

# El Toro Water District



## WaterViews

**ETWD  
OPEN HOUSE  
&  
FACILITY  
TOUR**

**Please join us in  
celebrating our  
45th Anniversary  
and Water  
Awareness Month.**

**SATURDAY,  
MAY 6, 2006**

**9 A.M. - 2 P.M.**

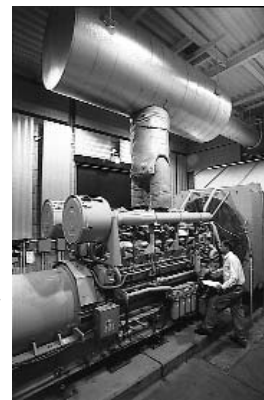
**For more information or to  
RSVP, please see page 4.**

### El Toro Water District Emergency Preparedness

A critical mission of the El Toro Water District is to continue to meet the demands of its customers during any emergency conditions.

Historically, ETWD has made significant investments in equipment and personnel training to ensure the quickest and most appropriate response to emergencies. ETWD's objective is to safely preserve or restore service to its customers as quickly as possible.

ETWD has developed a detailed Emergency Response Plan. This plan serves as a basis for training of ETWD personnel as well as a manual to which personnel may refer in the event of an emergency. The plan is regularly updated and provides appropriate direction to initiate an efficient response.



*Water Recycling Plant  
Stand-by Generator*

ETWD has invested in stand-by equipment dedicated to emergency response. Critical facilities are equipped with standby generators that will keep them running in the event of power failures. ETWD also owns several portable generators. Emergency response material and supply facilities are maintained at two different locations to facilitate ETWD's response to any emergency.

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ETWD is fully prepared for after-hours emergencies. The immediate response is initiated by the ETWD's primary "on-call" person. At any given time there are at least four trained and certified operators "on-call".

**"...ETWD IS WELL  
PREPARED TO RESPOND  
TO EMERGENCIES  
IMPACTING THE  
SERVICE THE DISTRICT  
IS DEDICATED TO  
PROVIDING."**

*Dennis Cafferty, Director of  
Operations and Engineering*

Personnel are always available as necessary.

Emergency planning and response is coordinated with local police and fire as well as with neighboring water agencies, regional wholesale water suppliers, the State Department of Health Services and the State Office of Emergency Services.

ETWD customers may rest assured that ETWD is well prepared to respond to emergencies impacting the service the District is dedicated to providing. ♦

## DIRECT PAYMENT AVAILABLE!

At ETWD we're always looking for opportunities to improve our service in economical and effective ways. Direct payment for ETWD



customer's monthly water and wastewater bill has been running for the past six months and many customers have taken advantage of the program. Once

enrolled in this service we will deduct your monthly bill from your checking account automatically. You will be notified in advance as to the amount of the deduction and the date of the deduction.

This added convenience will be in addition to the current methods of payment, cash, check or credit card. Enrollment information is available on our website at [www.etwd.com](http://www.etwd.com) or by calling Customer Service at (949) 837-0660 ♦

## EMPLOYEE AWARDS

On behalf of the ETWD Board of Directors, the District's General Manager, Bob Hill, acknowledged Dennis Cafferty, Bruce Walczyk, Troy Davis, James Redding and Bob Hazzard for successfully obtaining advanced Water Distribution Operator Certificates. Dennis and Bruce received their Grade V Certificates, Troy and James obtained their Grade IV Certificates and Bob received his Grade II Certificate. Operator Certifications are part of a stringent technically based program administered by the State of California Office of Drinking Water. Certification levels range from Grade I to Grade V. Each certification level acknowledges the individuals years of experience, educational background and technical



*From Left to Right, Dennis Cafferty, Robert Hazzard, Jim Redding, Bruce Walczyk, Troy Davis and Bob Hill.*

and administrative competency in various aspects of drinking water distribution system operation and maintenance.

The District takes great pride in the accomplishments of these dedicated employees and the high caliber of service they provide to our customers.

**CONGRATULATIONS! ♦**

## "SAVE THE DATE"

### ETWD Open House & Facility Tour

**SATURDAY, MAY 6th, 2006**

**9 A.M. - 2 P.M.**

See back page for more information.

# WATER CONSERVATION CORNER

## Suggested Weekly Watering Schedule

Weekly Watering Schedule for Spray Head Irrigation Systems		
	Turf Grass	Trees, shrubs groundcover
March	3 days 2 cycles of 3 minutes	2 days 2 cycles of 3 minutes
April	3 days 2 cycles of 4 minutes	2 days 2 cycles of 4 minutes
May	3 days 3 cycles of 3 minutes	2 day 3 cycles of 3 minutes

## Spring Conservation Tips

Spring is right around the corner. The turf is growing at its optimum rate during April and May. Now is the perfect time to build deep roots. How do you do that and what is the advantage?

Typically, we have compacted, heavy clay soil in Orange County. In turf areas this means shallow root systems, sometimes as short as 2" into the soil. This means that you will have stressed turf, hot spots and need to water everyday during summer. This will mean more shallow roots and higher water bills. Start now to undo this problem.

1. Aerate compacted soils as deeply as equipment will allow
2. Spread fine organic material over the aerated turf
3. Irrigate to move the organic material down into the soil
4. Use a soil probe to "see" how deep the soil moisture is and how deep each irrigation cycle penetrates into the soil
5. Use irrigation cycling to move water deeper into the soil than the current root depth (training roots to move deeper into the soil)
6. Let the soil dry somewhat between watering (do not water every day, but allow for at least one day between watering, allowing 2 days between watering during April and May is better for building deeper roots)
7. Use short cycles of 3 minutes or less and run more cycles (3-5) to move water deeper into the soil without having water runoff
8. Aerate again in late September and follow the same steps ♦



## RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

Receive money back when you upgrade to "smart" technology that fully automates landscape watering, based on the weather and water needs of your plants.

Receive **\$20\*** per active valve rebate (up to **\$240**) after you purchase and install your automated weather-based irrigation controller.

- ♦ Reduce outdoor water use up to 25%
- ♦ Increase the health and appearance of your landscape
- ♦ Reduce runoff
- ♦ Over-watering is a thing of the past

For more details, call **1-866-846-3725** or visit [www.mwdoc.com/Smartimer/](http://www.mwdoc.com/Smartimer/).

\*Rebates available for eligible applicants while funding lasts.

## SAVE WATER SAVE MONEY

Take advantage of these residential rebates:

**\$100 REBATE**  
on select high-efficiency  
washing machines



**\$50 REBATE**  
on select ultra low flush  
toilets  
(limit 3 rebates per resi-  
dence)



**FOR DETAILS,  
PLEASE CALL  
1-800-954-4344**

# Water Education Corner

## ETWD OPEN HOUSE & FACILITY TOUR

Please join us in celebrating ETWD's 45th Anniversary  
and Water Awareness Month on:

**SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2006 from 9 a.m - 2 p.m.**  
(Facility Tours at 10 a.m. and 12 noon)

Bring your friends and family for food, educational  
activities, tours and much more. The event is free  
and open to the public.

**Activities Include:**

- Water Recycling Plant Tours
- Mad Science Shows
- Games for Kids
- Ricki-the-Raindrop
- Hands on Water Experiments

**Exhibits Include:**

- Water Conservation
- Water Quality
- Equipment Displays
- Local Cities
- Saddleback Memorial Medical Center
- O.C. Fire Authority



To RSVP for the Tour and/or the Open House, please call Sherri Seitz at (949) 837-7050, x 239 or e-mail at [sseitz@etwd.com](mailto:sseitz@etwd.com) ♠

### EL TORO WATER DISTRICT

24251 Los Alisos Boulevard  
Lake Forest, CA 92630  
(949) 837-0660

The Mission of the El Toro Water District is to plan and invest appropriately to provide its customers a safe, adequate and reliable supply of water, wastewater and recycled water service in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

Water Views is published quarterly to keep water users in the El Toro Water District informed about water and wastewater related issues and events. It is prepared by District staff. **Your comments and suggestions are welcomed.** Please call Customer Service at (949) 837-0660 or visit our website at [www.etwd.com](http://www.etwd.com). The El Toro Water District is a California Water District governed by an elected Board of Directors.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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