



## **WATER SOFTENERS**

The use of water softeners in the Riverstone Development is **not permitted** by the Root Creek Water District.

### **Why aren't water softeners permitted?**

Over time, water softeners will create additional costs for homeowners to clean up residue left behind. Water softeners increase salt levels in Riverstone wastewater. The District is required to monitor and clean up excess salt in the system. This removal of salt is expensive and will result in higher costs to homeowners. Secondly, the use of water softeners interferes with wastewater processes, making it difficult for the District to stay in compliance with regulations. Being out of compliance will result in fines and upgrades to the system, and these costs are paid by homeowners.

### **How it Works**

Softeners are used to remove calcium and magnesium which cause hardwater spots on glass and fixtures. Softeners use a resin to remove these minerals from water. When the resin is full, softeners use a salt solution to remove the calcium and to prepare the resin for future use. The salt solution then drains to the sewer, which increases salt levels in wastewater and reduces the ability for its beneficial reuse, like for groundwater replenishment. Also, removing calcium lowers the alkalinity of wastewater, which is required to remove nitrogen in the wastewater treatment plant. Both nitrogen and salts have concentration limits that cannot be exceeded for the District to stay in compliance. Violating these conditions could lead to fines and costly upgrades to the treatment plant.

### **Alternatives to Water Softeners**

Instead of water softeners, residents can consider a water conditioning system that does not remove beneficial minerals and doesn't use salt, like the EcoWater EcoProTechT Series. These systems prevent scale by converting minerals into a form that does not stick to plumbing fixtures.

## **DISINFECTING AND PERSONAL WIPES**

### ***Please do not flush wipes down the toilet!***

Wipes do not break apart in water like toilet paper. They easily clog the sewage pumps used to pump wastewater to the treatment plant. Removing the pumps to clear a clogged impeller can cost the District thousands of dollars each time, so help us keep costs down and dispose of wipes in the garbage. Remember that additional costs to maintain the wastewater system become the responsibility of the homeowners. Let's work together to keep costs down.