



# The Waterfront

El Dorado Irrigation District • September - October 2004

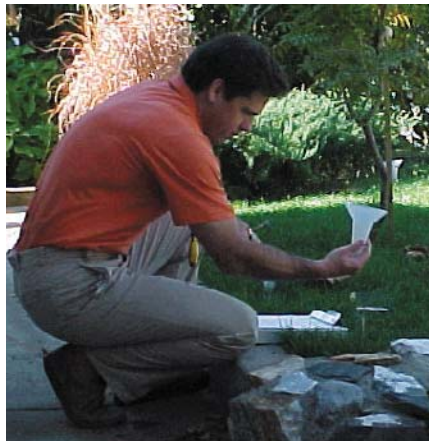
## EID WANTS YOUR OPINION!

We are starting our strategic planning process, and we want to hear from you about the most important issues you believe face EID in the coming year. We would very much appreciate you filling out the short survey in this bill and sending it back with your payment. If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact Dorine Kelly at (530) 642-4051 or [dkelly@eid.org](mailto:dkelly@eid.org).

### Milestone: 4000 Customers Save Water and Money Through EID's Water Survey Program

This June, we enrolled our 4000th customer in EID's popular water survey program. We estimate that the program has resulted in over 163 million gallons of water saved and more than \$100,000 in reduced costs to customers since 1995 when the program was launched.

A steady drip from just one faucet in your home can waste hundreds of gallons of water over several months and drive your water bill up. In some cases, customers do not know that they have leaky pipes. We can help you discover un-



known leaks and stop obvious drips through a free interior/exterior water survey. We assess your irrigation system, install free water efficiency devices such as faucet aerators and outdoor spray nozzles and conduct a water pressure test on your system, among many other helpful services.

To schedule an appointment for your water survey, contact Tim Heslin at 530-642-4126 or fill out the online form from the Customer Service webpage at [www.eid.org](http://www.eid.org).

### EID SAVES \$580,000

By keeping a close eye on market trends, EID took advantage of opportunities to refinance its bonds and save \$580,000 in interest payments. The District's Board of Directors approved plans to initiate the savings in June when staff reported favorable conditions to reduce the costs of EID's bond indebtedness.

## Drought Preparedness

The District's Board approved a cost-share agreement with the El Dorado County Water Agency to conduct a drought analysis that has potential benefits for both EID customers and the County. The study includes



many opportunities for public involvement and will focus on drought mitigation goals and objectives, water supply and demand, drought indicators and drought management strategies. Information from the study will be used to help agriculture and other large-scale irrigators, school districts and individuals as they tailor their own drought



preparedness plans to address their specific circumstances. If you would like further information on drought preparedness,

please contact Dorine Kelly at (530) 642-4051 or [dkelly@eid.org](mailto:dkelly@eid.org).

## Water Wiser

A lot of water goes needlessly down the drain. Think about the amount of water you're using and look for ways to use less whenever you can!



## PUBLIC NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS OF EL DORADO IRRIGATION

### EID UPDATE ON RESERVOIR LINE AND COVER PROGRAMS

The Department of Health Services requires that EID notify its customers quarterly of the District's progress to make reservoir improvements. EID water delivered to you is tested regularly and all laboratory tests meet State and Federal health levels. However, the concern of the State and EID is that the customers served by the EID two remaining uncovered treated water reservoirs are subject to a "potential" for a health hazard, and you are encouraged to read the information in the State mandated notice. Certain consumers should consider taking the individual protective measures that are described in bold print in this notice.

Areas within EID's water system that are *not* affected by the State's Compliance Order include Pollock Pines, Cedar Grove, Sierra Springs, Lakewood Sierra, Gold Ridge Forest, Sly Park Hills, Camino, City of Placerville, Swansboro, Rancho Del Sol, Lotus/Coloma, Gold Hill, Strawberry, Outingdale and El Dorado Hills are *not* affected by the Order. To check whether you are receiving water from the open treated reservoirs, please check EID's website at [www.eid.org](http://www.eid.org) or call us at (530) 622-4513.

### SURFACE WATER TREATMENT REGULATIONS AND HEALTH ADVISORY

El Dorado Irrigation District provides complete treatment for its water supply in modern water treatment plants that use filtration and disinfection before it is distributed to its customers. This full-level treatment ensures that the water is safe and healthy as it enters the District's distribution system. The distribution system initially included 16 treated water reservoirs that were open and uncovered. Today, only two remain. Design of the remaining two are in progress and scheduled for completion in the next two years. Because of these unprotected reservoirs, the stored water is vulnerable to sources of contamination. Although the water receives additional disinfection at the open reservoirs, this treatment cannot be relied upon to assure absolute safety of the water at all times.

The District is making a concerted effort to prevent pollution of the water at its open reservoirs. This effort consists of a number of mitigation measures which include daily security patrols, cleaning of the reservoir sites, repair of fencing, drainage improvements, posting of signs, increased chlorination treatment, increased water quality testing, and system operational changes. These measures will greatly reduce the possibility that serious pollution will enter the water supply. EID water quality test results have consistently met all current State and Federal health standards.

The State Department of Health Services, Office of Drinking Water requires the District to provide this notice to its customers and to include the following language:

"Since pollution events in segments of the water system served by uncovered reservoirs could occur and because these events are random and unpredictable, certain consumers should consider taking individual protective measures. Consumers that should take special precautions include pregnant women, elderly persons, and those people that may have an abnormally weak immune system response. These immunocompromised individuals include people infected with the HIV virus, organ transplant patients, and cancer patients who are receiving radiation or chemotherapy treatments. Parents and guardians should also take special precautions with infants, young children, and all others who may not be capable of comprehending the significance of this notice.

The recommended protective measure is to use commercial bottled water or to heat the tap water to a rolling boil for one minute before using it for any purpose that may result in ingestion of the water. The water may be used without restrictions

for bathing, showering, and laundry.

The State of California Department of Health Services (DHS) sets drinking water standards and has determined the presence of microbiological contaminants are a health concern at certain levels of exposure. If water is inadequately treated, microbiological contaminants in that water may cause disease. Disease symptoms may include diarrhea, cramps, nausea, and possibly jaundice, and any associated headaches and fatigue. These symptoms, however, are not just associated with disease-causing organisms in drinking water, but also may be caused by a number of factors other than your drinking water. DHS has set enforceable requirements for treating drinking water to reduce the risk of these adverse health effects. Treatment such as filtering and disinfecting the water removes or destroys microbiological contaminants. Drinking water which is treated to meet DHS requirements is associated with little to none of this risk and should be considered safe."

**ATTENTION:** School administrators, owner/ operators of residential property, and owner/operators of business property are obligated to ensure that copies of this notice are provided to each user of your facility within 10 days. The most appropriate methods of notification may include, but are not limited to, the sending of a letter to each water user and the posting of a notice at each site where drinking water is dispensed. The State of California stipulates that you can be civilly liable up to \$1,000 per day for failing to provide this notice to your students (and parents if they are minors), employees, or tenants.

