

ACWWA



Arapahoe County Water and Wastewater Authority

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 1

THE PIPELINE

NEWSLETTER DATE: SPRING/SUMMER 2008

WATER AUTHORITIES BREAK GROUND ON NEW WATER TREATMENT

Construction of a state-of-the-art water treatment plant that will serve portions of Arapahoe and Douglas counties got underway on January 31, 2008 at an official ground breaking ceremony hosted by the project's partners.

The \$26 million plant, known as the Joint Water Purification Plant, is a cooperative venture between the Arapahoe County Water and Wastewater Authority (ACWWA) and the Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District. The plant will eventually serve 12,000 residents and over 30,000 employees.

The two water authorities developed this cooperative project to meet the increasing demand of their water customers and reduce reliance on deep ground water supplies that will eventually be depleted. The plant will provide up to 12 million gallons per day of very high quality water from Cherry Creek, a renewable water source.

"This project is a model in cooperation between water providers," said ACWWA Board President Ralph Henderson. "By jointly constructing and operating facilities, we are able to provide our customers significant cost savings and improve service."



Cottonwood Board President Terry Cunningham emphasized "the collaborative vision of the Board in finding an innovative solution to make full use of their limited surface water supplies and in their perseverance working through the planning, design, funding and regulatory approvals to get this project under construction".

The new plant increases the use of surface water from Cherry Creek by treating reused water with reverse osmosis—the same purification process commonly used for bottled water. This process filters out even the smallest contaminants, and additional advanced treatment processes purify the water even more.

Richard P. Arber Associates, a local and nationally recognized engineering firm designed the plant. Weaver General Construction Company, an Englewood firm with many local water and wastewater projects to their credit, has been selected as the general contractor.

The treatment facility will be located on land on the west side of Jordan Road, south of Broncos Parkway. It is expected to be completed in eighteen months.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

IT IS OUR GOAL TO PROVIDE UNPARALLELED SERVICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY TO OUR CUSTOMERS WHILE FURNISHING THE HIGHEST QUALITY WATER.



THE BOARD

Ralph Henderson	President
Doyle Tinkey	First Vice President
Rod Bockenfeld	Treasurer
Jim Dyer	Assistant Treasurer
Marie Mackenzie	Secretary
Patrick Mulhern	Assistant Secretary
Alan Leak	Assistant Secretary
Linda Lehrer	Assistant Secretary

The Board meets on the second Wednesday of each month. The meetings are held at the ACWWA Administration Building in the Arapahoe Conference Room at 9:00 a.m. Please call (303) 790-4830 to confirm date and time before attending.

CURRENT COMMITTEES

- ◆ Personnel
- ◆ Finance
- ◆ Water Supply & Acquisitions
- ◆ Project Development & Construction
- ◆ Investment

LONE TREE CREEK WATER REUSE FACILITY UPDATE

This summer ACWWA will be completing construction of the new Lone Tree Creek Water Reuse Facility. This new state of the art wastewater treatment plant is located on the same site as the existing plant site but replaces virtually all of the existing process.

A new facility was needed to meet the demands of a growing service area. This new plant will ensure that ACWWA can treat its present flows and meet or exceed all requirements from the Environmental Protection Agency, Colorado Department of Public Health and other governing bodies in a cost effective manner.

Our new plant utilizes microbiology to do much of the work thus reducing the need to use chemicals and energy hungry mechanical processes. This system uses microbes to remove ammonia, nitrates and phosphorous which have traditionally been removed using large volumes of chemicals or energy intensive equipment. The water that this plant will produce will be among the most pure in the industry today.

ACWWA is committed to protecting human health and the environment while keeping cost to a minimum. This new plant will serve our ratepayer's needs and has been designed for further expansion as the need arises.



Left: Basins where the work is actually performed.

Top: Reuse gallery is where the water is sent back for non-potable reuse.



ACWWA'S NEW STAFF

Stanley Bell - Maintenance Technician 1

Maria Gomez - Contract Administrator

Ruth Greiner - Billing Analyst



WELCOME!

Our Vision

is to

consistently meet
or exceed
customer
expectations.

TIPS TO SAVING WATER OUTSIDE

Watering the Lawn

- ◇ Lawns only need watering every five to seven days in the summer. A hearty rain can delay this up to two weeks.
- ◇ Water lawns during the early morning when temperatures are lowest to prevent evaporation.
- ◇ Make sure sprinklers water the lawn and shrubs, not paved areas.
- ◇ Look into water-efficient sprinklers, such as micro/drip irrigation and soaker hoses.
- ◇ Regularly check sprinkler systems and timing devices to be sure they are operating properly. Turn off when storms are approaching.
- ◇ Make sure water is turned off when you're done. Your garden hose can pour out 600 gallons or more in only a few hours. Use a kitchen timer as a reminder.

Lawn Care

- ◇ Raise your lawn mower blade to at least three inches. A higher cut lawn encourages grass roots to grow deeper, shades the root system, and holds soil moisture better than closely-clipped lawns.
- ◇ Avoid overfertilizing your lawn. This increases the need for water and is a source of water pollution.

Landscaping

- ◇ Mulch to retain moisture in the soil. This helps control weeds that compete with plants for water.
- ◇ Plant native and/or drought-tolerant grasses, ground covers, shrubs and trees. Check with your local nursery for advice.
- ◇ Group plants based on similar water needs.
- ◇ Use a hose shut-off nozzle so that water flows only as needed. When finished, turn off at the faucet instead of the nozzle to avoid leaks.
- ◇ Minimize the grass areas in your yard; less grass means less water.

Other Outdoor Water Wasters to Watch

- ◇ Check all hoses, connectors and spigots regularly. Replace or add washers if you find leaks.
- ◇ Avoid the installation of ornamental water features unless the water is recycled.
- ◇ If you have a pool, consider a single backflushing with a traditional filter, that only uses 180 to 250 gallons of water.
- ◇ Ask if your car wash recycles water.
- ◇ If you wash your own car, use a bucket with soapy water and turn off the water while soaping.
- ◇ Avoid purchasing recreational water toys that require a constant stream of water.

DID YOU KNOW?

USING A HOSE WITH SHUT-OFF NOZZLE TO WASH YOUR CAR CAN SAVE AS MUCH AS 150 GALLONS OF WATER PER WASH.



TEMPORARY WATER SERVICE AMENDMENT

In order for ACWWA to provide temporary water service to a property to complete a real estate inspection, the property owner must complete ACWWA's form granting ACWWA permission to turn the water on and off and that releases ACWWA from liability for any damages arising from the turn-on and turn-off.

ACWWA will not be held liable for any personal injury or direct or consequential property damage caused as a result of any temporary water service including, but not limited to , frozen water pipes, burst or leaking pipes, or damage to any water heater, fixture, real or personal property. This limitation includes ACWWA having no liability for such damages whether the damages occur while the temporary service is turned on or occur after temporary service is turned off.

There will be a \$150.00 fee which must be paid before services are provided. Once the fee is collected, if ACWWA personnel are available, the water will be turned on the following morning between 7:00 and 8:00 a.m. and disconnected between 2:30 and 3:30 the same day, or the turn-on and turn-off will occur on such other schedule as may be agreed upon by ACWWA.

ACWWA shall not drain the pipes, any fixture, water heater, or any other item connected to the water system.

The property owner is responsible for paying for any water usage during this process in accordance with ACWWA's then-current rate schedule. It is recommended that the property owner have a representative on site during turn-on and turn-off due to the possibility of a water leak or other problem.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Water bills are due by the last business day of each month. Payments received after that date will incur a penalty. We accept cash, check or ACH* either by mail or at our office.

Mailing Address:

Arapahoe County Water & Wastewater Authority (ACWWA)
P.O. Box 172608
Denver, CO 80217-2608

Office Address:

Arapahoe County Water & Wastewater Authority (ACWWA)
13031 East Caley Avenue
Centennial, CO 80111

*What is ACH?

ACH stands for Automated Clearing House. ACH automatically withdraws the amount of your bill from your bank account on the 20th of each month.

If you are interested in this service and would like more information, please contact our Customer Service Department at (303)790-4830 extension 311.

FEE UPDATES

- All construction water will be billed at the highest block.

There will be a \$65.00 inspection fee charged on each returned meter. Any damage to the meter will be charged to the customer.

Water consumption for all customers will be read and billed monthly. There will be a \$250.00 penalty plus an additional \$25.00 penalty per day if the meter is not available at the registered job site for the monthly read.

- Each year, Arapahoe County Water and Wastewater Authority (ACWWA) requires all backflow prevention devices be tested to ensure public health and the safety of the drinking water supply.

The fee for testing the backflow device is \$65.00 plus parts.

An ACWWA certified backflow technician will perform the necessary tests required to bring the property up to compliance with ACWWA rules and regulation in the near future. The technician will need to test all domestic containment and irrigation devices if present, in which the property owner will be notified of the tests and any repairs made by the ACWWA Representative. Irrigation devices will be tested in the warmer months, while the property is in usage of irrigation water. ACWWA is not responsible for fall preventative maintenance and fire line backflow devices which are the responsibility of the property owner and need to be tested annually. A list of fire line backflow testers will be available upon request.

ACWWA VALUES

- Honesty, Service, Enthusiasm, Focus, Communication, Teamwork, Excellence