



# elco news

Newsletter of the East Larimer County Water District

May 2022

## Office Hours and Location

The ELCO office is located at 232 South Link Lane, Fort Collins, Colorado. Office hours are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. The phone number is (970) 493-2044.

## Emergencies

Customers in need of emergency service can call (970)493-2044 after regular office hours. Emergency calls are routed to an answering service which can dispatch on-call personnel.

## For Your Information

ELCO customers have the ability to check their accounts and pay their bills via the Internet. Customers can access their accounts to determine the status of payments, monitor consumption, and authorize payment from their checking accounts or via credit card. ELCO customer accounts can be accessed by logging on to the District's website at [www.elcowater.org](http://www.elcowater.org).

## May 2022 ELCO Board Member Election Results

An election was held in May to fill the seats of two ELCO Board members whose terms of office had expired. Joseph Fonfara and James Clay were elected to serve three-year terms on the ELCO Board.

## Sprinkler Checkups

From June through August, ELCO will again be coordinating with the City Fort Collins Utilities to offer a limited number of free sprinkler checkups to residential customers. A checkup typically takes two to four hours to complete. A sprinkler checkup can help save water through more efficient lawn watering.

### Sprinkler audits include:

- Visual inspection of each zone to identify problems
- Tests that measure how water is being applied
- Custom watering schedule
- Information about the lawn's seasonal water needs
- Recommended system upgrades

### To sign up:

- Visit <https://www.fcgov.com/utilities/sprinkler-checkups>
- e-mail [sprinklers@fcgov.com](mailto:sprinklers@fcgov.com)
- Leave a message at (970) 416-2666



## Water Use and Conservation Charge

To encourage efficiency, ELCO assesses a conservation charge when customers exceed their annual allotment. This charge reflects the value of water rights available to the District and plant investment fees assessed by the District. Plant investment fees are a one-time charge payable at building permits approval.

Once the usage exceeds the annual allotment for that calendar year for the property, an additional charge of \$4.62 per 1,000 gallons used is assessed. This conservation charge will continue to be applied to all water usage until the new water year begins. The water year begins in January and ends in December. Your usage is reflected in the bill you receive the month following that when the water was used. For example, the bill you receive in July is for water used in June.



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# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

## East Larimer County Water District

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### Failure to Test Backflow Prevention Devices

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this situation is not an emergency, as our customers you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

The state drinking water program requires that all public drinking water systems test a percentage of the backflow prevention devices annually. We received a violation because our water system did not test the required percentage.

NOTE: This advisory is NOT related to COVID-19. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has stated that the "Virus that causes COVID-19 has not been detected in drinking water." For additional information on COVID-19 and drinking water, you can refer to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's website: <https://covid19.colorado.gov>.

#### What does this mean? What should I do?

- You may want to use an alternative drinking water supply (e.g. bottled). If you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- Uncontrolled cross connections can lead to a back pressure or siphonage event that may allow contaminants or disease-causing organisms to enter the drinking water, which can cause diarrhea, nausea, cramps, and associated headaches.
- If you have an infant, severely compromised immune system, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your doctor about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by bacteria and other disease-causing organisms are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

#### What is being done?

- The District is implementing new procedures to more proactively notify customers with backflow devices when test reports are due.

We anticipate resolving the problem by **October 31, 2022**. For more information, please contact **Randy Siddens** at [randys@elcowater.org](mailto:randys@elcowater.org) or **970-493-2044**, or **233 South Link Lane, Fort Collins, CO 80524**.

*\*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.\**

This notice is being sent to you by: **East Larimer County Water District - C00135233**

Date distributed: **May 25, 2022**

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# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

## East Larimer County Water District

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### Record Keeping Requirements Not Met

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this situation is not a public health risk, as our customers you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

Our system did not meet the annual cross connection survey compliance ration in 2021.. We were required to keep complete drinking water records, but we failed to do so. We realize the importance of keeping complete records to document the quality of the water we provide and the efforts we take to ensure the water is safe to drink.

#### What does this mean? What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do at this time. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within 24 hours.

#### What is being done?

- The District is implementing new procedures to more proactively notify non-single family residential customers of their requirement to complete a cross connection survey.

We anticipate resolving the problem by **October 31, 2022**. For more information, please contact **Randy Siddens** at [randys@elcowater.org](mailto:randys@elcowater.org) or **970-493-2044**, or **233 South Link Lane, Fort Collins, CO 80524**.

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