**** P.O. Box 11, Tooele UT 84074

[www.erdawater.com](http://www.erdawater.com)

(435) 850-9106 (Office)

(435) 496-3468 (Operator)

Erda Acres Water Shareholders

Erda, Utah

May 10, 2021

Shareholders,

Now that spring is here in earnest, I wanted to share some important information with you on preventing contamination of your water through lawn and animal watering and water conservation. I also want to relay some information on a problem we recently discovered with our booster system that we hope to have fixed this week.

As we have told you in past years, the state requires all water systems to have a cross connection control Program (CCCP) to protect both our system and your home from contamination of the water from a backflow event. Since we do not have secondary water for irrigation of our lawns and gardens, shareholders irrigate using our culinary system. Both the homeowner and the company need to make sure that contaminated water from irrigation and animal watering does not backup into your home and eventually the company’s water system and your neighbor’s homes. The state requires all homes to have backflow devices and assemblies to provide this protection in case of a rapid drop in water pressure on the water company side or an increase in pressure on the homeowner’s side. We started the process of visiting with homeowners on what they currently have and what options they have depending on their individual system. We will continue that task this spring, working from our oldest developments to our newest. The second major requirement is that if or when you have a backflow assembly installed, it must be tested annually by a state certified tester who will provide a copy of the report to the company. We are working on developing a list of certified testers for our area that we will put on our website. The report will tell you if any repairs are needed to your assembly. We will track these reports so the state will not get involved. I know this is complicated but we are available to provide information and advice on what you need for your home system. Several homeowners contacted us last year for help and we hope more will do the same this year.

The second topic which should not be a surprise to anyone is the need for all of us to practice water conservation as the 20-year drought continues. The drought we are in is now called the mega-drought and from the study of growth rings in trees looks like it is the most severe in the last 1600 years. Shareholders did a great job in reducing water use when asked to do so last summer. We need to start out the spring with the same commitment to water conservation. Water use in our company usually goes from about 2 million gallons/month in the winter to over 10 times that much in the summer. We demonstrated we could reduce this drastically last summer. The three best ways to do this is water at the right time of day, do not water more often than is needed and water deeply but less frequently. First, do your outside watering between 9:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. during the coolest part of the day. When you water during the hot part of the day, most of the water evaporates before reaching the soil and roots of your plants. Also, is do not water when windy when most of the water blows away before reaching your soil. Second, you should follow the guidelines for how often to water per week and how much water to apply during your watering for our area. There are several sources for this information from the State of Utah, weather reports, etc. Search the State of Utah on the internet to get the latest drought and watering information. We will put the address for this information on the company website. When we get precipitation this summer, shut your sprinkler controller for a few days and take advantage of the “free water.” Third, only water one time on the days you water but do it long enough to let the water penetrate to the roots of your plants. Running sprinklers for 30 minutes, once a day is better for your lawn and plants and puts more water into the soil than running them in 3 short ten minute spurts.

The final topic is a problem we recently discovered with our booster station. This only affects homeowners south of Erda Way who are on the boosted loop of our system. A few shareholders contacted us late last summer and said their sprinklers did not seem to have the coverage they had earlier in the year. We checked out the booster and the pressures seemed to be good and we could not find a problem. When we did the annual maintenance on the Booster Station last week, the pressures still showed as good, even a little high, but the system was not running as it had in the past. After making a number of changes to the programming, we discovered that the pressure sensor had partially failed so bad readings were being sent to the control system. Actual pressure was actually about 10 psi lower than what the system called for. A new part is on the way and should be installed this week. If you have tried your sprinklers already, you should notice a big improvement in coverage in a few days.

If you have any questions about these topics or need assistance with backflow issues please contact Alan Clark, our operator, or me. We are very busy this time of year so if your call is not immediately answered, leave a message and you should have a call back within 24 hours.

Sincerely,

Tom Isom

President

Erda Acres Water