



# Rio Alto Water District

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May 20, 2022

**Billing Updates: DELINQUENT CHARGES AND WATER LOCK OFFS FOR NON-PAYMENT HAVE BEEN REINSTATED EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2022.** Metered customers billed for the period 03/01/22 to 5/3/22 on May 3, 2022, are due and payable by June 6, 2022, to avoid delinquent charges. Customers that have not paid their previous balances (billing period 1/1/22-3/3/22) or signed payment arrangement contracts are scheduled for lock off on June 6, 2022. Availability lot billings for the period 4/1/22 through 6/30/22 will be mailed out on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Payments can be made by check or cash, and credit card payments can be made on our website at [www.RAWD.org](http://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 May's last three years of precipitation and lake levels:

Year	May Precipitation Received	Average Precipitation to Date	Percent of Average	Shasta Lake feet from Crest
2022	17.95	31.43	57%	120.34
2021	13.27	29.80	48%	89.29
2020	21.43	32.19	57%	34.91

If you are planning on removing your turf, we recommend waiting until the state budget is passed. We are hoping they approve the turf removal funding. We will keep you posted when we hear more. Consumption for the billing period 3/3/22 through 5/3/22 was down 9.4% but the year to date was up 4.6% in comparison to 2013 numbers. We are currently on voluntary restrictions, but I expect it to become mandatory. In fact, the state water board will be considering drought related emergency water conservation regulation at its May 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. Please do everything you can to save water, we are all in this together. The final snow pack survey held on April 29<sup>th</sup> in the Sierra Nevada Mountains found no measurable snow. **Most likely** we will be returning to restricted watering days and we will keep you posted if/when that becomes mandatory. Please take the time to check your irrigation system for leaks and missing heads. Visit [saveourwater.com](http://saveourwater.com) for conservation ideas and water-wise techniques or stop by the District for literature on water saving and drought resistant plants.

**New Construction:** At the request of Rio Alto, the POA AC Committee has included **restrictions on planting redwood trees and oleanders within 25 feet of District water and sewer lines on new builds.** No planting should be done in easements where water, sewer, electric, phone and cable utilities are located.

**Wetlands Update:** Thanks to all of you that attended the community meeting we held regarding dogs off leash at the wetlands. We received a lot of valuable input to help resolve the issue. The District has ordered a keycard reader for the entrance to the wetlands. Once installed, residents will be able to obtain a card from the District by signing a contract and depositing a non-refundable deposit. We will also be installing a solar powered camera to monitor the facility. Wetlands walkers can forward cell phone pictures to the District through email. District staff will then be able to review the pictures and deactivate the cards of residents not complying with the rules.

**Board Meeting Date:** The Board Meeting for June will be held on Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at the District Board Room. Agendas, Minutes and Resolutions can be accessed at [www.rawd.org](http://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.