



October 2022

# WATER WHYS

*The Latest from ECCV*

*Sustaining our community by providing safe, reliable water*

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Support  
Your Sewer



For many of us, fall is feasting season. Cooler temperatures make the idea of some hearty, warm meals extra appealing. A number of fall favorite recipes (including many Thanksgiving dishes) include the use, or production, of what folks in the sewer business call FOG. That stands for Fats, Oils, and Grease.

If you've ever refrigerated or frozen leftovers containing a good amount of FOG, you've seen what happens to it. It congeals into a fairly dense material. That's no problem for leftovers, but can be a very messy problem in a sewer line. FOG can create a clog on its own, or make a minor obstruction in the line much worse, resulting in clogs and sewer backups.

The best way to dispose of FOG is in the trash. Wait for fats, oils, and grease to cool and then pour them into an empty container, preferably with a lid that can be tightly sealed. Mix in some sand or kitty litter to help absorb some of it, or sock it in the freezer. You can then dispose of the container on the next trash day.



Water & Sanitation District

303-693-3800  
6201 S Gun Club Rd  
Aurora, CO 80016  
info@eccv.org



Customers  
Get Efficient

ECCV customers took action to maximize their water efficiency during the summer. Whether it was through virtual sessions, or participating in programs offering free sprinkler assessments or awesome new gardens (at special prices), hundreds of customers made water efficiency a priority in Summer 2022.

125

Discounted, water-efficient  
*Gardens In A Box*  
purchased by ECCV customers.

94

Free sprinkler assessments  
and customized watering plans  
provided to ECCV customers  
through the *Slow the Flow* program.

52

Attendees at H2O, Now You Know  
virtual sessions with ECCV's  
Water Efficiency Specialist.

## Preparing For Cold

It's time to start transitioning home water systems from summer to winter. Frozen water lines can result in burst pipes and costly repairs. Here are the main things you want to check prior to the arrival of freezing temperatures.

- ❄️ **Sprinkler systems**—Work with a professional to drain and blowout the system (clear it of all water) with pressurized air. In a pinch, quick draining the sprinkler system is a do-it-yourself way to help protect exposed pipes and valves.
- ❄️ **Hoses**—Disconnect hoses from bibs and make sure they are fully drained.
- ❄️ **Exposed pipes**—Check on pipes inside your home that may be in an area that's not insulated or near drafty doors and windows. Wrap these pipes with insulating blankets or tape to help prevent freezing. Heat tape can be helpful but it's recommended you consult with a professional as incorrect application can result in a fire.
- ❄️ **Master shutoff valve**—Make sure everyone in your home knows where this is located and how it works. Turning this valve off stops the flow of water into your home. That can help minimize damage in the event of a burst pipe.



*Master shutoff valves are typically located close to where water pipes enter the home. This is often near entryways, but may also be in basements.*

## Decades of Service



*Allan H. Tenenbaum*

The ECCV Board of Directors bid farewell to longtime Director Allan H. Tenenbaum who is stepping away from the Board after 36 years of service. When Tenenbaum joined the ECCV Board of Directors in 1986, the District served roughly 10,000 people in the growing, but still sparsely populated plains on the outskirts of Aurora. At the time, nearly every drop of water delivered by ECCV came from non-renewable, deep aquifer wells in the area.

During his tenure, ECCV steadily worked to provide customers with a robust, sustainable supply and water system to meet the community's needs. This included securing senior water rights to South Platte River water, and the construction and expansion of ECCV's Northern Project which now supplies a majority of the community's water on an annual basis.

In addition to the Northern Project, Tenenbaum's time on the Board also saw ECCV's acquisition of the Western Well Field in the Highlands Ranch area and construction of a water line along the E-470 corridor to transport water from those wells to the community. While the water line was sold in 2014, ECCV continues to retain capacity in the line to transport water from the Western Wells to customers.

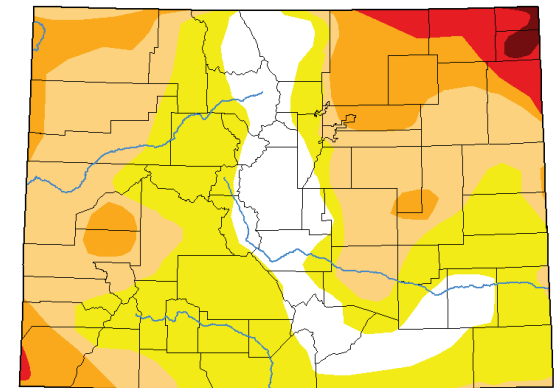
In appreciation of Tenenbaum's decades of service, the board room at ECCV's main office will be named in his honor.

## Discussing Drought

Drought has frequently been in the news this year. Record low levels in Lakes Powell and Mead have made for stunning visuals. Here in the West especially, drought impacts us in a couple ways. First, it reduces the overall amount of available water supplies from renewable sources like rivers and streams. Second, it can lead to higher water use as communities turn to irrigation to support landscapes when precipitation is scarce.

While ECCV monitors drought conditions closely throughout the year, the important takeaway is that some level of drought is becoming more the rule rather than the exception. That makes water efficiency increasingly important in our community and throughout the region as a whole.

Installing and using water efficient appliances inside our homes and sticking to three day per week outdoor watering during warmer months are some of the best ways we can all make the most of our water supply. ECCV's Water Efficiency Specialist has a wealth of additional offers and resources for customers looking to maximize their home's water efficiency. Email [conservation@eccv.org](mailto:conservation@eccv.org) to get started.



*The U.S. Drought Monitor shows our area ended the summer in Moderate Drought.*