



Rio Alto Water District

22099 River View Drive • Cottonwood, CA 96022

Phone: (530) 347-3835 • Fax: (530) 347-1007 • Website: www.rawd.org

August 22, 2022

Billing Updates: Unpaid metered billings for the period 05/3/22 to 7/5/22 that remain unpaid will be scheduled for lock-off on September 9, 2022. New metered billings for the period 07/05/22 – 9/6/22 will be mailed out on September 7, 2022, and will be due by October 10, 2022, to avoid delinquent charges. Payments can be made by check or cash, and credit card payments can be made on our website at www.RAWD.org. Customers can also sign up for auto draft payments by completing the form found on our website or at the District office.

Drought: The severity of the drought can be seen in the last three years of precipitation and lake levels:

Year	August Precipitation Received	Average Precipitation to Date	Percent of Average	Shasta Lake feet from Crest
2022	18.84	33.02	57%	132.73
2021	13.81	33.02	41%	155.65
2020	23.70	34.16	69%	86.87

There is growing public concern about local aquifers. This is the 1st year that ACID has not received a substantial allocation from the Bureau and many of the local ranchettes are hurting because of it. They are finding some of the local older wells in the Churn Creek area going dry. Most of these wells are very old shallow wells that are susceptible to droughts and receive some of their recharge from ACID canal percolation. Rio Alto’s aquifer remains healthy with levels at 6/30/22 being down approximately 3 feet for Well#5 and 5 feet for Well #6. Static water levels will be taken again at the end of the quarter around Sept 30th. Rio Alto Water District has representation in the Groundwater Commission and we have completed a Groundwater Management Plan for our basin (Bowman Basin) which is currently being reviewed by the Department of Water Resources. Governor Newsom unveiled a 19page document outlining a new strategy for bolstering the state’s water supply bullet pointed as follows:

- Increasing desalination plant quantity and production
- Expanding reservoirs and groundwater storage and recycling
- Completing regional water standard efficiencies for houses and businesses
- Streamlining water rights
- Streamlining processes so projects can be planned, built, and permitted more quickly while still preserving the environment.

Access to the entire document can be found at <https://resources.ca.gov/-/media/CNRA-Website/Files/Initiatives/Water-Resilience/CA-Water-Supply-Strategy.pdf> Still no confirmation on the turf replacement program approval or funding.

Wetlands Update: A new gate for the wetlands is being fabricated to allow for the key card entry. Completion will be within the next few weeks. Once installed, residents will need to complete an agreement stating they will follow the rules and provide a deposit for an access card.

Board Elections: We will be having an election in the November General Election. The candidates are incumbents Craig Weaver and Ginny Mercer and candidate Clay Lowrey.

Board Meeting Date: The Board Meeting for September will be held on Wednesday, September 21, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at the District Board Room. Agendas, Minutes and Resolutions can be accessed at www.rawd.org “Agendas” and under News & Notices.

Rio Alto Water District is a Special District governed by California Water Code and not affiliated with the Property Owners Association.