

El Toro Water District

WaterViews

WATER QUALITY REPORT

Water served to the customers of El Toro Water District has always been high quality.

The water delivered by El Toro Water District in 2003 met all of the state and federal requirements for safe drinking water. This means that for more than 100 constituents that have to be monitored, none was found at levels considered unsafe by health agencies.

During the month of July, you should have received a copy of the District's 2004 Annual Water Quality Report. This year's report has been prepared in compliance with regulations called for in the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. The goal of the report is to keep you informed about the quality of the water that is reliably delivered 24/7 to your residence and/or business.

According to the District's General Manager, Bob Hill, "There is never any wiggle room allowed when it comes to protecting public health." Advanced water treatment technologies, increased monitoring and stringent laws and guidelines have worked together to protect the quality of water we deliver to you and your family.

We hope you take the time to review the report and to contact us with any questions. For additional copies or information, contact our Customer Service Office at (949) 837-0660. ♦

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GARBAGE DISPOSALS DO'S and DONT'S

Costly and messy blockages in your private sewer lateral can be minimized by routine preventative cleaning of your pipes and paying careful attention to the food items and waste being placed in the kitchen sink. The easiest way to solve the problem and help prevent overflows of raw sewage due to blockages in your private sewer lateral or the public sewer system is to keep items and waste out of the kitchen pipes in the first place. To accomplish this, all of us need to modify our food waste disposal practices.



Excessive amounts of fats, oil and grease in the private sewers can result in raw sewage overflowing into your home.



Pour oil and grease into a container to cool and then into the trash.

DO'S:

- Scrape grease and food scraps from trays, plates, pots, pans, utensils, and grills and cooking surfaces into a container for disposal in the trash.

- Get into the practice of using a large bowl

to store food waste during the cooking process and then dispose of the contents into the trash.

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DONT'S:

AVOID PUTTING THE FOLLOWING FOOD MATERIALS INTO GARBAGE DISPOSALS (The potential exists for these materials to accumulate in your household plumbing and/or the public sewer system to create a blockage - they can be easily disposed of in the trash).



GREASE SUBSTANCES
Cooking Oil
Grease
Syrups (undiluted)

Pour grease into a jar for cooling and then into the trash.

FIBROUS FOODS

- Stringy Vegetables
- Celery
- Banana Peels
- Pineapple Peels
- Cornhusk and Silk
- Shrimp and Lobster Shells
- Coffee Grounds
- Potato Skins



Put fibrous foods in the trash, not in the garbage disposal.



Remember to put egg shells in the trash.

HARD ITEMS

- Nut Shells
- Coconut Shells
- Peanut Shells
- Chicken Bones
- Fruit Pits
- Egg Shells

Note: If you must use the garbage disposal, always use cold water and allow water to run for approximately 30 seconds with each use.

Please call our Customer Service Office if you have any questions or if you are experiencing problems with your private sewer system at (949) 837-0660. ♦

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Connecting/Terminating Water & Sewer

Service may be initiated or terminated during office hours by calling Customer Service at (949) 837-0660 or stopping by the main office Monday through Thursday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM or Friday from 8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon.

One working day's notice is required for any change in service.

Vacation Billing

Please remember us when you go on vacation. If you let Customer Service know in advance, we will make special payment arrangements with you to accommodate an extended vacation. Planning ahead will avoid disconnection of your service and costly reconnection fees.



If you require special assistance or have any questions about your service, please call our Customer Service Department. ♦

ETWD WEBSITE

Facelift Complete!

www.ETWD.com has been greatly expanded. Log on today for information on reading your water bill to water conservation. Save money by finding information and applications for our water conservation rebate programs. An updated calendar of events, along with meeting agendas, and



contact information can help you become an active participant in the El Toro Water District. An archive of the ETWD WaterViews newsletters will keep you abreast of the current and past happenings

in the District. Learn about the history of the El Toro Water District and find out where your water comes from. View current and past water quality reports. Visit www.ETWD.com today for your family's resource on water information. ♦

WATER CONSERVATION CORNER

Suggested Weekly Watering Schedule

Weekly Watering Schedule for Spray Head Irrigation Systems

	Turf Grass	Trees, shrubs groundcover
September	4 days 2 cycles of 4 minutes	2 days 2 cycles of 4 minutes
October	3 days 2 cycles of 3 minutes	2 days 2 cycles of 3 minutes
November	2 days 2 cycles of 3 minutes	1 day 2 cycles of 4 minutes

Remember to turn-off your irrigation system before and during rainy weather.

Fall Conservation Tips Keep Your Eye on the Target

What is the target? The target always relates to having healthy plants while using the right amount of resources



(water, fertilizer, etc.). October is typically a month of high over-watering. Why? It may still feel hot to gardeners; however, the ET (evapotranspiration rate), the target for plants, is dropping rapidly.

Summer schedules may still be programmed into controllers, yet the ET is 50 percent less in fall months. It's time to change controllers by reducing the irrigation schedules by approximately 50 percent. Why?

- The soil needs to dry between watering, especially for trees, shrubs and groundcovers.
- When the rains come, wet, saturated soils mean rain water will run off. Applying irrigation water and then allowing the soils to dry somewhat will allow rainwater to penetrate into the soil.
- Allowing the soil to dry out between watering means air will move into the soil and plant root zone. This enables plants, including turf, to increase root mass and depth. (If the soil constantly stays wet, roots rot and become more condensed in the soil).
- Shallow roots become the rule if Fall watering is not turned down. Rain makes the problem worse from more water being added to already wet soil. This is true for both trees and turf.

By applying only the water the plants need now (ET), you can reduce root rot, reduce water bills and reduce runoff. ♣

Rebate and Exchange Programs

El Toro Water District, in cooperation with the Municipal Water District of Orange County and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California continues to promote Home Water Use Efficiency Programs.

TOILET AND WASHING MACHINE REBATES

Up to a **\$50 Rebate** for qualifying water saving toilet installations. An ultra low flush toilet can save you 2 - 3.5 gallons per flush or more.



\$100 Rebate for qualifying high-efficiency washing machines. High-efficiency washers can save you 18 - 25 gallons per load.

For more information on these programs, please call (800) 954-4344. ♣

"Native and California Friendly are the best plants."



There are more than 6,000 varieties of native and California Friendly plants to choose from. And you won't have any trouble choosing the right ones for your garden. They're every bit as colorful as other plants, without being nearly as thirsty. And that's a beautiful thing. To learn more log on to bewaterwise.com.



bewaterwise.com

Water Education Corner



Jewell Peoples • Grade 5 • Ms. DeLaGarza •
Ralph A. Gates Elementary School

POSTER CONTEST WINNER

Students throughout Orange County participated in Municipal Water District's "Water is Life" Poster and Slogan Contest. The contest assisted in promoting water education during Water Awareness Month in May.

This year Jewell Peoples of Ms. DeLaGarza's 5th Grade Elementary class at Gates School won honorable mention for her poster and will have her poster featured on the back cover of the calendar which is distributed to all Orange County schools. Jewell, her mom and Ms. DeLaGarza attended the ETWD May Board meeting. Jewell was presented awards from Municipal Water District of Orange County and El Toro Water District. The District congratulates Jewell and all the participants who entered the contest. ♦



From Left: Wayne Clark, MWDOC Director; Jewell Peoples, Poster Contest Winner; Ms. DeLaGarza, 5th Grade Teacher; and Ted Martin, ETWD Board President.

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 provide its customers a safe, adequate and reliable supply of water and wastewater 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.

The El Toro Water District is a California Water District governed by an elected Board of Directors.

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