

**RECYCLED WATER ON-SITE
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS
FOR
RESIDENTIAL DUAL PLUMBED HOMES**

**El Dorado Irrigation District
2890 Mosquito Road
Placerville, CA 95667**

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SECTION 1.0

INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL POLICIES

1.1 SCOPE

The design and construction of residential dual plumbed home on-site recycled water facilities for landscape irrigation systems shall comply with these standards set forth herein, the Engineer's Report, and to any conditions, standards, and requirements set forth by the District in addition to these standard specifications.

1.2 INTERPRETATION

The District shall decide all questions of interpretation of "good engineering practice," guided by the various standards and manuals.

1.3 APPLICABLE CODES AND POLICIES

Ordinances, requirements, and applicable standards of governmental agencies having jurisdiction within the District's service area shall be observed in the design and construction of on-site recycled and potable water systems. Such requirements include but are not limited to current revisions of the following:

- A. The Uniform Plumbing Code as amended by the County of El Dorado.
- B. Municipal Code of the County of El Dorado, as applicable.
- C. State of California, Department of Public Health, Title 22.
- D. Regional Water Quality Control Board Regulations.
- E. Regulations and Policy Statements, as adopted and amended by the Board of Directors of the El Dorado Irrigation District.

1.4 EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT JURISDICTION

The District is responsible for the approval of plans and inspection of all residential dual plumbed home on-site recycled water systems within the District's service area. Where repairs or replacement of a service line on the upstream side of the meter is required, it shall be the responsibility of the District, unless it is a system upgrade, in which case the owner or customer will be billed for the work. Conversely, the cost of repairs or replacement of the on-site facilities shall be the responsibility of the property owner.

1.5 DEVELOPER'S ENGINEER/LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT RESPONSIBILITY

These standards establish uniform policies and procedures for the design and construction of dual plumbed home irrigation system and potable water facilities. They are not intended to be a substitute for knowledge, judgment, or experience. The contained procedures shall be reviewed by the engineer/landscape architect and shall be applied as necessary to the project. Proposed deviations to these standards shall be submitted in writing in conjunction with the plan review submittal.

The plans shall be revised or supplemented at any time if it is determined that the District's requirements have not been met.

1.6 PROHIBITIONS AND LIMITATIONS

Design of dual plumbed home on-site recycled water facilities shall conform to the following:

- A. The recycled water system shall be separate and independent of any potable water system. Cross-connections between potable water facilities and recycled water facilities are prohibited.
- B. Hose bibs on recycled water facilities are prohibited. Where potable and recycled water is used on-site, potable water hose bibs must be attached to the house.
- C. Irrigation systems shall not be supplied with potable water on lots supplied with recycled water.
- D. Patios, swimming pools, spas, etc. shall be protected from the spray of recycled water.
- E. Overspray and run-off shall be limited or prevented. Irrigate in a manner that will minimize runoff, pooling, and ponding.
- F. Potable and recycled water lines must maintain required separation at all times.
- G. Recycled water shall not be used for any purpose other than irrigation.
- H. Individual irrigation zones within a system shall not exceed 10 gpm at any time.
- I. The system shall be designed to irrigate the on-site turf areas within the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. Drip systems may operate at any time.

1.7 BACKFLOW PREVENTION AND CROSS-CONNECTION

The potable water system will be protected by an approved backflow prevention assembly at the potable water meter on all dual plumbed lots. Assemblies will be installed downstream of, but immediately next to the potable water meter and the pressure-reducing valve. Connections between the recycled water and the potable water systems are prohibited. An approved backflow prevention device may be required on potable water fill lines to pools, spas, and other water features in accordance with local health and plumbing codes. Backflow prevention assemblies are not required on the recycled water service.

SECTION 2.0

PLAN PREPARATION AND REVIEW

2.1 GENERAL

Completed construction drawings for all dual plumbed home on-site recycled water systems must be submitted to the District for plan checking and approval before construction. Fifteen (15) working days will be allowed for plan check. Two sets of the plans (landscape sheets only), 8 ½" by 11" or 11" by 17" in size, must be submitted. Plans may also be submitted electronically in PDF format. The plans must show both the potable water system and recycled water irrigation system facilities. The District will review the plans and will return one set with required corrections, if needed. After all revisions have been incorporated into the plans, two sets of the plans shall be resubmitted to the District. Minor changes to the system will be reviewed by the District. If major modifications are made to the irrigation system, the owner, applicant, or customer shall provide a new set of irrigation plans to the District for review and approval.

2.2 SUBMITTAL

The submittal of landscape irrigation plans for plan checking is to ensure that the proposed use of recycled water conforms to the approved uses as set forth in the Engineer's Report.

2.3 AGREEMENTS

Before recycled water can be supplied to a residential site, a Homebuyer Notification Regarding Residential Use of Recycled Water shall be signed. The notification sets forth the requirements for service.

In a residential dual plumbed subdivision, all homes are required to use recycled water for all irrigation. Deed restrictions are detailed in the documents: "Declaration of Restrictions Regarding the Use of Recycled Water for Landscape Irrigation."

Irrigation systems shall not be supplied with potable water.

2.4 DATA REQUIRED ON PLANS

Specific information is required to be included in the plan set as described below.

- A. Irrigation Equipment Legend - For irrigation systems, a legend showing the pertinent data for the materials used in the system shall be recorded on the plans. The legend shall include a pipe schedule listing pipe sizes and materials of construction, a listing of valve types, and the following information for each type of sprinkler head:
1. Sprinkler radius (feet).
 2. Sprinkler pattern (90°, 180°, 360°)
 3. Flow (gpm).
 4. Operating pressure (psi).

- B. Irrigation Valves - The following information for each valve shall be provided:
1. Manufacturer name and model number
 2. Flow (No valve or irrigation zone shall exceed 10 gpm at any time. Flow is determined by adding the gpm of all the sprinklers connected to a valve.)
 3. Valve Type (In-line)
- C. Sheets to be Included - The following sheets shall be included in the set:
1. District plan submittal sheet
 2. All recycled and potable on-site water lines
 3. Homeowner and Designer contact information
 4. Irrigation details

2.5 APPROVAL FOR CONSTRUCTION

Upon approval of the on-site irrigation plans, an inspection shall be scheduled by contacting the El Dorado Irrigation District at (530) 295-6873 allow two (2) working days for inspections. In no case shall irrigation lines be backfilled or covered before inspection by the District.

SECTION 3.0

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS

3.1 RECYCLED WATER FRONT AND BACKYARD SYSTEMS- GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Recycled water service and domestic potable water service for each residential lot will be provided by the subdivision developer. The recycled water service is typically provided at the opposite lot end from the potable service.

Recycled water will not be used for any other purpose except for irrigation. Recycled water lines shall not enter the house.

In a residential dual plumbed subdivision, all homes are required to use recycled water for all irrigation.

Irrigation systems shall not be supplied with potable water.

The piping system for the recycled water irrigation system will be constructed and maintained to be easily differentiated from the potable water piping system. The recycled water system piping will be approved purple plastic pipe.

Approved warning tape shall be attached the top and shall run continuously for the entire length of all main and lateral line piping. This is applicable to both recycled and potable water lines. If there are multiple lines of the same type located in a trench, a single piece of warning tape may be applied to the upper most pipe in the trench. Refer to section 3.8 for tape requirements.

All constant pressure main line piping from the recycled water system shall be installed to maintain 10 feet minimum horizontal separation from all potable water piping. Where recycled and potable water pressure main line piping cross, the recycled water piping shall be installed below the potable water piping in a purple-colored PVC sleeve which extends a minimum of 5 feet on either side of the potable water piping. Provide a minimum vertical clearance of 12 inches.

Recycled water and potable water lines shall not share a common trench.

It is recommended to install purple irrigation PVC sleeves beneath driveways, walkways or other paved areas. Install the necessary number of sleeves, properly sized, to accommodate the irrigation system mainline, lateral lines, and controller wiring. The sleeving shall extend one (1) foot on each side of the slab.

Sprinkler heads and spray patterns shall be contained within the home lot property line and shall not overlap or overspray onto the adjacent property. Adjust sprinkler heads and spray patterns to minimize overspray onto adjacent hardscapes, patios, decks, pools, fences, etc.

Space and install sprinklers and turf rotors no more than 80% of the manufacturer's recommended radius listing for that particular head. Ensure head-to-head coverage of the spray pattern with no dry spots.

The maximum flow for each valve system or irrigation zone shall not exceed 10 gallons per minute, nor shall operating flows exceed 10 gallons per minute at any one time.

For drip irrigation systems, install an in-line Wye filter down stream of the remote control valve and upstream of the pressure reducing valve. The filter shall be placed below grade in a purple plastic valve box.

For drip irrigation systems, install an in-line pressure-reducing valve down stream of the remote control valve. The pressure-reducing valve shall be placed below grade in a purple plastic valve box and adjusted to the proper operating pressure for the drip system.

Install drip tubing a minimum of four (4) inches below grade.

No backflow prevention assembly is required on the recycled water service.

A pressure-reducing valve will be installed by the District downstream of the recycled water meter below grade in a rectangular box of sufficient size to easily allow repair or replacement. Pressure reducing valve shall be pre-set at 40 psi.

Hose bibs and quick coupling valves are prohibited on the residential recycled water system.

No white PVC piping will be allowed for use in recycled water irrigation systems.

The irrigation system for overhead spray irrigation will be operated between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. Drip irrigation systems may be operated at anytime.

Remote control valves shall be buried below grade in an approved purple valve box.

Anti-siphon control valves are prohibited on the recycled water irrigation system.

Obtain prior approval for all proposed changes and modifications to the irrigation system or the addition of any potable water lines extending from the home. Changes shall be submitted to and approved by the District.

Monitor and maintain the system to minimize equipment and material failure. Broken sprinkler heads, leaks, unreliable valves, clogged filters, etc., should be repaired as soon as they become apparent.

Recycled water is not potable water and therefore not suitable for human consumption.

Irrigate in a manner that will minimize runoff, pooling, and ponding. The application rate shall not exceed the infiltration rate of the soil. Timers will be adjusted so as to be compatible with the lowest soil infiltration rate present. This procedure may be facilitated by the efficient scheduling of the automatic control clocks (i.e., employing the repeat function to break up the total irrigation time into cycles that will promote maximum soil absorption). When using any type of irrigation system, care will be exercised by controlling the delivery rate of water so as not to overcome the soil's water absorption rate. Overwhelming the soil absorption rate may cause recycled water run-off and soil erosion. Proper programming of the automatic irrigation controller, knowing the plant material's water needs, familiarity with the soil's water absorption characteristics and slope aspects are necessary for responsible water resource management and good irrigation practice.

Recycled water is highly treated domestic wastewater and its clarity to the human eye is indistinguishable from domestic water. The standards imposed for treatment of recycled water quality are established by various governmental regulatory agencies, including the State of California Department of Public Health, California Code of Regulations, Title 22, and these standards may change.

Educate all maintenance personnel, family members, and guests, on a continuous basis, of the presence of recycled water and that it is not approved for drinking purposes.

3.2 POTABLE WATER SYSTEM DESIGN GUIDELINES – GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The potable water service and the recycled water service for each residential dual plumbed home will be provided by the homebuilder's underground contractor.

The potable water system will be protected by an approved backflow prevention assembly at the potable water meter when recycled water is used on-site. Assemblies will be installed downstream of, but immediately next to, the potable water meter and the pressure-reducing valve.

The Department of Public Health requires that all backflow prevention assemblies be tested annually to ensure that the device is functioning properly.

A District certified backflow prevention assembly tester will conduct the required annual testing of the assemblies. The District shall notify the customer in writing prior to the annual test requirement. Required repairs to the assemblies will be at the customer's expense.

The backflow prevention assembly will be installed below grade in a rectangular box so that the top of the assembly is a maximum of ten inches clear of the box lid. The assembly will be centered in the box and the box will be clean of mud and other debris to a point of six inches below the bottom of the assembly. Do not disturb the assembly or modify the grade around the assembly when landscaping the front yard. Backflow assemblies that do not meet the District standards will be corrected at the owner's expense. Neither the owner nor their contractor shall remove or modify the water meter or the backflow prevention assembly.

The water used within the residence and supplied to the external hose bibs will be potable water.

All hose bibs shall be attached to the house.

Fill lines for pools and all water features of any kind are prohibited on the recycled water system. These uses shall be connected to the potable water system. Copper pipe will be used for all potable lines extending from the house and into the yard(s). The location of the copper lines shall be indicated on the irrigation plans. The District requires inspection of the copper pipe installation prior to the covering of the pipe. Approved warning tape shall be attached the top and shall run continuously for the entire length of all main and lateral line piping. Refer to section 3.8 below for tape requirements.

An approved backflow prevention device may be required on potable water fill lines to pools, spas, and other water features in accordance with local health and plumbing codes.

All constant pressure main line piping from the recycled water system shall be installed to maintain 10 feet minimum horizontal separation from all potable water piping. Where recycled and potable water pressure main line piping cross, the recycled water piping shall be installed below the potable water piping in a purple-colored, PVC sleeve which extends a minimum of 5 feet on either side of the potable water piping. Provide a minimum vertical clearance of 12 inches. Refer to section 3.7 for separation requirements.

3.3 IRRIGATION SYSTEM MATERIALS FOR RECYCLED WATER

Irrigation systems for residential landscapes shall be designed and constructed with proven name-brand equipment, materials and automatic controllers. All materials and equipment shall be listed and indicated on the irrigation plan submittal for approval by the District.

3.4 PIPE SELECTION

All buried on-site piping in the recycled water system shall be approved purple PVC pipe with stenciling identifying it as recycled water in accordance with the AWWA Guidelines for the Distribution of Non-potable Water. Stenciling shall include; CAUTION RECYCLED WATER - DO NOT DRINK; nominal pipe size; PVC-1120; pressure rating in pounds per square inch at 73 degrees; and ASTM designations such as 1785, 2241, 2672, or 3139. Stenciling shall be placed continuous on two sides of the pipe.

All on-site recycled water piping shall be installed in accordance with the Uniform Plumbing Code and all other local governing codes, rules, and regulations.

PVC constant pressure main line piping, 2 inches and larger, shall be rubber-ring joint, PVC Class 160, or solvent weld joint, PVC Class 315.

PVC constant pressure main line piping, 1-1/2 inches and smaller, shall be solvent weld joint, PVC Schedule 40.

The potable water line from the meter to the house shall be white PVC. All other potable water lines in landscapes shall be copper lines. Approved warning tape shall be attached the top and shall run continuously for the entire length of all main and lateral line potable water piping. Refer to section 3.8 for tape requirements. Examples of potable water uses are a pool, fountain, or other uses not designated as acceptable for recycled water.

3.5 FITTINGS

PVC plastic pipefittings shall be installed below grade.

All PVC plastic pipefittings shall be rigid PVC virgin Type I, minimum Schedule 40, with working pressure no higher than that of the pipe. Sockets shall be tapered to conform to the outside diameter of the pipe, as recommended by the pipe manufacturer. All Schedule 40 fittings shall conform to ASTM D 2466. Schedule 80 fittings shall conform to ASTM D 2464 and D 2467.

PVC fittings shall be Schedule 40 solvent weld and factory manufactured, or Schedule 40 with rubber-ring joint.

3.6 DEPTH OF PIPING

For on-site residential recycled water piping, the minimum depth shall be twelve (12) inches below sub-grade or twelve (12) inches below any potable water line.

3.7 SEPARATION REQUIREMENTS

All piping must be installed in accordance with the pipe separation requirements indicated below.

Recycled and potable water lines shall not share a common trench.

A. Horizontal Separation

A.1 Buried Recycled and Potable Water Pipelines

Constant Pressure Lines - A minimum ten (10) foot separation between parallel buried constant pressure recycled and potable water pipelines must be maintained.

Intermittent Pressure Lines – A minimum of one (1) foot separation between parallel buried intermittent (pipelines after the control valves) recycled and potable water pipelines must be maintained.

If separation cannot be maintained, then a special construction detail to minimize cross-connections and contamination potential must be included with the plans and is subject to approval by the District. Potable and recycled water pipelines shall not be installed in the same trench.

A.2 Buried Recycled Water and Sewer Pipelines

A minimum of one (1) foot separation between buried recycled water and sewer pipelines must be maintained. If a one (1) foot separation cannot be maintained, then a special construction detail to minimize contamination potential must be included with the plans and is subject to approval by the District. Sewer and recycled water pipelines shall not be installed in the same trench.

B. Vertical Separation

B.1 Buried Recycled and Potable Water Constant Pressure Lines

Recycled water pipelines must be located a minimum of one (1) foot below the potable water pipelines. If a one (1) foot separation cannot be maintained, then a special construction detail to minimize contamination potential must be included with the plans and is subject to approval by the District.

B.2 Buried Recycled Water and Sewer Pipelines

Sewer pipelines must be located a minimum of one (1) foot below the recycled water pipelines. If a one (1) foot separation cannot be maintained, then a special construction detail to minimize contamination potential must be included with the Recycled Water Service plans and is subject to approval by the District. Sewer and recycled water pipelines shall not be installed in the same trench.

3.8 WARNING TAPE

- A. General - Warning tape shall be applied directly to the pipe and shall run continuously for the entire length of all main and lateral line piping. This is applicable to both recycled and potable water lines. If there is multiple irrigation lines located in a trench, a single piece of warning tape may be applied to the upper most pipe in the trench.
- B. Recycled Water - Warning tape shall be approved purple plastic with black printing having the words "CAUTION: RECYCLED WATER – DO NOT DRINK" imprinted in minimum 1-inch high letters. Imprinting shall be continuous and permanent. The overall width shall be a minimum of 3-inches.
- C. Potable Water - Warning tape shall be approved blue plastic with black printing having the words "CAUTION BURIED WATER LINE BELOW" imprinted in minimum 1-inch high letters. Imprinting shall be continuous and permanent. The overall width shall be a minimum of 3-inches.

3.9 WARNING LABELS

The District requires an approved warning label to be installed on the irrigation controller panel. Warning labels shall be constructed of a purple weatherproof material with the warning permanently stamped or molded into the label.

Controller marking sticker shall read in English "ATTENTION – CONTROLLER UNIT FOR RECYCLED WATER." Attach to the inside or outside of the controller cabinet door.

3.10 WARNING TAGS

Tags shall be weatherproof plastic, 3" by 4", purple in color, with the words "WARNING - RECYCLED WATER - DO NOT DRINK". Imprinting shall be permanent and black in color.

All recycled water sprinkler control valves, pressure regulators, and isolation valves shall be tagged with purple warning tags.

One tag shall be attached to each device in one of the following manners:

- A. Attach to valve stem directly with plastic tie wrap, or
- B. Attach to solenoid wire directly with plastic tie wrap, or
- C. Attach to the body of the relative accessory with a plastic tie wrap.

3.11 SPRINKLERS

Sprinklers shall be easily recognized as being used in a recycled water system. All sprinklers shall have purple identification.

3.12 VALVE BOXES

Valves shall be housed in an approved lockable, purple valve box. A tag reading "CAUTION: RECYCLED WATER – DO NOT DRINK" shall be installed on each valve, as approved by the District.

All gate valves, manual control valves, electrical control valves, and pressure reducing valves for on-site recycled water systems shall be installed below grade in a purple valve box. Electrical and manual control valve boxes shall have a warning label permanently molded into or affixed onto the lid with rivets, bolts, etc.

3.13 CONTROL OF RUNOFF AND APPLICATION AREAS

On-site recycled water facilities shall be designed to prevent discharge onto areas not under control of the user.

Recycled water shall be applied at a rate that does not exceed the infiltration rate of the soil. Where varying soil types are present, the design of the recycled water facilities shall be compatible with the lowest infiltration rate present. Copies of the developer's soils test reports shall be made available to the District upon request.

Spray heads shall be adjusted to minimize overspray onto areas not under the control of the customer, i.e. pool decks, private patios, streets, and sidewalks.

SECTION 4.0

INSPECTION AND TESTING REQUIREMENTS

4.1 GENERAL

The District will inspect the construction of residential dual plumbed irrigation installations and shall be notified two working days in advance of the desired inspection date by the contractor or customer. The request line shall be called at (530) 295-6873. In no case shall irrigation lines or potable water lines extending into the yard be backfilled or covered before inspection by the District.

If the irrigation system is installed and buried prior to an open trench inspection, all or any portion of the system must be exposed and corrected as directed by the District in accordance with these standard specifications. Failure to comply may result in termination of service as provided for in Board Policy, Recycled Water 7000.

Subsequent to plan approval, field conditions may dictate modifications to the irrigation system either in material or in intended use. If directed by the District, the owner, applicant, or customer shall perform all changes or modify the irrigation system to fully comply with these standards and with District Board Policy

4.2 SELECTING A CONTRACTOR

- A. The District maintains a list of approved landscaping companies who have attended the District's orientation class on recycled water installation and use.
- B. If hiring a contractor to design, install, modify or repair a recycled water irrigation system, only companies who are named on the current approved list are authorized to work on the irrigation systems. Please contact the District or refer to the District's website for the most current list of approved contractors.

4.3 INSPECTION AND TESTING

- A. Inspection and testing of the water systems in dual plumbed homes receiving recycled water will be in accordance with the District's Board Policy and the Department of Public Health. Random inspections may also occur.
- B. Initially, before activation of recycled water service, and annually thereafter, the District will inspect both the front and backyard potable water and recycled water irrigation systems. The District will perform a cross-connection shutdown test prior to occupancy, once every four years, and at changes of ownership. Additional cross-connection tests shall be performed by the District when deemed necessary.
- C. The Department of Public Health requires that all backflow prevention assemblies be tested annually to ensure that the device is functioning properly. A District certified backflow prevention assembly tester will conduct the required annual test. The District shall notify the customer in writing prior to the annual test requirement. Required repairs to the assemblies will be at the customer's expense.

D. For dual plumbed residences receiving recycled water, the owner shall be responsible for providing access and cooperation to the District representative, to perform cross-connection inspection or other system inspections that the District requires. This inspection shall include a visual check of the potable and recycled water systems to verify that no cross-connections or unapproved modifications exist. The owner will be responsible for correcting any work that violates the District regulations at their sole expense.

4.4 FINAL INSPECTION

The owner, applicant, or customer is responsible for controlling overspray and runoff of the system. To ensure the limitation of overspray and runoff, a final inspection of the completed irrigation system is required by the District. When the irrigation system is completed and the planting installed, the owner or owner's representative shall contact the District at (530) 295-6873 and request a final inspection. The owner or owner's representative must be in attendance to make any system adjustments as required. If modifications to the system are required, other than minor adjustments, the owner will be notified in writing of the changes required. To avoid termination of service, the modifications must be made in a timely manner. The owner or customer is responsible for all modifications to the potable and recycled water systems and shall pay all costs associated with such modifications.

4.5 DISTRICT APPROVAL FOR RECYCLED WATER SERVICE

The irrigation system shall be accepted by the District upon the completion of the following:

- A. Signing of a recycled water agreement
- B. Attendance to the District's recycled water training
- C. Approval of the irrigation plans
- D. Approval of the open trench inspection
- E. Approval of the final inspection.

4.6 IRRIGATION PLANS

Irrigation plans shall be prepared and show all major changes from the original plans. The District shall approve major design changes, including any changes that may be affected by the requirements of these standard specifications, before implementing the change. Failure to receive prior approval may result in termination of service.

4.7 FAILURE TO COMPLY

Failure to comply with any or all of the standards herein is a violation of the District Policies and Regulations and may result in termination of service until the appropriate corrective action has been taken.