

## Message from the Interim General Manager



Tom Cumpston

This is my last message to you as EID's interim general manager. Jim Abercrombie has stepped full time into the district's general manager shoes, and it looks like a perfect fit.

I wholeheartedly welcome Jim to EID! We are very fortunate to have him join the team. He is a long-time resident of El Dorado County and well known for his decade-long stint as PG&E's El Dorado district manager, his involvement in numerous community organizations, and his prowess as a soccer coach to many, many young people throughout the county.

Jim comes to the district after 11 years as general manager of Amador Water Agency. You can read more about his experience in the article on this page. On a personal note, I'm very pleased to call him my colleague and hope to be able to do so for many years.

I also want to thank my other colleagues here at the district for their support over the past four months. As interim general manager, I took the opportunity to visit our facilities and the outstanding people who care for them—sending water to your homes and carrying wastewater away; safely operating our treatment plants, recreation sites, and hydropower system; and striving to help you use water wisely.

As I traveled around the district, I was rewarded time and time again with demonstrations of our employees' commitment to excellent service and their ability to make that happen as "just part of our jobs." To each and all, thanks!

## Jim Abercrombie: EID's New General Manager

In early August, Placerville resident Jim Abercrombie accepted an offer from the EID board of directors to join the district in September as the new general manager.

Board president George Wheeldon made the announcement, saying that Abercrombie is "definitely the right choice for the district. We all look forward to the strong partnership he will develop with our employees and the board in the coming years."

Abercrombie has more than 30 years of management experience, including 11 years as Amador Water Agency's general manager and 20 years at Pacific Gas and Electric Company. His last position with PG&E was as El Dorado district manager, from 1987 to 1998. When promoted to that position, he was the company's youngest-ever district manager. A registered civil engineer, he earned an engineering degree from Santa Clara University and a master's degree in business administration from that university's Leavey School of Business.

"I am happy to be working in the county again," Abercrombie said, "and particularly with the district's many dedicated employees. As general manager of Amador Water Agency since 1998 and as an EID customer for nearly 23 years, I have followed the goings on at the district closely. I like what I see and am pleased to lead EID in providing top-notch customer service while delivering high-quality water to our ratepayers."

Among his many accomplishments at the Amador Water Agency, Abercrombie developed a five-year strategic plan, carried out a team-based performance management process that led to achievements in reorganization and cost reductions, and oversaw the successful completion of the \$24 million Amador transmission pipeline project.

Abercrombie is currently a board member for Region 3 of the Association of California Water Agencies, of which EID is a member. He is past president of the El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce, El Dorado County Development Corporation, and El Dorado County United Way and past chair of the El Dorado Leadership Program.

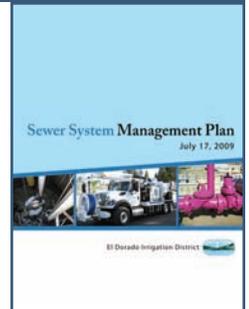


## New Wastewater Collection System Plan

EID has completed a new plan to guide management, operation, and maintenance of the district's wastewater collection system.

The plan fulfills a state mandate requiring all agencies that provide wastewater collection services to adopt sewer system management plans. A primary goal of the plans is to prevent and reduce the number of sanitary sewer overflows. Steps included in the district's plan produce data and a number of reports that will be useful for operators and managers in meeting the state goal over the long term.

The district saved between \$155,000 and \$255,000 in consulting fees by using in-house expertise to complete all but one of the plan's eleven elements. To read the plan, visit the document library at [www.eid.org](http://www.eid.org).



Remember, you can view and pay your EID bill and make a reservation for your next camping trip to Sly Park (you save the \$8 reservation fee)—ONLINE.

[www.eid.org](http://www.eid.org)



## EDH community garden uses recycled water for irrigation

In June, residents of the Four Seasons active adult community in El Dorado Hills celebrated the completion of the first phase of their new community garden, including the use of recycled water to irrigate the plants.

Key community members working to make the garden a reality included Pat Ghiglieri, garden committee chair and site supervisor for EID; Ron Bianchetti, Four Seasons home owners' association board president; and Albert Hazbun, who authored the engineer's report and developed the garden requirement materials.

EID environmental compliance technician Doug Venable, environmental compliance analyst Marty Johnson, and environmental compliance inspector Tim Webster, worked closely with the developer and residents to ensure compliance with state requirements. Venable and Johnson were on hand to represent the District at the event.

"This is such a great project, one of only a couple like it in the state," Venable said. "It's been a pleasure working with the community members and the developer to make this space a reality."

The garden has raised planting beds for easy disabled access and 16-foot square plots that residents can use to grow vegetables, herbs, and flowers. Phase two, already in the works, will add an orchard, rose garden, and small vineyard to the site.

In California, recycled water is authorized for use on all edible food crops. Farms in the Central Valley use more than 150 billion gallons of recycled water for edible food crops every year.



## Recycled water at El Dorado Irrigation District

Since the late 1970s, EID has maintained separate irrigation and reclamation distribution systems in El Dorado Hills. Initially the system provided secondary-treated recycled water to the El Dorado Hills Executive Golf Course and the Wetsel-Oviatt construction yard.

In late 1989, EID reached an agreement with the Serrano Partners to develop a recycled water system from the Deer Creek wastewater treatment plant.

Since that time, EID has upgraded the El Dorado Hills wastewater treatment plant to produce disinfected tertiary recycled water. The recycled water is continuously monitored to meet or exceed state standards.

In 2004, the EID Board of Directors mandated the use of recycled water for all new subdivisions and developments in the recycled water service area. Currently, the two treatment plants produce more than 1 billion gallons of recycled water each year for almost 4000 residential customers and businesses in the El Dorado Hills community.

The California Water Code (§§ 13550 – 13556) declares that the use of drinking water for landscape irrigation is a "...waste or an unreasonable use of water..." EID's recycled water program uses recycled water to save a lot of that drinking water.

The Save Our Water campaign is a collaboration between the Department of Water Resources and the Association of California Water Agencies, of which EID is a member.



We encourage you to visit the site to find out more. Go to the EID web site and click on the Save Our Water icon.

## Adjust irrigation schedules with the cooling weather

It's that time of year again: the weather begins to cool off and your irrigation needs reduce. Water loss from evapotranspiration (ET) for the month of September is approximately two-thirds that of July. Please remember to adjust your landscape irrigation accordingly!

For more information on ET and what EID may be able to do to help, please visit the "landscape" pages on the EID water efficiency web pages.

## Conserving water saves on sewer bills

Your 2010 residential sewer bills will be derived from your water use during the months of November 2009 through February 2010. As this period approaches, take some proactive steps now to prevent water loss and save on your bills.

- Thoroughly inspect water appliances for signs of leakage inside and outside your home.
- Consider installing low-flow showerheads, replacing leaking toilet flappers, and installing low-flow faucet aerators.

## 2009 regular board meetings

Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
14	14(W)	9	14
--	26	23*	--

Board meetings occur on Mondays. The first October meeting will take place on a Wednesday. \* tentatively scheduled

Written and designed by the EID Communications Department