



El Toro Water District · Winter 2021

WATER VIEWS

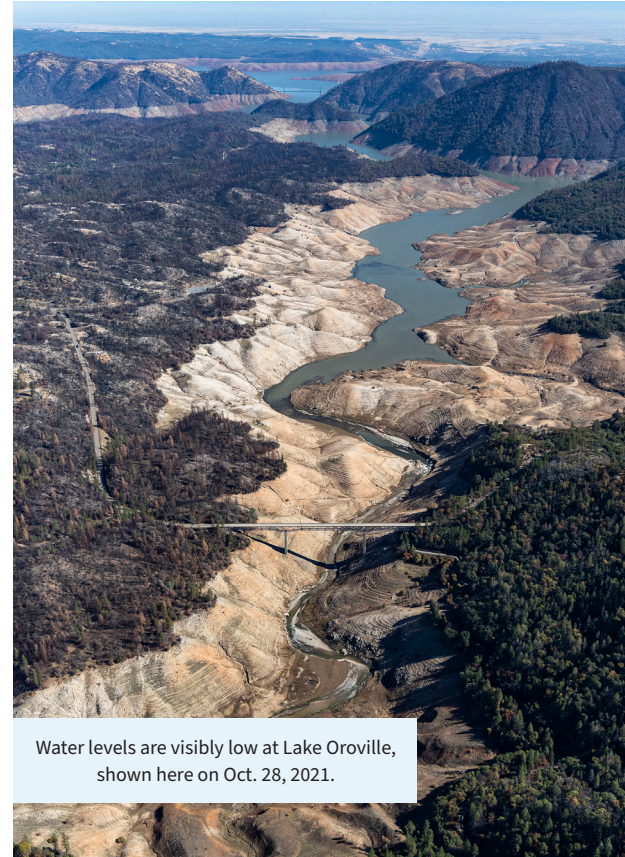
DROUGHT PERSISTS THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA

The majority of California is facing an extreme drought. As dry conditions persist, conservation efforts are falling short of state targets. Although fall storms drenched Northern California with record-breaking rains, the state's water supply didn't receive enough of a boost to bust the drought. In fact, many of California's largest reservoirs are still holding less water than the historic level for this time of year.

In response, the District is updating our Water Shortage Contingency Plan and will evaluate whether to activate the plan to address potential water supply shortage conditions. Through the years, the District has invested in developing a diverse water portfolio to meet our customers' needs. However, it is crucial that we all work together to save water today and into the future.

How You Can Help

In light of California's emergency drought declaration and the Governor's call to reduce water use echoed by our wholesale water suppliers, the District is asking all customers to voluntarily reduce their water use by 15%.



Water levels are visibly low at Lake Oroville, shown here on Oct. 28, 2021.

SAVE WATER 365



- Water your lawn early in the morning or late in the evening to minimize evaporation.
- Watering your lawn is prohibited during and 48 hours after a measurable rainfall of at least 1/4" of rain.
- Choose water-wise plants and water efficient irrigation equipment.
- Adjust sprinklers to eliminate excessive runoff onto the sidewalk, driveway, street or gutter.
- Find and fix irrigation and household leaks as soon as possible.
- Sweep instead of hosing down hard or paved surfaces, such as sidewalks, driveways and patios.
- Visit the District website for more ways to save water and for rebates that can help.
- You can view the District's 24/7 permanent, mandatory conservation measures for residential and commercial customers at [etwd.com/conservation/drought](https://www.etwd.com/conservation/drought).

IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, WATER CONSERVATION ISN'T JUST A TREND. IT'S A WAY OF LIFE. WE APPRECIATE YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE EFFICIENT USE OF WATER.

EL TORO WATER DISTRICT

24251 Los Alisos Blvd, Lake Forest, CA 92630

district@etwd.com

(949) 837-7050

[etwd.com](https://www.etwd.com)





GROW YOUR DROUGHT-TOLERANT GARDEN THIS WINTER

What to plant now: Red Bird of Paradise

- ✓ Botanical name: *Caesalpinia pulcherrima*
- ✓ Ideal for xeriscaping
- ✓ Grows best in full sun or light shade
- ✓ Easily propagated from seeds or cuttings
- ✓ Bright orange, yellow and red flowers bloom in the spring
- ✓ Enter your address at [Calscape.org](https://www.calscape.org) to see plants native to your location



WATER-WISE GARDEN INSPIRATION

Looking for ways to reduce water use? Visit one of Orange County's hidden gems – the District's Demonstration Garden! Our outdoor community classroom was created to educate and inspire sustainable, water-wise gardening. The garden is home to 100 varieties of California-friendly and native plants that you can incorporate into your landscape. Take a relaxing stroll through the garden at **24251 Los Alisos Blvd in Lake Forest** or visit virtually at etwd.com/demonstration-garden.

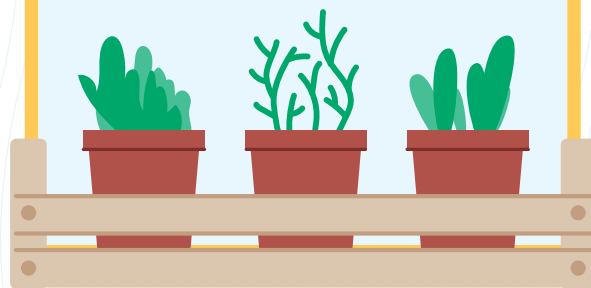
The District's Demonstration Garden is located at 24251 Los Alisos Blvd in Lake Forest.



FREE VIRTUAL LANDSCAPE WORKSHOPS

- CALIFORNIA-FRIENDLY AND NATIVE LANDSCAPING
- TURF REMOVAL
- GARDEN DESIGN
- IRRIGATION

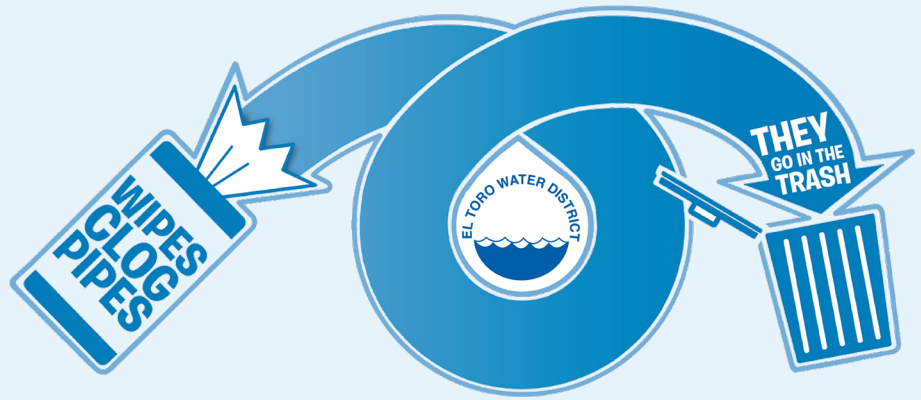
Classes are offered through the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's Be Water Wise program. To learn more and sign up, visit etwd.com/conservation/landscape-workshops.



WIPES CLOG PIPES

Did you know that wipes labeled “flushable” and “disposable” are not really flushable at all? These products can clog your pipes and cause sewer system backups and spills that can damage your home and our environment.

The good news is that, starting in July 2022, a new California law will require manufacturers of all wet wipes products, including diaper wipes, cosmetic wipes and surface cleaning wipes, to include on-package “Do Not Flush” warnings and the universal Do Not Flush symbol (shown here). The new labeling rules will help consumers make informed choices to protect their property and our communities.



BEHIND THE SCENES AT ETWD



Rory Harnisch
PROJECT ENGINEER

Top Priorities

Overseeing tenant improvements and new developments and managing capital improvement projects

Experience

12 years in the water/wastewater industry as a contractor and consultant

"When the intention is clear, a mechanism will appear."



MEET THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF OUR TEAM



Hannah Ford
ENGINEERING MANAGER

Top Priorities

Leading the District's engineering team in completing capital improvement projects that enable us to provide safe and reliable water, recycled water and wastewater services to our customers

Experience

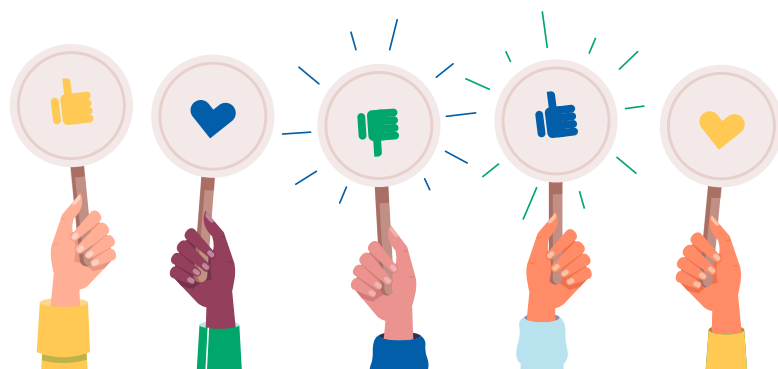
10 years of local and global water-related experience providing engineering solutions to community problems

"Our challenge is to continue to provide a well-diversified water supply in a water-scarce region, and the District's team is here to solve it."

H₂O FOR HOAs

We care about the communities we serve, and we're dedicated to helping everyone use water wisely. On Oct. 19, the District partnered with 16 regional cities and water districts to bring together the HOA community, including HOA board members, community managers and professional landscapers to provide education and information on topics relating to water management. If you missed the event, held at the Lake Forest Community Center, you can get up to speed on the best practices and resources discussed by visiting etwd.com/conservation/h2o-for-hoas.

District Director and UCCE Master Gardener Kay Havens presented on transforming SoCal landscapes and better choices for a sustainable future.



GET THE INSIDE SCOOP FROM OUR COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP

The District holds quarterly Community Advisory Group meetings to share water, wastewater and recycled water information with our customers.

Sign Up

Sign up to receive Community Advisory Group meeting updates at etwd.com/community-advisory-group-meeting.

If you have any questions, please email the District at district@etwd.com or call us at (949) 837-7050. We look forward to seeing you at a future meeting.

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The Board of Directors meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:30 a.m. in person and via Zoom teleconference. We encourage you to join us. Meeting agendas are posted on our website and include teleconference access and instructions. Learn more: etwd.com/governance/meetings-agendas-minutes

ETWD delivers drinking water, recycled water and wastewater services to customers in the City of Laguna Woods and portions of the cities of Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Laguna Hills and Aliso Viejo. Have questions? Call us at (949) 837-7050 or email us at district@etwd.com.

