



EVWA NEWS and Updates

First and for most EVWA wants to thank all of our customers for conserving water throughout the summer months even though we got some much needed rain.

El Valle experienced more rain this summer than last but, we are still considered to be in drought conditions. With all the heat and the summer rain some communities needed to be chlorinated.

We have set up a schedule to flush the systems more in the hotter months and have also, developed a seasonal chlorination schedule that will be from March-October to ensure the health and safety of our communities.

Welcome!!

EVWA also would like to welcome Rowe MDWCA and El Ancon MDWCA in procuring our services to manage their water systems. We now manage or contract to manage, thirteen Mutual Domestic Water Consumer Associations. This includes bookkeeping, billing, compliance, and water operator services for the communities.

Drop Box For Payments!!

Sometimes it is required for our staff to be out of the office for outside meetings, field work, or other office errands. We now have a drop box for payments located outside our office. We only except check or money order payments and they can be dropped off at any time.

Check For Leaks!!!

Since the summer was full of unexpected rain we wonder what our winter will call for!

Now is a great time to check for leaks before the winter arrives. It could be a traumatic experience to have to deal with bursting pipes in the middle of a freezing winter.

Two ways you can check for a leak in your home: One way to tell especially in dry climates is to check your yard. If you notice any wet spots, or areas of vegetation that you usually do not water is greener than usual this could be an indication of a leak. Another way to tell is to have your meter checked by the water operator.

Securing your home now could prevent hardships later.

Merger

The following communities are now merged into the EVWA: El Coruco, La Sacatosa, San Miguel del Bado, Villanueva and Lower Colonias. San Juan is currently in the process of merging and we anticipate that this process will be completed very soon.

By-laws

EVWA is now in the process of updating our By-laws and our governing documents.

Audit

In September of 2013 will be the second year that we have completed the "Agreed Upon Procedures" in order for El Valle Water Alliance to keep in compliance with the tiered audit act administered by the State Auditor's Office.

This month an auditor is also, scheduled to complete an A 1-33 Audit for the community of Villanueva in order to keep in compliance with the tiered audit act and the USDA-RD funding conditions.

Operation and Maintenance

We are currently developing a matrix which will capture our monthly (meter reading and sampling), quarterly (exercise gate valves), bi-annually (flush fire and flush hydrants), winter (winterize pumphouses), etc., schedule for Operation and Maintenance of our water systems. We are working on a set of data gathering documents which will capture any operation and maintenance completed for each water system. The documents will be similar for each community which will create uniformity.

File Management

We are currently developing a matrix which identifies when documents need to be submitted to state agencies.



**EL VALLE WATER
ALLIANCE**

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About Our Organization

El Valle Water Alliance seeks to maintain sound management practices and the necessary infrastructure to sustain the health of our communities & our water table, for current and future generations.

We have recently completed a standardized filing system for hard and electronic files. Over the next couple of months we hope to have all of our documents re-filed under the new filing system. We are currently working towards making planning documents such as Preliminary Engineering Reports, Funding Applications and Water System Record Drawings accessible and easy to find.

Potential Collaboration with other Water Associations

Over the next month we would like to set-up meetings with El Creston MDWCA, Chappell MDWCA, Tecolote MDWCA, and East Pecos MDWCA to determine their interest in joining El Valle under one of the current contractual agreements or the creation of a new contractual agreement. Our goal is to develop relationships with similar associations in order to further advance our mission and vision.

Funding

On August 7 we had a special meeting to adopt a resolution to enter into an agreement with the New Mexico Finance Authority for a \$50,000 grant. The funding will be used to complete a supplement to the San Miguel del Bado PER and to begin asset inventories for all of our water

systems.

We received grant agreements from the New Mexico Environment Department sometime in August. The grant agreements are for grants we received during the legislative session. Between El Valle Water Alliance, Chappelle and El Creston we received \$255,000 to complete a new water storage tank in La Sacatosa, a new tank for Chappell and some match funding for El Creston.

We recently approved \$445,410 in 50% loan/50% grant funding under the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund. The scope of work for this funding is to connect El Coruco's and San Miguel del Bado's water systems together. The purpose is to blend the water between the systems in order to bring the high fluoride levels in San Miguel back within safe drinking water standards.

We recently submitted an initial application to the Water Trust Board in the amount of \$500,000 for water system improvements for the community of San Juan. This application will be developed between now and March 12, 2014.

Story & Article Submissions

The El Valle Water Alliance would be happy to hear from anyone who is interested in submitting an article, a story, or even a recipe to appear in one of our newsletters. If anyone is interested, you can email or mail your information to our office and we would be happy to review it. Upon approval, the El Valle Water Alliance would be happy to incorporate any local information in our newsletters.



Our Website

We now have a website! Our website address is elvallewater.com. On our website you can find board meeting minutes, reports, newsletters, meeting dates, and agency links.