



# ELDORADO AREA WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT WATER NOTES

<http://www.EAWSD.org>

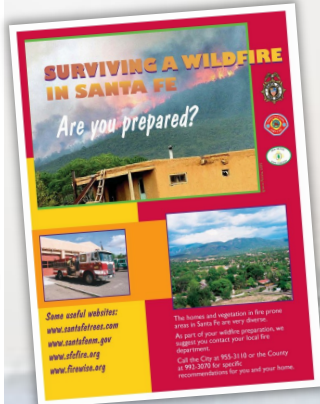
June 2026 Volume 21, Issue 6

## Fire Prevention & Preparedness — Helpful Tips



The EAWSD Board meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month. The meetings start at 5:30 P.M. and are held in the EAWSD Public Conference Rm. at 2 N. Chamisa Drive. If an attendee prefers to participate in a Board or Committee meeting via ZOOM.com, please email [admin.manager@EAWSD.org](mailto:admin.manager@EAWSD.org) or call (505) 466-2411 and an invitation and call-in number will be sent to you. Each meeting allows for public comment.

The Board meeting agenda is posted in advance on the District website calendar and at outdoor displays at the EAWSD Admin. office, Agora Shopping Center and ECIA.



Warmer temperatures and windy days are here and with them comes a greater possibility of fire. There are many resources for customers to use, including the **READY, SET, GO FIRE PREPAREDNESS PLAN** set forth by Santa Fe County, which was featured in previous editions of *Water Notes*. Recently, we encountered another great resource that the City of Santa Fe provides to its residents. It is a user-friendly booklet titled "SURVIVING A WILDFIRE IN SANTA FE." As the booklet reminds us, many large fires are caused by small mistakes, and it is in your best interest to be careful, especially on windy days. See the recommended tips below:

- Soak fireplace ashes.
- Stay with your barbeque grill while cooking or don't use the grill on very windy days.
- Park your car away from tall dry grass.
- Be careful when burning weeds and debris in an open field or anywhere near your home.
- Consider a screen on your chimney to prevent sparks from flying.

### SIMPLE SUGGESTIONS TO REDUCE THE POSSIBILITY THAT YOUR HOUSE WILL BE DAMAGED BY A WILDFIRE:

- ▶ Move firewood away from the house
- ▶ Move outdoor furniture made of wood or cloth away from structures
- ▶ Keep dried grass and weeds cut short around the house
- ▶ Clean pine needles off the roof
- ▶ Thin or prune dense trees and shrubs near your house
- ▶ Rake pine needles and tree bark away from structures

Make sure you list the items you wish to take with you in case of a fire and know where they are located. Consider gathering some of them now and keeping them in a box that you can quickly "grab and go". Click on either link below for more information.

[Surviving a Wildfire in Santa Fe, NM](#) | [Ready, Set, Go! Personal Wildfire Action Plan](#)



1. **PHONE**, plus charger and phone numbers of people you can contact for help or accommodations.
2. **PAPERS**, like birth or marriage certificates, tax records, bank account information etc.
3. **PILLS**, especially prescriptions, eyeglasses and other medical supplies.
4. **PICTURES**, family mementos, and if time allows, small items of value (artwork, jewelry etc.).
5. **PETS**, pet food, leashes and pet carriers.

There are other great suggestions in this Fire Prevention Booklet including evacuation routes and preparing your vehicle as well as what you can do if conditions exist which make the option for sheltering at home a better one. This is by no means a comprehensive list, and we encourage you to use any and all fire prevention resources that are available.

## News Briefs

◆ **EAWSD BUSINESS OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS: Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>** in observance of JUNETEENTH and on **Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>** in observance of the INDEPENDENCE DAY Holiday. If you experience a water emergency on either of these holidays, call the emergency number (505) 780-0090 and your call will be directed to an on-call field technician.

◆ **2026 WATER QUALITY REPORT (CCR)** for water treated in 2025 is available for viewing on the EAWSD website at ([www.eawsd.org](http://www.eawsd.org)) or by clicking NEWS & NOTICES under the heading *2025 Consumer Confidence Report*. To obtain a hard

copy of the CCR document call our front desk at (505) 466-1085, Opt. 1, and schedule a time to pick one up.

### ◆ EAWSD WISHES TO EXPRESS "THANKS" TO OUR LOCAL ELDORADO TREE SAMARITANS



for volunteering their tree trimming services to trim overgrown trees that were obstructing the road at N. Chamisa Drive. We are greatly appreciative of your time and effort.

**For water emergencies during business hours, call 505-466-1085**  
**For water emergencies after hours and on holidays, call 505-780-0090**

### Next Month in *Water Notes*

- From the General Manager
- Recent Board Activities
- Sustainability Corner
- May 2026 System Updates
- News Briefs

### ELDORADO AREA WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT

#### BOARD MEMBERS

- John Calzada, PRESIDENT
- David Burling, VICE PRESIDENT
- David Yard, SECRETARY
- Elizabeth Roghair, TREASURER
- Gary Sanford, DIRECTOR

#### GENERAL MANAGER

- Maya R. Clifford
- 2 N. Chamisa Drive | Suite A
- Santa Fe NM 87508
- 505-466-2411

EMAIL: [info@EAWSD.org](mailto:info@EAWSD.org)

#### MANAGING EDITOR

- Anna Mondragon-Metzger
- [admin.manager@EAWSD.org](mailto:admin.manager@EAWSD.org)

## Summer Watering Restrictions & Conservation Surcharge are in Effect

As mentioned in the last two issues of *Water Notes*, the District's ANNUAL SUMMER WATERING RESTRICTIONS AND CONSERVATION SURCHARGE have been in effect as of May 1<sup>st</sup> and will continue through August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026. Mandatory implementation of these two "water management" initiatives are more important than ever owing to persistent drought conditions in New Mexico and neighboring states with limited or no other resources to draw from.

### GUIDELINES FOR EAWSD SUMMER WATERING RESTRICTIONS:

- A. Outdoor watering of *non-food producing* landscapes is restricted to **one of the following two options** of the customer's choosing:
    1. **Any three (3) Weekdays, (NO WEEKEND WATERING); OR**
    2. **Two (2) days per week including ONE (1) weekend day as follows:**
      - a) ODD-NUMBERED house addresses on Tuesday and Saturday.
      - b) EVEN-NUMBERED house addresses on Thursday and Sunday.
  - B. Outdoor watering during the cooler part of the day — **BEFORE 9:00 am and AFTER 6:00 ONLY.**
  - C. *No* washing of outdoor hard surfaces (e.g., driveways, patios, sidewalks).
  - D. *No* washing of vehicles, including recreational vehicles or trailers.
  - E. Filling or adding water to a covered outdoor spa/hot tub is *allowed*. However, filling or adding water to pools or outdoor water features (e.g., fountains, ponds) is *NOT allowed*.
  - F. *No* water use or sales from District fire hydrants, except in accordance with contract requirements for EAWSD contractors.
- \* Note that all restrictions presented apply only to the use of EAWSD water and not to the use of recycled and/or catchment water.



**THE WATER CONSERVATION SURCHARGE** was initiated at the same time as the Summer Watering Restrictions. Customer water use for **May, (billed in June) through August, (billed in September)** will be subject to the District's annual Conservation Surcharge. The Conservation Surcharge applies only to residential customers who **use more than 10,000 gallons of water in any of those months**. If you exceed the 10,000 gallons per month, you will be charged an additional 50% of the applicable rate tier for water use in excess of 10,000 gallons. Customers who use less than 10,000 gallons per month during summer months *will not be affected* by the Conservation Surcharge. Please do your part to conserve water during the critical summer months.

## System Management Updates

### April 2026 System Management Updates

**5,939,000** gallons were pumped for the month of April from Wells 7, 8, 9, 15, 17, & 18. Additionally, **5,611,000** gallons were delivered from Santa Fe County.

### Work Order History for the Month of April 2026

- ◆ **350** total service orders were completed.
  - 79 customer service work orders.
  - 271 system maintenance work orders.
- ◆ There was one (1) customer shut-off in April owing to payment delinquency.
- ◆ In the month of April approximately **96 water samples** were tested for chlorine from multiple sites. All resulted in normal readings. Eight (8) samples for Bac-T (fecal and e-coli tests) were sent to a State Certified Laboratory in Santa Fe, and all were rated "Excellent."

## Recent Board Activities

**If there is any supporting documentation regarding any of the Recent Board Activities as shown below, the link is provided. You can also email [admin.manager@EAWSD.org](mailto:admin.manager@EAWSD.org) or call 466-2411 for additional information.**

- ▶ Approved new member, S. Brugger, to the CAPITAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CPAC), by Consent Agenda
- ▶ Approved amended, restated and extended Jacobs Operations & Maintenance Contract
- ▶ Accepted and approved the recommendation of the CPAC and staff members on the rollout of SMART METERING REPLACEMENT initiatives
- ▶ Approved an adjustment to the District's Operational Property Tax Mill Levy to meet the needs of the District for FY2027 by [Resolution N<sup>o</sup>. 26-05-01](#)
- ▶ Approved Resolution [N<sup>o</sup>. 26-05-02](#) to amend and reinstate Loan DW-6358 for Phase II (*part of the Monte Alto Pipeline Replacement Project*)
- ▶ Approved the FY2027 Interim Budget by Resolution [N<sup>o</sup>. 26-05-03](#)
- ▶ Approved updates to the 3rd Edition of the EAWSD Personnel Policies Manual

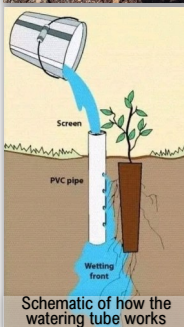
## Sustainability Corner — DIY Irrigation tube



On a recent visit to our office, EAWSD customer, Jim Olsen (pictured left), amiably shared a DIY low tech irrigation tube that he constructed for use in his own garden, using a little handyman ingenuity and a few inexpensive materials from the local hardware store. Albeit, he acknowledged that this is not his original idea, it is still worthy of sharing with the community especially during summer watering restrictions and perpetual drought conditions.



**WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?** - Using a watering tube has proven to be highly effective in New Mexico's harsh, arid climate as it dramatically reduces water evaporation; encourages deep root growth; prevents weed growth because the water is traveling further down into the ground and does not allow weeds to germinate on the dry topsoil; reduces fungal disease in damp topsoil; and most importantly, saves water by bypassing the surface and delivering the water directly to the roots. If you are up for the challenge, here's what you'll need and "general" guidance for constructing the irrigation tube:



- ▶ **PVC PIPE:** Diameter (1" - 2") and length of the pipe (12" - 18") are determined by what you intend to water and how deep you will be burying the pipe.
- ▶ **ELECTRIC DRILL:** You will want to drill 1/4" or smaller holes spaced 2 to 3 inches apart around the bottom one-third of the pipe which allows water to seep directly into the ground and get to the roots.
- ▶ **LANDSCAPING FABRIC or GEOTEXTILE:** to wrap the perforated pipe and keep dirt from clogging the holes.
- ▶ **1/4" WIRE MESH:** to put over the opening of the PVC pipe for water input into the pipe and either heavy duty tape or a cap to hold it in place.
- ▶ **GRAVEL:** to add into the hole and allow for better disbursement of the water.

We've provided a very broad overview of how to construct an irrigation tube, but if you are interested in researching further, there are a number of YouTube videos on line to help you. Thank you Mr. Olson for sharing this simple, yet effective conservation tool and proactively using it in your own garden.