



THIS IS EL DORADO

El Dorado to take part in Nutrient Trading Pilot Program

The City of El Dorado is taking part in a new program, the Nutrient Trading Pilot Program.

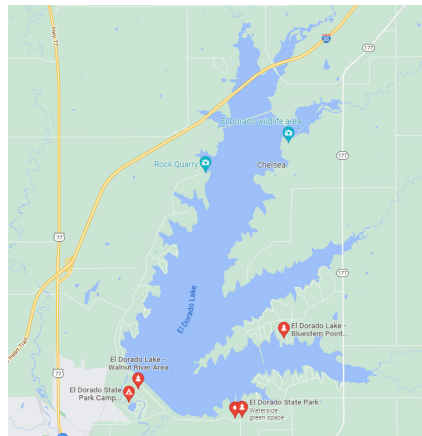
This addresses two primary concerns: nutrient reduction and sedimentation from farmers upstream. Those farmers introduce nutrients into the water runoff that comes downstream to El Dorado Lake. From there, the nutrients are pulled out of El Dorado Lake and have to be treated out of the water through the water treatment process. When the city discharges some of the water back into the watershed from the Wetlands and Water Reclamation Facility, the city has to remove those nutrients, complying to state and federal regulations, which can become more stringent over time. This program will help deter some of the improvements to remove more nutrients by incentivizing farmers to keep those out of the water in the first place.

This program also will help keep sedimentation out of the lake, which flows in from fields and pastures from soil erosion. This will in turn increase the useful life of El Dorado Lake.

To pay for this program, the City Commission approved \$50,000 from the water fund budget and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment is going to match that with \$50,000. Over the next few years, those dollars will be used to implement the program, and the city will seek private dollars to do more best management practices in the water shed. Right now private companies are incentivized to invest in best management practices because of the environmental regulations they also have to come into compliance with.

City Manager David Dillner said this should be a win-win-win for the City of El Dorado, private companies and El Dorado Lake.

In addition, the state is hoping to use El Dorado's pilot as an example for communities in the rest of the state.



What's Happening in El Dorado

- **Dec. 1** - Old Fashioned Christmas - Thankful Thursday and Wagon Rides
- **Dec. 2** - Old Fashioned Christmas - Remembrance Tree
- **Dec. 3** - Old Fashioned Christmas - Santa at the Kansas Oil Museum, then Santa Central, parade and tree lighting
- **Dec. 5 & 19** - City Commission Meetings
- **Dec. 20** - Coutts Brown Bag Program & Library Book Club
- **Dec. 26** - City Offices Closed
Monday trash collected Tuesday; Tuesday trash collected Wednesday; Thursday and Friday as normal
- **Dec. 28** - Coutts Caterpillars Preschool Program
- **Dec. 31** - Resolution Run

Find more events at www.eldoks.com and sign up for notifications of upcoming events.



Old-Fashioned Christmas

Dec. 1 from 5 to 7 p.m. - Thankful Thursday and Horse Drawn Wagon Rides at Gordy and Central

Dec. 2 - Remembrance Tree Lighting

Dec. 3 - Old-Fashioned Christmas

Kansas Oil Museum:

- 1-3 p.m. Santa in Boom Town
- noon-4 p.m. - Set up for Chili Cook Off
- 6-8 p.m. - Community Chili Feed

Downtown:

- 3 p.m. - Santa Central (Charley's Appliance)
- 5 p.m. - Christmas parade
- Tree lighting at Courthouse following the parade

For more information, visit the El Dorado Main Street Facebook Page.

Sewer averaging begins in December

To calculate your sewer rates for the year, the City of El Dorado uses a process each winter called sewer averaging. For this, a three-month average of your water usage is determined.

To be as accurate as possible, the city averages the months of December, January and February. During these months, there is not irrigation or other warm-weather water activities, so this accounts for only water going down the drains from essential use, such as the shower, toilet and washing machine. This method provides a reasonably accurate method to determine the amount of water treated at the Wetlands & Water Reclamation Facility, for which you will be charged.

To ensure your rate is as low as possible, it is beneficial to conserve water use during these months, such as checking for leaky faucets and running toilets; installing water-efficient plumbing fixtures and turning off the water while brushing your teeth.

So why is your rate different during December through February? During the months the city is doing the averaging, you are paying for actual volume of water that you use.

For new residents the sewer average is based on the city's average residential sewer rate. Then once you have been a resident during the winter months, you will have your own average calculated.

If you have a water leak during those months, it is important to get it fixed, then bring the receipts from the repair to City Hall and they will adjust your average so you are not penalized for that leak the rest of the year.

To calculate your own average sewer charge you can use this formula:

5,984 gallons usage in December
5,610 gallons usage in January
6,358 gallons usage in February
3-month usage average of 5,984 gallons

The current sewer rate is \$3.48 per 1000 gallons plus a readiness to serve fee of \$12.61. Multiply your average usage (5,984) by 0.00348 which equals \$20.82, add the \$12.61 readiness to serve fee for a total sewer charge of \$33.43. This will be your monthly sewer charge for the rest of the year.

Without using the averaging, your cost could be about \$40 more a month throughout the year.

Why is this charge important?

Sewer rates are an integral part of the Sewer Fund which pays for operation and maintenance of the city's sewer collection system, including underground piping and lift stations. In addition to the collection of sanitary sewer flows, the Wetlands & Water Reclamation Facility has to treat it by removing nutrients and any harmful bacteria before discharging to the Walnut River.

For questions on your rate or the averaging, please call City Hall at 316-321-9100.

Police Department News



The El Dorado Police Department is partnering with several local agencies to help provide services to residents and create awareness about the help that is available to those in the community. This month we are spotlighting Journey to Recovery:

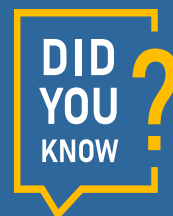
The mission of Journey to Recovery is to provide a safe, healthy and supportive environment for individuals with mental illness or addiction recovery, while they pursue their recovery goals. The vision is to help people with these specific needs to learn to live independent and productive lives without stigma. Peer-to-peer support is a key factor in doing so.

Learn more about our partnerships at www.eldoks.com/community-partners-resources

We are thankful for...

November is a time to share what you have been thankful for throughout the year. Here are 10 things we are thankful for in the City of El Dorado:

1. The kind and generous residents who make up our community.
2. The beautiful parks throughout the town.
3. Our wonderful volunteer base who helps make events and projects successful.
4. Our local businesses, meeting the needs of the community.
5. Our brave police and fire fighters who work tirelessly to keep our community safe, and all other city employees who keep the city running smoothly and efficiently.
6. Our veterans who fought the freedoms we enjoy today.
7. The great school systems we have to educate our youth.
8. The fun and exciting youth and adult sports activities.
9. Our water, streets and sewer systems and the programs that allow us to keep improving them.
10. Our community partners that help make the City of El Dorado a great place to live.



You can sign up for a variety of city notifications through our website. Notifications via text or email include such things as news releases, agendas, upcoming events and more. Sign up at <http://eldoks.com/list.aspx>