

The Rio Linda / Elverta WaterWays

A Publication of the Rio Linda Elverta Community Water District
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Important Changes for Customers Paying with Credit or Debit Cards

Starting June 1st, the District will no longer be paying the convenience fee for credit/debit card payments. The District has enabled an alternative payment method, Automated Clearing House (ACH), which features no convenience fee. ACH payment method will save the District over \$20,000 each year. Credit/Debit card payment methods will still be available, but the payer (the customer) will be responsible for paying the convenience fees. Contact the District's GM, Tim Shaw with questions GM@RLECWD or (916) 991-8891.

Your Water Bill – Mail it or Email it you choose!

Don't want to worry about waiting for your water bill to be mailed. Want your bill sooner for your bi-monthly budgeting, the RLECWD offers you the convenience of having your water billed emailed. Just provide the District with a valid email and the day the bills are scheduled to be mailed according to our 2019 Billing Schedule, the RLECWD staff will email your bill.



How to read your Water Meter?

Water meters are read from left to right in units of 100 cubic feet. Read only the first four numbers starting with the numbers on the far-left side of your meter.

For example, if the left four digits of your meter read 2590 and the prior meter read was 2580, this means you have used 10 units or 7,480 gallons of water. (1 unit = 100 cubic feet = 748 gallons.)



Note: An alternative for reviewing your consumption is our new Customer Web Portal. Customer Web Portal allows you the customer to review your consumption and correlate that consumption to your charges. If you have any questions in accessing the Web Portal, you can call (916) 991-1000 or e-mail us at questions@rlecwd.com.

Check Before You Water: Looks Can Be Deceiving

Trying to figure out how much water your yard needs can be a mystery. You might think you can tell just by looking at your plants or by the weather reports, but the best and most accurate way is to check the soil's moisture level. It's easy to do and doesn't require a lot of time.

Here are some ways to check:

- **Use a moisture meter.** This is the most effective way to tell if you need to water your yard. Moisture meters feature an easy-to-read dial that indicates if the soil is dry, moist or wet. Simply push the moisture meter into the soil six to eight inches deep and check the reading. Make sure to check a few different spots in your yard and your potted plants as well; and then water accordingly.
- **Do the screwdriver test.** Stick an eight-inch screwdriver into the soil. If you can push it in more than three inches below the surface, you don't need to water.
- **Dig down six to eight inches** with a small shovel or trowel and grab a handful of soil. Roll the soil around in the palm of your hand. If the soil easily forms a ball in your hand, you don't need to water.



Properly watering your landscape will not only help you use water wisely, it will also keep your plants healthier. They'll get the right amount of water they need, and you'll make sure every drop counts. To keep up to date on tips, continue to visit our website rlecwd.com for updates or visit bewatersmart.info.

What is Drinking Water Week?

For more than 40 years the American Water Works Association and its members have celebrated Drinking Water Week – a unique opportunity for both water professionals and the communities they serve to join together in recognizing the vital role water plays in our daily lives. The 2019 celebration will take place May 5-11.



Conservation

Drip-Drip-Drip



The smaller the leak, the easier it can be to ignore the drip. Unfortunately, the longer they persist the more it can negatively affect your water bill. It is surprising how even small leaks over time can add up into a large volume of water that is wasted. Not only can it become a financial nuisance, consistent drops from a faucet or a hose spigot can act as an oasis for common insects that have the tendency to bug people. The answer to a dripping fixture might be as inexpensive as replacing the worn-out washer & gasket with a new one. The toilet is another common source to check for an indoor leak. A worn-out toilet flapper can quietly drain large quantities of water from the tank to the sewer. Whether you can make repairs yourself or if you require a licensed professional- it is always a good time to be pro-active in addressing that pesky leak.

RLECWD customers can inquire about toilet tablets and instructions on how to check for leaks around the home. You can call (916) 991-1000 or e-mail: Sara Cater, the Water Conservation Coordinator at scater@rlecwd.com for more details.

Every day is a right day to address your water leaks.



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