



# Rio Alto Water District

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HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM RIO ALTO WATER DISTRICT

December 21, 2016

## Water Conservation

The State Water Board will be reviewing the mandatory drought conservation restrictions in December and we should know if we have to reinstate the restrictions by January.

## Wetlands Update:

A 12 inch overflow pipe has been installed from pond #1 to pond #4. This overflow should adequately handle the rain and the overflow from pond#1. At a later date, we will be installing two more pipes going from pond #1 to ponds #2 and #3. With the additional water in ponds # 2, #3 & #4 we are noticing more shorebirds taking advantage of the habitat. The cooler weather seems to have reduced the number of water midges on the trails. We hope that you are all enjoying the walking trails.

## Cold Weather Preparations:

Recently we have experienced some near freezing temperatures and we would like to offer some suggestions to avoid frozen pipes. Insulate pipes in unheated locations, such as crawl spaces beneath your house or in your garage or outdoor piping. Shut off and drain your sprinkling system. Keep your house temperature at 68° or higher, even if you're leaving the house for an extended period of time. If your pipes freeze, a simple hair dryer can assist you in thawing them. As always, use caution when operating electricity near water sources. Know where your shut off valves are located in case of a break.

## Sewer Maintenance Updates:

Keeping the Rio Alto Sewer System flowing smoothly is a top priority for the District. When you use your toilet, shower, washing machine or dishwasher, wastewater leaves your home through pipes that are connected with the Rio Alto Sewer System. Many materials frequently flushed or poured down the drains can have negative effects on the sewer lines, sewer lift stations, and equipment used to treat the wastewater. Listed are some of the most problematic items that can damage processes within the sewer system, cause expensive sewer backups in your home, and sewer overflows to the public roadways, streams, rivers and the environment:

Feminine Hygiene Products

Rags/Wash Cloths

Band-Aids

Pharmaceuticals

Baby Wipes or Cleaning Wipes (even those claiming to be biodegradable or flushable)

Condoms

Cotton balls & swabs

Fats, Grease & Oils

Disposable Diapers

Your assistance in keeping these items out of our sewer collection and treatment systems is greatly appreciated.

## Reminder:

Rio Alto Water District holds its Board Meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the District Boardroom. Agendas, Minutes and Resolutions can be accessed @ [www.rawd.org](http://www.rawd.org) under News & Notices.