



ELDORADO AREA WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT WATER NOTES

<http://www.EAWSD.org>

May 2026 Volume 21, Issue 5

Summer Watering Restrictions & Conservation Surcharge in Effect

As mentioned in last month's *Water Notes*, the District's ANNUAL SUMMER WATERING RESTRICTIONS AND CONSERVATION SURCHARGE are in effect as of May 1st and will continue through August 31st, 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 will commence 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.

Drip Irrigation System Start-up — Tips to Help Prevent Costly Leaks!



As the community continues to monitor its water consumption and manage the precious resource of water, you, as water consumers, play an important role in helping to ensure adequate water delivery to all customers during the peak summer months, June through August. In turn, that helps you manage your summer water bills.

We'll start by adding a checklist of actions that specifically target EAWSD's biggest culprit for catastrophic leaks; **irrigation systems**. If you have an irrigation system, it is important to thoroughly check your system for potential leaks and water line breaks **before** placing it into service and throughout the summer, as well as after each winter season, regardless of how new it is. If any of the tasks below seem like something you

are unable to do on your own, consider hiring a reliable local drip irrigation specialist to do your spring start-up and fall shut-down activities:

Below are some tips to ensure that your drip irrigation system is working properly before start-up:

- Consult** your equipment owner's manual for information on cleaning filters, replacing batteries (if needed).
- Set** your drip irrigation system for a time and frequency that coincides with SUMMER WATERING RESTRICTIONS as shown above. Avoid watering on windy or rainy days and during the middle of the day.
- Flush** your drip tubing periodically; water quality, including filtering, will determine the frequency of flushing. Catch any water released by the flushing so that you can use it to hand water other plants.
- Inspect** the system while it is running. Are all emitters working? Are there any leaks? Fix any obvious problems. Be aware that exposed drip lines can be damaged by the sun, as well as chewed by local critters. It is important to continue to check drip systems regularly.
- Size** all the drip emitters to the needs of your plants. As your landscape matures, you may need to add, change or remove drippers or micro-sprinklers. Group plantings by watering needs.
- Set up** your EYEONWATER account and your leak alert notification flow limit set at "0" which will notify you of a leak of any size and facilitates self-monitoring your usage to help you identify and address a leak sooner rather than later. If you need help setting up the app, call our Customer Service & Billing Office at (505) 466-1085, Opt. 1.



The EAWSD Board meets every 3rd 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 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.

For water emergencies during business hours, call 505-466-1085

For water emergencies after hours and on holidays, call 505-780-0090

THE EAWSD BUSINESS OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED on Monday, 5/25/26, in observance of the MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY.

Next Month in *Water Notes*

- From the General Manager
- Recent Board Activities
- Sustainability Corner
- April 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

MANAGING EDITOR
 Anna Mondragon-Metzger
admin.manager@EAWSD.org

Earth Day Community Outreach Event

On April 18th, 2026, staff members from Jacobs and EAWSD participated in ECIA's annual Earth Day community event. EAWSD's event table was organized and managed by the District's resident Sustainability Leader, MELINDA ORTIZ and was focused on helping customers get signed up for the EYEONWATER app, a tool that allows customers to self-monitor their daily water use and to receive alert notifications of potential catastrophic and costly leaks. In addition, there were handouts on suggested water conservation practices and drought-tolerant plantings for the summer. This year's lucky winners of the annual rain barrel giveaway are BOB & MAY TATE, pictured below, Congratulations to BOB & MAY and our Jacobs/EAWSD team for another great success!



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 or call 466-2411 for additional information.

- ▶ Heard a presentation from Baringa Consultants on SMART METERING options (*Information Only*)
- ▶ Approved updates to the EAWSD EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY #P26-04-01 by Resolution N°. 26-04-01
- ▶ Approved updates to the EAWSD WHISTLEBLOWER POLICY #P26-04-02 by Resolution N°. 26-04-02
- ▶ Approved updates to the EAWSD CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY #P26-04-03

System Management Updates

March 2026 System Management Updates

6,216,000 gallons were pumped for the month of March from Wells 2A, 2B, 7, 8, 9, 15, 17, & 18. Additionally, **5,657,000** gallons were delivered from Santa Fe County.

Work Order History for the Month of March 2026

- ◆ **403** total service orders were completed.
 - 86 customer service work orders.
 - 317 system maintenance work orders.
- ◆ There were two (2) customer shut-offs in March owing to payment delinquency.
- ◆ In the month of March approximately **86 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."

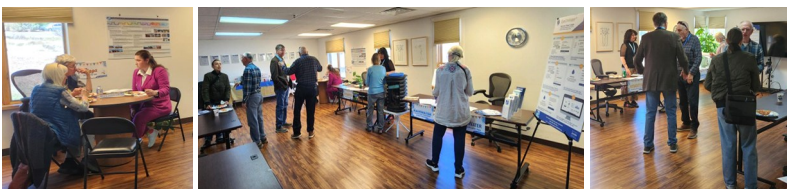
Zone 1 to Zone 2 Project NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING — Phase II of the Monte Alto Project

On the evening of April 21st, 2026, the District hosted a hybrid NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING for customers living on or near the TORREON ROAD area, including all associated side streets and cul-de-sacs. Attendees came to hear about what they can expect during the construction process for the **ZONE 1 TO ZONE 2 PROJECT** which is Phase II of the Monte Alto Pipeline Replacement Project. Approximately 12 residents were in attendance, either in person or via ZOOM. Maya Clifford, EAWSD's GM, opened the meeting by giving a broad overview of the project and its purpose then introduced the design Engineer from Molzen Corbin and the Contractor from SKE Construction. Both parties proceeded to explain their respective roles, processes, responsibilities, anticipated project schedule, and answered questions from the attendees throughout the presentation. While Phase I of this project is nearing substantial completion, **Phase II** will primarily focus on the installation of a secondary (redundant) transmission line that will deliver water to two zones, which is currently served by one transmission line. It is anticipated that there will not be any service interruptions to customers residing in the area, however, there will be some traffic delays and/or detours to be aware of. For those who are interested in learning more about the project but were unable to attend, a ZOOM link to the April 21st meeting and packet of information that was presented is available on the EAWSD website homepage from the 'NEWS & NOTICES' button in the middle of the page or by clicking the following link: [Zone 1 to Zone 2 Project Neighborhood Meeting Details](#).



EAWSD 2026 OPEN HOUSE Recap

EAWSD would like to thank everyone that was able to attend our OPEN HOUSE on April 23, 2026. We hope that you got to meet and chat with our General Manager, MAYA CLIFFORD, and some of our Board members while enjoying a slice of pizza. Our staff members were delighted that you came with lots of questions and hopefully you were satisfied with the answers. We look forward to seeing you all again at another EAWSD OPEN HOUSE in the near future.



News Briefs

- ◆ **THE INTERIM FY2027 BUDGET will be presented for public comment** at the regularly scheduled Board Mtg. on Thursday, **5/28/26 at 5:30 PM**. After taking into account any public comments, the Board will review and consider the Interim Budget for approval. Subsequently, the Interim Budget will be sent to the NM Department of Finance, Local Government Division (DFA) for review and approval on or before 7/1/26.
- ◆ **2026 WATER QUALITY REPORT (CCR)** for water treated in 2025 is available for viewing on the EAWSD website at (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.