



Rio Alto Water District

22099 River View Drive • Cottonwood, CA 96022

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

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Water Conservation and Dam Updates:

As of 2/9/17, "State Water Resources Control Board extended the state emergency drought regulations and pledges to revisit them in May, when the state's traditional rainy season has ended." Season to date, the North State has received 39.39 inches in precipitation, almost 12 inches above the normal season to date. Shasta Dam is currently 36.03 feet from the crest. The current release from the dam is 7,600 cfs, down considerably from the 79,000 cfs releases seen in February and early March. Releases will vary dependent upon the amount of future Spring rains and snow melt off. Operations Supervisor Mike Brown and I were invited to observe the Shasta Dam spillway test on February 22, 2017. The spillways were partially opened for 15 minutes each to assure they were in working order in case it was necessary to use them when the lake level rose to within 6 feet of the crest. It was a powerful and humbling sight to see. Releases have resumed at Oroville Dam after they were suspended to clean up channel debris to power generation. The lake sits at 51 feet below the crest with current releases of 45,400cfs into the Feather River. There are no projections on when or how the spillway will be repaired or for that matter, who will be paying for it.

Wetlands Update:

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) just announced that the Rio Alto Water District Wastewater Treatment Plant and Constructed Wetlands Project was selected as the 2016 ASCE Sacramento Section Outstanding Waste/Wastewater Treatment Plant Project of the Year. District staff has installed a total of three additional outflow pipes from Pond #1 to assist with maintaining the pond level between 6'1" and 6'3" even during heavy rain periods. The wetlands seem to have weathered the recent storms nicely. The District will be approaching local schools for tours of the wastewater treatment plant and wetlands as soon as the weather is more stable. As a reminder, **dogs must be on a leash at all times** in the wetlands facility. Our insurance carrier insists that if we open the trails to dogs, they must be leashed. We would like to continue to allow dogs in the wetlands, however if the leash requirement is not followed, we will be forced to prohibit all dogs in the wetlands.

Update on Dinghy Place:

We apologize for the inconvenience on Dinghy Place. We found, after TVing the sewer line, that a lateral was broken. Over the years, this allowed for a cavern to form and with the rise in groundwater the sink hole increased in size. The line was repaired with an internal slip lining procedure, but because of the high groundwater levels we will need to wait until it subsides adequately to do proper compaction and repair of the road. Please use caution when driving on Dinghy Place.

New Billing System Update: We are currently converting data to a new billing system. We hope to be up and running by the next billing cycle. New bills will come in an envelope. (no more postcards) We will advise customers when they can sign up on the new portal for E-Statements and automatic payments.

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 under News & Notices.