June 2021

## Eastgate Village Water & Sewer Association, Inc.

# Newsletter

### Water & Sewer Concerns

#### Water System Concerns

Eastgate Village Water and Sewer (EGVW&S) is in need of the assistance and cooperation of all of its residents. EGVW&S has seen a 20% reduction in well production due to years of below average snow fall, below average rainfall, and the loss of some of our shallow wells drying up. This is a huge concern and may compromise the ability to meet current water demand. If the current trends continue, we may be at risk of a water shortage. The system averages about 187,500 gallons per day during non-irrigation months, and during irrigation season the demand increases to upwards of one million gallons per day.

Watering restrictions are in place to help control water usage and protect our water supply. Violating these restrictions further compromises our precious resource. Please follow the watering guidelines.

The EGVW&S Board of Directors is currently working on water system improvements and upgrades to our 45-year-old system including the addition of another deep aquifer well and a new water booster station.

Here are some things I hope you would consider:

- 1. Raise the height of your lawn mower deck. It is recommended to leave grass at about 2.5 inches after cutting. This helps the root system hold moisture.
- 2. Mulch your grass. This keeps the nutrients in the lawn to help thicken it and hold moisture.
- 3. Try reducing the time in each watering zone. An average popup sprinkler system uses 1000 gallons per hour. That means every household uses 6000 gallons every other day to water lawns while still watering within the set restrictions.

#### Wastewater System Concerns

EGVW&S completed a 2.5 million wastewater treatment plant project in 2015. Maintenance costs have greatly increased due to items being flushed that should not be flushed. The largest contributors are "flushable" wipes, paper towel, and other large paper-based rags.

No wipe is truly flushable, even if the package says flushable. In addition to clogging pumps, wipes can also block service lines, causing sewer backups for homeowners. Aside from the mentioned paper products, grease and oil also impact the system negatively. Grease and oil harden in the pipes and walls of the lift station causing large build up and possible blockage. The grease needs to be removed from the lift station at a large cost.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and cooperation in protecting our water and wastewater systems.

Sincerely,

Brian Palkovich / System Operator

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### Letter from the President

I hope this letter finds everyone well and able to get back to "normal".

The Eastgate Village Water Sewer Association is working to keep everything running smoothly. We are experiencing concerns with the amount of material coming through the lift station. This includes rags, wipes, and other solids that do not breakdown and result in plugging the pumps in the lift station. Please do not flush these types of items. One thing to remember even through the package may say "flushable" if it does not breakdown like toilet paper, please do not flush the article.

The Board is looking to upgrading the water system pump house and install a new well. We are looking to the options of receiving funds from the America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). We will be working with the County and the State to request the funds. This will reduce the cost of the upgrades to the users. As we go forward, we will provide information on the webpage.

Please remember to only water during your allotted times, and only water as required. With the dry winters the aquifer where we get as been impacted. It is not recharging like before. We understand you want a green lawn, but please do not overwater or wastewater by letting it run down the streets.

If you have any questions concerning the water or wastewater system you can post them on the webpage, and we will respond.

Sincerely,

Jean Riley / President.

### <u>Online Payment System</u>

We are excited to now offer the option to pay your bill online through our website. You may pay your bill 24/7. You may use a Debit or Credit Card. We accept Master Card, Visa, and Discover. Just go to our home page, click the green "Bill Payment" button, then click "Pay Your Bill Now".

### **Sign Up For Alerts**

Stay tuned to the latest alerts from Eastgate Village Water & Sewer. Visit our website to subscribe to have News & Notices and Alerts delivered via email or text.

### <u>Consumer Confidence Report /</u> <u>Drinking Water Quality Report</u>

The Water Quality Report / Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is now available at <u>https://eastgatevillage.org/ccr1.</u> If you need a hard copy, please contact our office. Hard copies will NOT be mailed unless requested.

### Articles & Bylaws Update

We have been working on updates to restate the Articles and Bylaws to reflect present practices. Further information will be posted on our website and announcements will be mailed out in the coming months.