



The Waterfront

Attention EID Sewer Customers

This bill reflects your newly calculated sewer charge. The residential sewer commodity charge is normally recalculated annually based on what we call the “winter quarter average” — the household water consumption during the winter months.

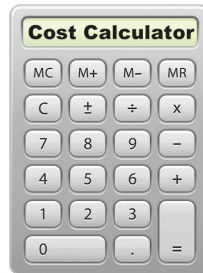
Recognizing that during the pandemic many of our customers have been required to stay at home, EID’s Board authorized the District’s customer service group to use either your 2020 or 2021 water usage, whichever is less.

For billing cycles 1, 2, 3, or 4, the water consumption on the February bill is used to calculate a new sewer commodity charge to go into effect on the April bill.

For billing cycles 5, 6, 7, or 8, the water consumption on the January bill is used to calculate the new sewer commodity charge to go into effect on the March bill.

The new calculated sewer charge will remain in effect for one full year. If you have questions please contact Utility Billing at 530-642-4000 or billing@eid.org.

Remember also that in 2021, your sewer rates have been reduced. Go to www.eid.org/Prop218 and look for the calculator. Enter your current usage to see how your bill changed for 2021.



Folsom Lake Intake Project



Construction continues with placement of pump casings and in-water support structures within Folsom Lake. Mechanical crews are working on piping and modifications required to connect the new pumps to the transmission pipeline that feeds the El Dorado Hills Water Treatment Plant. This work phase will continue through April 1.

Construction is on schedule to be completed in fall of 2021 and will provide a more reliable and resilient facility for decades to come. The intake is EID’s sole means of accessing its water supplies from Folsom Lake, which represents one-third of EID’s entire water supply.

For more about this and other important EID projects, go to www.eid.org/projects or scan the QR code with your smartphone or tablet camera.



EID Board Approves Permanent Water Contract with Reclamation

At a special meeting on January 11, the EID Board of Directors unanimously voted to adopt a resolution authorizing the conversion of the District’s existing long-term Central Valley Project (CVP) water contract to one that runs in perpetuity.

For six decades the District has held a long-term water service contract with the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) for the diversion of up to 7,550 acre-feet annually of CVP water from Folsom Reservoir. The contract was last renewed in 2006 for a period of 40 years.

“In the water business, we must look ahead—often decades—to develop strategies to ensure the long-term water security for the communities we serve,” said EID General Manager Jim Abercrombie. “Obtaining the most favorable possible contract terms now is in the District’s long-term strategic interests and this contract represents a truly long-lasting and durable benefit for our ratepayers. This converted contract secures, in perpetuity, a significant portion of EID’s overall water supply.”

The contract was made possible by enactment of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act, which was passed by Congress in 2016. The WIIN Act directs Reclamation to convert water service contracts to repayment contracts upon the request of a contractor. Under the terms of the WIIN Act, the conversion of the contract requires prepayment of remaining construction capital cost outlay obligations—a cost that the District has previously paid down monthly under the prior contract. EID’s remaining obligation amounts to \$207,000.

“With this contract, this CVP contract water becomes more secure and reliable not only for current EID ratepayers, but for generations of ratepayers to come,” said Abercrombie. “This is a small investment that will have a lasting impact on the communities EID serves.”

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Message from the General Manager

Investments Today for a Resilient Future

Jim Abercrombie

and care, continue to ensure that our community’s vital water and sewer services remain reliable and safe, 24-hours a day, year round.

As I write this column in late February, the water year is off to a slow start. The Central Sierra region’s snowpack that feeds the watersheds we rely on is at 73 percent of normal. While a single dry year is not an emergency, multiple dry years in a row can be cause for concern. We are not there yet. The District undertakes extensive planning to maximize our water supplies and guard against multi-year droughts, like the one that ended in 2016. Key to these efforts is Jenkinson Lake. This reservoir is managed to supply two years of water supply for our customers even during drought conditions. Even though we are entering what appears to be a second dry consecutive dry year, we are well positioned to meet our customers’ needs throughout 2021.

A highlight of this long-term planning was the purchase of Sly Park Recreation Area’s Jenkinson Lake. Last year the District celebrated the final payment on the bonds that allowed EID to purchase the lake from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Jenkinson Lake is EID’s primary drinking water reservoir and has the ability to serve most of EID’s customers. In fact, as EID makes necessary upgrades to other treatment facilities, this winter Jenkinson Lake is supplying water to 100 percent of EID customers connected to the main water system from Pollock Pines to El Dorado Hills.

Long-term water supply planning and investment makes EID better prepared to meet the ongoing needs of our community, including during times of drought. And because of the investments we have made (like the acquisition of Jenkinson Lake) and continue to make to replace critical components of our infrastructure, EID’s water security continues to increase.

The following projects now underway highlight the need for continued investment in EID’s aging infrastructure. The modest rate adjustments that were approved in December of 2020 for 2021 through 2025 are used for these projects and without these adjustments they would not be possible.

The Folsom Lake Intake project, which began construction in 2020, is a costly project that is critical to delivering water to the western portion of our service area. Although the District is capable of meeting District-wide winter demands from Jenkinson Lake, summer demands in the western area must be met by supplies available in Folsom Lake. The intake supplies raw water from the lake to EID’s El Dorado Hills Water Treatment Plant where it is treated and then delivered to customers in El Dorado Hills. The facility is EID’s sole means of accessing its water supplies from Folsom Lake and provide the only access to a third of the District’s water supply.

Flumes and canals along the 22-mile El Dorado canal system are regularly scheduled for replacement in EID’s capital improvement program and are equally vital as a conduit for raw water that our customers ultimately use, whether it be for drinking water or generating hydroelectric power to offset the cost of provided drinking water supplies. This vital artery, providing another third of EID’s water supply to its customers, runs through mountainous terrain that makes repair and replacement costly. But their role in maintaining our resilient water supply is unmatched: they are the primary means of supplying the northern portion of EID’s service area and also deliver water that can be supplied by gravity to communities all the way to El Dorado Hills.

These projects illustrate just a few examples of how your money is being put to work to increase the reliability and health of the aging infrastructure that our communities rely on every single day.

Our crews work hard, day or night, rain or shine every day of the year to keep your system reliably running. With care, targeted investment, hard work and planning, the infrastructure will serve us for generations to come.

As we mark a year since the challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic began, I would like to take a moment again to recognize each and every EID worker. Like our sister agencies that provide essential services for public health and safety, I am deeply proud of the work EID employees have undertaken over a year full of challenges.

EID’s employees are dedicated and take pride in the work they do for the communities they serve and live in. I am gratified and proud to work with women and men who, with the utmost safety

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El Dorado Hills and Deer Creek Solar Project Update



At the time this Waterfront goes to print, placement of the solar panels at the El Dorado Hills Wastewater Treatment Plant (pictured) has concluded. The contractor is now completing wiring of the panels within the new field and placing the transmission wiring, inverters, and switchgear that will connect the new field to the power grid. Completion of the El Dorado Hills is expected in April 2021.

The new solar facility has been sized to offset approximately 69 percent of the power consumed at the plant's ultraviolet disinfection facility. The existing solar facility will continue to offset approximately 47 percent of the power consumed through the remaining plant processes. Together approximately 60 percent of the total power consumption of the El Dorado Hills Wastewater Treatment Plant will be offset by solar.

The contractor has completed placing ground screws and racking at the Deer Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant and is beginning placement of the panels at that location. Completion of the solar field at the Deer Creek location in Cameron Park is expected in June 2021. Approximately 70 percent of the total power consumption of the plant will be offset by solar.

For additional background and information on this project, visit www.eid.org/solar or scan the QR code with your smartphone or tablet camera.



Upper Main Ditch Project

Since mid-February, the District and contractor, Steve P. Rados, Inc., have been working diligently on the material submittals to begin work on the Upper Main Ditch Piping Project in Pollock Pines.

The Upper Main Ditch transports water approximately three miles from the Forebay Reservoir to EID's Reservoir 1 Water Treatment Plant. The project will pipe the water supply that is currently conveyed in this open, unlined ditch and utilize a 42-inch welded steel or concrete cylinder pipe. Converting to a piped conveyance will help achieve a number of project objectives, including reducing water loss resulting from seepage and evapotranspiration and contributing to EID's overall water conservation efforts and supply reliability. In addition, the project protects drinking water quality by eliminating the potential for contamination of source water along the open ditch.

As this newsletter goes to print, the pipe is scheduled to arrive on-site in early March 2021. Upon arrival the contractor will start the installation of the pipe within the Blair Road right-of-way.

As this project progresses the District will be providing more updates on the scheduled construction.



If you have questions regarding the project or this process, please visit the project website on EID's project updates page at www.eid.org/about-us/project-updates or by scanning the QR code with your smartphone or tablet camera.

EID Board Declares Free Day Use at Sly Park on Earth Day

During the January 11 board meeting a resolution was passed declaring Earth Day, April 22, an annual day use free access day at Sly Park Recreation Area. All fees associated with day use activities will be waived for guests on this day and for future Earth Days. Camping fees will remain in effect, along with all other policies and procedures.

Sly Park Recreation Area, with beautiful Jenkinson Lake at its center, sits at 3,500 feet in elevation in Pollock Pines (21 miles east of Placerville on Highway 50) and is a popular destinations for campers, hikers, bikers, boaters, anglers, equestrians, photographers, and all-around nature lovers. The lake is surrounded by over nine miles of trails that accommodate hikers, bikers and horses. The trail system winds through thick forested areas and open meadows while closely following the lake shore around the entire perimeter. Scattered throughout the park are a variety of day use areas which are excellent picnic or cookout locations.

All day use areas are in close proximity to the lake and have access to picnic tables, restrooms and water. Sly Park Recreation Area has something for everyone and is open to the public year round.



Annual Pass Extensions

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Sly Park Recreation Area was forced to close its front gate and restrict access between March 15 and May 15, 2020. Therefore, if you purchased an annual pass prior to the closure on March 15, your pass will be valid for two additional months. January passes will expire at the end of March, February passes at the end of April and March passes at the end of May. All passes purchased after May 15 will be valid for the one year from date of purchase.



March 15–21, 2021
Fix a Leak Week

The average household's leaks can account for nearly 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year and ten percent of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day. Common types of leaks found in the home are worn toilet flappers, dripping faucets, and other leaking valves. These types of leaks are often easy to fix, requiring only a few tools and hardware that can pay for themselves in water savings. Fixing easily corrected household water leaks can save homeowners about 10 percent on their water bills. Visit www.eid.org/customers/water-efficiency for information and resources to help you with water efficiency.

To locate
underground
services
dial **811**
before you dig

You've seen the markings on curbs, in the roadway, or other places in and around construction projects. They generally say "USA" in white paint and are accompanied by arrows or other color-coded messages. What do these markings signify?

USA—which stands for underground service alert—is an important method for locating and marking buried utility facilities so that they are not damaged or destroyed during construction activity.

Are you building a new fence, adding an irrigation or drainage system, or another outdoor project that requires digging? Avoid costly mishaps by calling 811 before you dig. Providers with underground services will be scheduled to come mark their lines.

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.