and original 30-second Public Service Announcement (PSA) videos about using water wisely. This year's theme is focused on teaching people what it means to be an "H2O Hero."

New prizes for students! Including the chance to see the grand prize winning video premiere on the big screen at Sacramento-area movie theaters during summer 2018, cash prizes and Amazon gift cards.

Teacher incentive prizes are back! The three teachers that submit the most videos will each receive a \$100 Amazon gift card (minimum eligibility is 10 videos per teacher).

The contest is open to middle and high school students attending schools in Sacramento, Placer and El Dorado counties and the City of West Sacramento. Judging will be based on creativity, entertainment value, accuracy, originality and incorporation of the 2018 water efficiency topic. Entries are due by Friday, March 16, 2018.

See all the details at <http://bewatersmart.info/waterspots>

- 2017/2018 SCHEDULE -

21 | Vermiculture
OCT | Worm Fancy

04 | Water Efficient Landscaping
NOV | Irrigation Trouble Shooting
Green Acres Nursery

18 | Pollinator Habitat Gardens
NOV | Green Acres Nursery

17 | Beekeeping
FEB | Steve Hays / Beekeeper

10 | Organic Pest Control
MAR | Lee Miller / Master Gardener

24 | Rain Gardens
MAR | Paul Newton / CSD

All Classes are from 10am-12pm
Elk Grove Community Garden
10025 Hampton Oak Drive, Elk Grove, CA 95624



RSVP to sjones@egwd.org



EGWD Welcomes NEW Finance Manager

Patrick Lee joined the Elk Grove Water District in September of 2017 as the District's new Finance Manager. He has over 10 years of accounting and financial reporting experience, most recently as a Finance Manager for the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency. In that role he managed finance operations and oversaw a number of community planning and development grants. He was a Senior Accountant for the County of Sacramento managing the County's retirement contributions and member system database. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Accounting. In his free time he enjoys staying active by running and playing basketball. Patrick is a welcome addition to the EGWD family!



Capital Improvement Program Update

Every year, the Elk Grove Water District assesses its facilities and determines where improvements, repairs or new facilities are required. For fiscal year 2017/18, two key projects are planned that will improve the capacity and performance of the water system. The first project is the replacement of an old, undersized water main in Kent Street with a new 10-inch water main. Construction of this project will start in October 2017. Later in the fiscal year, crews will begin working on the Backyard Water Mains Project. This project replaces old, undersized 4-inch water mains with new 8-inch water mains and relocates them from the backyard public utility easements to the right-of-ways in the streets. Construction of the Backyard Water Mains Project will occur over a three-year period with completion planned for 2020. For a complete list of capital improvement projects, visit our website at egwd.org.

