

Temporary Emergency Drought (TED) Rate Changes

Eden Water Works (EWW) June 2, 2021

Effective July 1, 2021

Drought

One look at Pineview Reservoir and it should be no surprise that drought conditions are affecting much of the Western US. Ogden Valley is no exception. The summer of 2020 was the driest ever logged in Utah and Nevada since record keeping began 126 years ago. (Deseret News) Couple that with poor winter snow fall, and our water sources like EWW's Burnett Spring are underperforming.

Currently, EWW has two main sources of water, the Burnett Spring in the north end of the valley and the Clark Well on the west side of the valley. In a normal year, the Burnett Spring keeps us in water until July 1, when we turn on our Clark Well pumps in to supplement our spring and provide water through the summer and fall.

This year we had to start running that well pump in May, ***almost two months early***. The tank that collects water from our spring, as of June 2, is receiving 117 GPM in, but dispersing 264 GPM out, thus the need to run the well pumps early this year.

Temporary Emergency Rate Increase

As a result, the EWW board has found it necessary to implement temporary rate increase as indicated below. Keep in mind, EWW is run by an all-volunteer board who donate hundreds of hours of their time every year. The polite woman that picks up the phone to hear your concerns, complaints and questions does not set pricing, so be kind. The EWW board realizes that these temporary increases will not be popular among the higher usage water consumers. We also realize we'd be even more unpopular in the unlikely event we could not deliver high quality water at good pressures if conditions went from bad to worse. Our goal is to deliver high quality water on demand, whether it's from your faucet or the closest fire hydrant.

We have no guarantee of a big or even normal winter and snowfall next season. We are implementing these rates out of caution for unknown future conditions.

Every EWW customer is allotted 20,000 gallons per month for their \$50 fee.

Out of our 496 members, 359 or 72%, utilize less than their 20,000 allotment. In fact, those members who use less than their 20,000 gallon allotment use 7,900 gallons on average. These members will not be affected by the TED rates. Neither will any member who manages to keep their usage at or under the 20,000 gallon level.

The Temporary Emergency Drought rates are five times the normal rate, **EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021**. See table below.

0-20,000 Gallons	\$50.00	
	Normal Rate	TED Rate
	Over 20,000 Gallons	
	Per 1000 GAL	
20,001 -35,000 GAL	\$1.50	\$7.50
35,001-50,000 GAL	\$2.00	\$10.00
50,001-65,000 GAL	\$2.75	\$13.75
65,001-165,000 GAL	\$5.25	\$26.25
>165,000 GAL	\$9.25	\$46.25

*****These rates are also in effect for commercial accounts, but the TED rates won't take effect until you are past your base allotment. I.e. Commercial 1 shares are allotted 40,000 gallons.

Temporary

The EWW board did not implement this to be punitive. Our goal is to incentivize water users to help us conserve water and use it for our foundational goals which are culinary water for humans and livestock, not watering turf. In the EWW service area, (there are many water companies in the Valley) we also supply water for structural fire protection.

Hopefully, Mother Nature returns to normal and these rates quickly go away.

We cannot bathe, cook with or drink green grass. If you don't have secondary water, please prioritize. Your grass will come back in the spring!

We will continue to monitor the situation and further restrictions may be required but with everyone's cooperation we can mitigate the need for long term restrictions. The priority is to continue to provide all EWW members with culinary water.

We very much appreciate your understanding.

Ron Lackey, President Eden Water Works Board