



The Waterfront

El Dorado Irrigation District • May - June 2004

Gold Hill Intertie Connects East with West

A ceremony commemorating the opening of the Gold Hill Intertie was held Monday, April 19 by the El Dorado Irrigation District Board of Directors to mark a significant milestone in the District's efforts to replace its uncovered treated water storage reservoirs. "The opening of the Gold Hill Intertie means operational flexibility, the potential for reduced pumping costs and increased system reliability," said EID Board President George Wheeldon. The Gold Hill Intertie is an 18-inch pipeline that delivers treated water from the District's eastern water system to Cameron Park and El Dorado Hills. In 1998, the Gold Hill Intertie was closed shut to El Dorado Hills due to health concerns related to the District's uncovered reservoirs. For the past six years, all the with the exception of the upper Serrano area, has been pumped from Folsom Lake while the District has implemented a large Capital Improvement Program to design and construct enclosed storage tanks to replace the uncovered reservoirs.

With the recent completion of two critical storage facilities associated with the Gold Hill Intertie, the District received clearance to re-open the Gold Hill Intertie to provide supplemental water to El Dorado Hills. By utilizing the Gold Hill Intertie, the District could save as much as \$350,000 a year in pumping costs.

This development also means that the upper Serrano area, including the Serrano clubhouse, is no longer subject to the periodic health advisory notices related to the remaining uncovered reservoirs.



May is Water Awareness Month

On April 19th, the El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) Board of Directors adopted a resolution proclaiming May 2004 as Water Awareness Month. The District begins Water Awareness Month with two new water efficiency programs designed to assist customers in saving water and reducing their bills: Residential/Multi-Family Ultra Low Flow (ULF) Flapperless Toilet Distribution Program and Water-Efficient Clothes Washer Rebate Program. EID's participation in "May Is Water Awareness Month" Campaign continues throughout the month with:

- The sponsorship of the Sacramento Bee's 2004 "Newspapers in Education" (NIE) "Be Water Wise" Program at our schools.

- Customer Appreciation Day on May 14th, when the District will host a luncheon BBQ from 11am to 2pm at its headquarters building located at 2890 Mosquito Road in Placerville.



- Presenting an ENERGY STAR® water efficient clothes washer and dryer to Dorado Youth Services in the EID service area. The District is a sponsor of the 2004 California Water Awareness Campaign that

is in partnership with the State's Flex Your Power Campaign.

- Customers and visitors entering the District's headquarters building will enjoy an interesting and engaging water awareness display in the lobby.

For more information about these programs, contact EID's Office of Water Efficiency at (530) 642-4126, or visit the Customer Service section of EID's website: www.eid.org.

Pro-Teens Workshop Hosted by EID

EID Management staff hosted their second PRO-Teens class in interview techniques and job application processing on April 20th. Nine students from the program were instructed and interviewed by 11 members of the EID management staff in a 3-hour program.



Students described the interviews as the most valuable portion of this hands on program

PRO-Teens of El Dorado County is a community program designed to give teens a comprehensive exposure to the fundamentals of finding and keeping employment. Started by Superior Court Judge Eddie Keller, a program was soon started at the Charter Community School with a collaboration of public and private partners throughout El Dorado County. PRO-Teens students visit several employer sites where they are taught how to prepare for, dress, and act during a job interview.

"PRO-Teens had a list of companies signed on to participate, and when we suddenly had an empty slot, EID kindly volunteered to fill it," said Charter Community School teacher Marjorie Samples. "There were so many people there, we were very impressed and the students loved it!"



Spring Irrigation Tip:

When less water is used, fertilizers and pesticides are not washed away into storm drains.



PUBLIC NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS OF EL DORADO IRRIGATION

EID UPDATE ON RESERVOIR LINE AND COVER PROGRAMS

This is the twenty-sixth notice that EID has sent you regarding our efforts to line and cover or replace our open treated water reservoirs. The Department of Health Services Compliance Order, specifies that EID notify their 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 uncovered treated water reservoirs have the "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 and Outingdale. The El Dorado Hills service area is also not affected by the Order, including the upper area of Serrano and Serrano's Club House.

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 you students (and parents if they are minors), employees, or tenants."