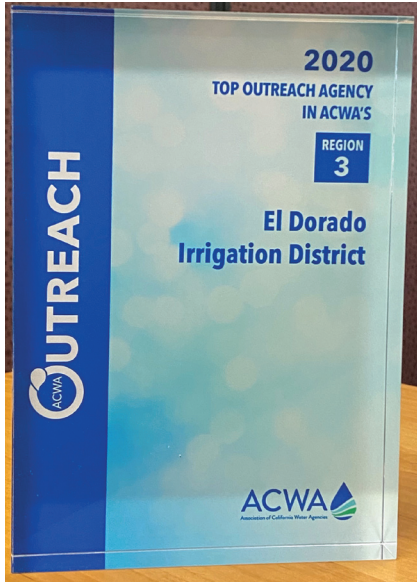




The Waterfront

EID Wins ACWA Region 3 "Top Outreach Agency" Award for 2020



Every year at the Association of California Water Agencies' (ACWA) Fall Conference and Exposition, outreach awards are given to recognize the top outreach agency in each of ACWA's 10 regions. Winners are determined by the number of contacts made with legislators that are consistent with ACWA's support or oppose positions, as determined by the ACWA State Legislative Committee.

At this fall's virtual conference, EID was awarded the 2020 Region 3 Top Outreach Agency. ACWA Region 3 is comprised of 25 member agencies across Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Inyo, Mariposa, Mono, Nevada, Placer, Sierra, and Tuolumne counties. EID was last recognized with this award in 2018.

Each year, ACWA's outreach program encourages member agencies to contact their legislators, key regulators and administrative officials to actively advocate against bad legislation and regulations. EID received this award for outreach throughout the year in support of AB 2182 (which sought to exempt water and wastewater facilities from limitations imposed on backup generators) and to amend HR 6201 (to request a tax credit for state and local governments under the Coronavirus aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act).

AB 2182 addressed some of the unintended consequences of Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) for water and wastewater agencies. The bill would help agencies like EID provide additional flexibility for the use of backup power generation during de-energization events.

HR 6201 focused on expanding paid sick leave and family medical leave benefits for all public sector employees affected by the novel coronavirus crisis. However, the enacted legislation only extended tax credits to offset extra costs to private sector employers. Public sector employers are explicitly prohibited from receiving those same tax credits, even though state and local governments also pay payroll taxes to the federal government.

District staff and lobbyist Bob Reeb of Reeb Government Relations called legislators and sent individual letters in support of these legislative priorities.

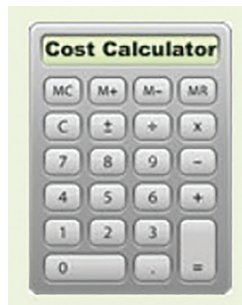
2021 Rebates Available

A rebate of up to \$100 per water service account is available to EID customers on a first-come, first-served basis while funding lasts for purchases made in 2021. Qualifying devices include high-efficiency toilets and clothes washers, irrigation efficiency upgrades, hot water recirculating pumps, and weather-based irrigation controls.

Rebate applications must be submitted within 60 days of the qualifying purchase. Save water indoors by replacing older high-volume toilets and clothes washers with water-efficient models. Save water outdoors by upgrading your irrigation system to drip, install high-efficiency nozzles, or convert timers to a weather-based irrigation controller.

To obtain a rebate application and learn more about qualifying high-efficiency toilets, weather-based irrigation controllers, and clothes washers that are EPA WaterSense and CEE rated, visit the EID water efficiency web page at www.eid.org/customers/water-efficiency.

Calculate Your 2021 Rates

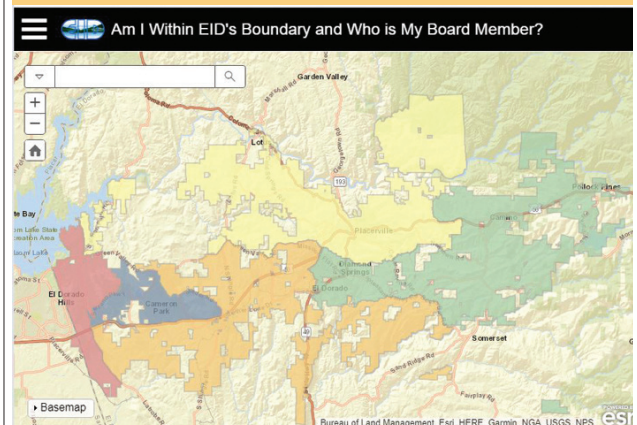


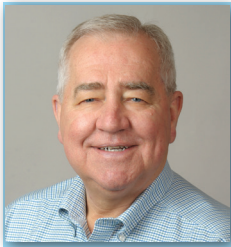
Go to www.eid.org/customers/proposition-218-notice-2020 and look for the calculator. Enter your current usage to see how your bill would change for 2021.

Sewer rates are being reduced for 2021.

New Member of the Board Sworn In

On December 4, one new member of the EID Board of Directors was sworn in and board officers for 2021 appointed. For more, go to www.eid.org/about-us/board-of-directors. On this webpage you can also use our GIS-enabled tool to explore division boundaries and find out in which division your home or property is located.





Message from the General Manager

Building on Strengths and Smart Planning

Jim Abercrombie

In December of 2020, one new EID board director was sworn into service. All five elected EID board directors are committed to the task of guiding policy for EID’s complex organization and District management and staff welcome the new board member to an agency that has continued to make strides to make EID more sustainable and resilient over the last decade.

I would again take a moment to recognize the many EID teams who have overcome obstacles in a year that had its fair share of challenges. From PG&E power shutoffs and emergency line breaks

to an ongoing pandemic, EID’s employees continued to repair the infrastructure our community relies on day and night, year round.

This is the focus that we remain committed to. And EID is ready for any challenges that may come in 2021 and beyond.

District employees are planning and implementing some important projects over the next five years. These projects strengthen and renew our largely unseen infrastructure—the mains and pipes, canals and flumes, the pumping stations and the many pieces of infrastructure that we rely on when we turn on our faucets or flush our toilets.

Planning for important projects can be looked at through several lenses. Short-term planning involves projects that may be able to be paid for out of our yearly operating budget. Longer-term planning requires investment today that will pay off over decades.

District staff plans intensively to ensure that projects can be completed in a controlled way rather than in response to an emergency. Emergency responses to infrastructure needs always cost more, so we aim to keep up with our infrastructure needs. We do not want to be like PG&E and have compromised service levels because of deferred infrastructure maintenance—that is unacceptable.

All planning efforts begin with the yearly update to our capital improvement program. This document is a blueprint for a rolling five-year window of projects and allows us to prioritize those projects and plan for how we finance them, especially the large undertakings such as the recently completed Forebay Dam Remediation Project. The Folsom Lake Intake Project is another such high-cost, high-benefit project that is currently underway. So are the flume and canal replacements that transport a third of EID’s water supply.

An example of a project on our long-term horizon is EID’s effort to modify its water right at Folsom Reservoir (known as Permit 21112).

EID has access to 17,000 acre feet of water supply per year that currently is only accessible from Folsom Reservoir. The District is undertaking a modification to this water right to allow us to divert the water upstream of Folsom and benefit EID’s entire service area.

But these projects take many years to complete. They take targeted investment with a payoff that may be decades in coming. From start to finish, initially acquiring the Permit 21112 water supply took 25 years. Twenty-five years to get 17,000 acre-feet of water that makes EID’s service area much more resilient to meet its customer needs. That is priceless.

These important projects, the many miles of pipe that need repair and replacement, require investment. Our customers are investing in these needed repairs through upcoming rate adjustments.

The rate adjustments planned for 2021 through 2025 are vital for helping us finance and care for the infrastructure that we all rely on. We are cognizant of the need to make every ratepayer dollar count, and we are implementing adjustments that are as low as we can safely have them. In fact, for 2021, the wastewater rates will be reduced and the average rate increase for most of our water/sewer customers is about three percent.

It is our commitment to ensure your services are safe and reliable. We continually look for ways to streamline processes and make our customers’ investment go as far as possible. Whether that is refinancing debt to reduce borrowing costs or invest in proactive replacement rather than waiting and paying costly emergency repairs, we will not stop looking for ways to bring the highest value to our customers.



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Major Water Line Break Highlights Need for Infrastructure Reinvestment

On Sunday, November 8 at 10:42 A.M., EID’s Water Operations Manager Radenko Odzakovic received a report from staff of a significant water line break in Shingle Springs. Later updates would confirm what he feared—failure of a significant transmission main delivering water from Sly Park Water Treatment Plant in Pollock Pines to customers in the western portion of the District’s service area.

Outage of a main artery in the District’s complex treated water system would mean no water for a potentially significant number of District customers and the number would grow unless staff took quick action to isolate the area and work through the night to complete the repair.

“The line that experienced failure was an 18-inch diameter section of the nearly 60-year-old Diamond Springs Main, or DSM,” said Odzakovic. “The section of the DSM that failed supplies major portions of Shingle Springs and Cameron Park with water and also provides water to portions of El Dorado Hills – particularly during times of year when El Dorado Hills Water Treatment Plant is out of service for scheduled maintenance.”

This was the second catastrophic failure on this vital water distribution main in three years and Odzakovic fears there could be more in the years to come. Last August, Odzakovic provided a detailed overview of the state of the District’s water system, including the installation dates and number of breaks of the aging infrastructure, which spawned a significant capital investment by the Board in its rolling five-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

That afternoon, construction crews quickly responded and were on scene soon after the break was identified. The first thing that needs to be done when a line breaks is to isolate the failed water pipe. That means water needs to be turned off so that the work of repairing the pipe can safely occur.

To isolate a distribution main like the DSM requires closing multiple valves which can impact the number of customers that are affected. Initially, it was estimated that 850 services would be affected.

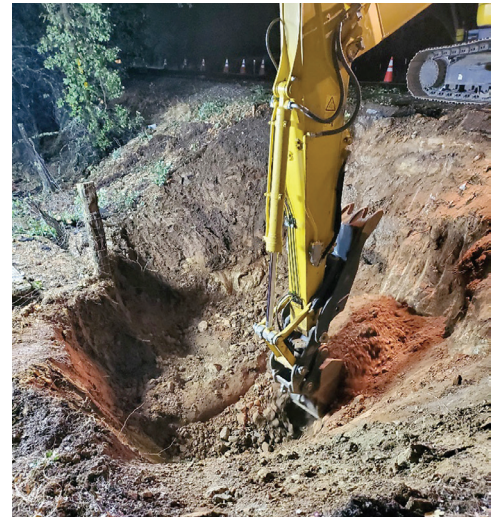
EID crews were able to reconfigure the transmission and distribution system through nine separate valves to minimize impact to 160 services.

The task of isolating the damaged DSM and reconfiguring the transmission and distribution system alone took nearly four hours. Then, following an important safety briefing considering the nature of work necessary, location of work requiring a partial closure of North Shingle Road, and the requirements for nighttime work, staff got to work.

Once the line was isolated, excavation began at 3:30 P.M. Twenty-three EID staff were involved in the effort to mitigate the effects of the line break. Crews worked into the early hours of Monday morning, completing the repair just after 2:00 in the morning. The line was flushed and recharged later that morning at 6:00, with water service restored to all affected residents.

First constructed in 1961, the DSM is showing its age. Corrosion and the passage of time resulted in the damaged pipe. This project is just one of the water line rehabilitations and replacements the District currently has on its CIP to maintain water service through one contiguous system as water flows from 4,000 feet in elevation across the service area down to as low as 400 feet at the Sacramento County line.

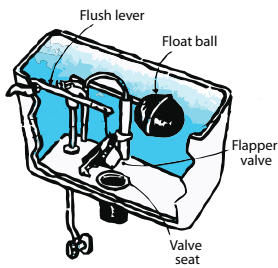
“EID is actively addressing the needs of our aging water line infrastructure in our 2021 – 2025 CIP,” said EID Operations Director Dan Corcoran. “With more than 220 square miles of infrastructure, much of which is over a half century old, it’s vital that we fund these on a preventative basis rather than responding to emergencies.”



Did you know?

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Inside the toilet tank



A leaky toilet can waste about 200 gallons of water every day! To determine if your toilet is leaking, place a drop of food coloring in the tank. If the color shows in the bowl without flushing, you have a leak.

You can save up to eight gallons of water if you turn off the tap while brushing your teeth in the morning and at bedtime. That adds up to a savings of more than 100 gallons of water per person each month.



Remember: November to February is the period in which residential sewer rates are derived, based upon water usage. It pays off year round to conserve during those months!



Available Resources

Toilet Leak Detection. Leak detection dye packets are available to detect if water is leaking out of the toilet tank into the toilet bowl between flushes.

Simply pour the blue dye powder into your toilet tank, and if the blue color has seeped into the toilet bowl after 10 minutes, your toilet flapper or seal may be leaking and repair or replacement is recommended.

Alternatively, several drops of food coloring may be placed in the toilet tank and the same procedure followed.

Toilet Flappers. If you detect that the toilet flapper is leaking, EID has complimentary toilet flappers available (three-inch) for self-installation.

Plumbing Retrofits. If you have not recently replaced your plumbing fixtures, then complimentary low-flow showerheads, bathroom faucet aerators, and toilet tank bags to reduce flush volume are available for your home.

Stop by EID's main office at 2890 Mosquito Road in Placerville to pick up your supplies between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Project Updates on the Web and Facebook

In order to fulfill its mission to provide reliable, high-quality water and wastewater treatment services, as well as maintain its federally-licensed hydroelectric project, EID must maintain, repair and replace its valuable capital assets.

EID maintains a page on its website that highlights some of the significant, ongoing projects the District is working on. Head over to eid.org/about-us/project-updates to read more details about projects like the Upper Main Ditch Project, the solar projects at the Deer Creek and El Dorado Hills wastewater treatment plants, the Folsom Lake Intake project, and more.

On that page you can also sign up to receive email notifications when new information is posted to a project's webpage via our eNews Sign up. You can choose which project you are interested in, or receive information about a number of projects that strengthen and add resilience to EID's infrastructure.

The District also maintains a Facebook page at [@ElDoradoIrrigationDistrict](https://www.facebook.com/ElDoradoIrrigationDistrict). Please be sure to "like" our page to receive information on your newsfeed about emergencies, projects, and other details about District services.

El Dorado Irrigation District is a public agency dedicated to providing high quality water, wastewater, recycled water, hydropower, and recreation services in an environmentally and fiscally responsible manner.

2021 REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS

January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
11	8	8	12	—	14	—	9	13	12 (T)	8	13
25	22	22	26	24	28	26	23	—	25	—	—

Board meetings generally occur on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Dates marked (T) are scheduled on Tuesdays.



In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and California law, it is the policy of the El Dorado Irrigation District to offer its public programs, services and meetings in a manner that is readily accessible to everyone, including individuals with disabilities. If you are a person with a disability and require information or materials in an appropriate alternative format; or if you require any other accommodation, please contact the ADA Coordinator at the number or address below at least 72 hours prior to the meeting or when you desire to receive services. Advance notification within this guideline will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. The District ADA Coordinator can be reached by phone at (530) 642-4013 or e-mail at adacoordinator@eid.org.

The Waterfront is written and designed by EID's Communications Department.