



Rio Alto Water District

22099 River View Drive • Cottonwood, CA 96022

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

September 18, 2018

Billing Updates:

The metered bills were mailed on September 7, 2018 and are due by October 12, 2018 to avoid delinquent charges. **Payment arrangements can be made as long as the arrangement is made prior to the posting of the 24 hour notice.** Availability bills will be mailed to customers on September 28th and will be due by November 5th to avoid delinquent charges. About 20 customers applied for Carr Evacuees credits. It is not too late to apply, the credit is small, but every little bit helps. Applications can be obtained from the office or from the web site at RAWD.org. Overall consumption was up for the July and August billing period, however we still remain 30% less than the 2013 consumption year to date totals. Over 8 percent of the meters were reread in response to higher than normal readings. Calls were made to customers with unusually high reads. Field crews have been assisting residents in trying to determine the cause of their high consumption. The causes range from running toilets to irrigation leaks to excessive watering minutes programmed in timers. If you would like help, please call the District and we will send an operator out to assist you.

Drought and Fire Updates:

Applications for turf removal rebates can still be found at turf@saveourwaterrebates.com. The precipitation total for the water year beginning Oct.1, 2017 remains at 19.70", with a normal season to date being 33.35". The distance from the crest of Shasta Dam is now 81.60 feet, down 15.16 feet from what was reported last month due to increased flows for agriculture, firefighting and regulating water temperatures for fish. NOAA is predicting a 70% chance of a mild El Nino this winter. The bad news is that prediction includes warmer temperatures, less precipitation for the beginning of winter and only average rainfall towards the end of winter for the North State. Sites Reservoir was awarded \$816 million in Prop 1 Bond funding on July 25, 2018. Proposition 1 Bond funding was voter approved in 2014. This is California's first step to securing more storage for residents, farmers and the environment. The Carr, Delta and Hirz fires could have major impacts on the local watershed. Agencies that provide surface water to their customers may be forced to use emergency groundwater wells during the winter when the rains start.

SAVE MONEY- Pay attention to your irrigation system.

The field crew has been assisting residents with high consumption and we are finding most of this is related to irrigation leaks and overwatering. With the shallow hard pan in the area, longer watering cycles are not always the most efficient means to correct a brown lawn. Applying two short cycles with a break of at least one hour between each cycle are often more effective. We are beginning to experience fall like weather, and as such, please take the time to reduce your irrigation timers to conserve water and save money.

District Elections:

The regular biennial election will take place on November 6, 2018. Three candidates have filed papers for the Rio Alto Board of Directors, incumbents Craig Weaver, Steve Gibbs and new candidate Mel Freimuth.

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 at www.rawd.org under News & Notices.

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