



SPRING 2010 NEWSLETTER

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Congratulations to Commissioner Dyer who was appointed as ACWWA's new Board President on February 10, 2010.

ACWWA HOLDS TWO OPEN HOUSES

In January and February, ACWWA held two Open House forums where patrons were invited to learn more about the ACWWA Flow Project. Both events were very well attended by various members of the business community, as well as by customers. Staff and individuals from ACWWA's Board of Directors were on hand to answer questions about the recent negotiations to secure long-term renewable water resources, assuring the future flow of water to the ACWWA service Area. This exciting project includes water rights and infrastructure, which will bring a renewable source of water to ACWWA customers in 2012. ACWWA General Manager, Gary Atkin, explained that planning for the project has been underway for ten years, and includes financial reinforcement by the Arapahoe County Public Improvement District.

Customers in attendance were treated to home-baked goodies as they learned about where the water originates from, the necessary infrastructure to get the water down to ACWWA's service area, and why it is so important for this to happen now. The ACWWA Flow Project will serve our ratepayer's needs and has been designed for further expansion as the need arises. ACWWA is committed to providing the best water and wastewater services available while keeping cost to a minimum. If you were unable to attend either of the Open House forums or still have questions, please feel free to visit our website at www.arapahowater.org/ACWWA-Flow-Project.



JOINT WATER PURIFICATION PROJECT



ACWWA and Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District are anticipating the completion of the Joint Water Purification Project this summer. The plant is located on the west side of Jordan Road, south of Broncos Parkway. This state-of-the-art plant will provide up to 12 million gallons of water per day.

The \$26 million project was developed to meet the demands of our customers and lessen our dependency on deep groundwater supplies, which will eventually deplete.

Reverse Osmosis is an amazing and rather complex process. It removes chemical contaminants on the smallest of scales with an advanced treatment process purifying the water additionally. The end result is bottled quality water right out of your tap!



ACWWA FLOW PROJECT UPDATE

ASSURING YOUR FUTURE WATER

It's an exciting and challenging time at ACWWA! At the end of last year, ACWWA and the ACWWPID closed on over \$153 million in bonds to fund the acquisition and delivery of 4,400 acre-feet of renewable water. This project is known as the ACWWA Flow Project. It was quite an effort last year to develop the terms and agreements necessary to ink this deal. This year will be just as busy. We anticipate the start of construction on a reservoir, well fields, water treatment facilities and diversion structures. We will also be working the water rights through water court. This is such a large undertaking and ACWWA understands there are a lot of questions out there. Two successful open houses were held in January and February to discuss the project. Our open houses, website information and direct mailings have been a good start at getting the information out and staff will maintain the website with current information about the project.

Some of the questions we heard in the open houses related to why this project and why now? ACWWA feels this project will provide a secure water supply to our customers in the most efficient and cost-effective manner. Due to the low interest rates on our Bonds and low construction costs caused by the current economic situation, this worked to ACWWA's benefit and resulted in lower project costs.

We are not the only ones looking for reliable renewable water, according to the Statewide Water Supply Initiative. Over 88,000 acre-feet of water will be needed in the South Metro area to meet the ever increasing population. One acre-foot of water serves two households. This also anticipates about a 15 percent savings in water use through water conservation (see our website for water conservation information and rebates).

Ultimately, our Board of Directors felt this was the right project and the right time to tackle this challenge. As the ACWWA Flow project continues we will keep you updated through our newsletters and website.

IN THE COMMUNITY

The 47th Annual Denver Metropolitan Regional Science Fair was held recently at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science for students ranging from grades 6 through 12. Les Nelson, Maintenance Superintendent for ACWWA, volunteered his time to participate as a judge for projects pertaining to water. Mr. Nelson said, "It was rewarding to see the amount of work and level of commitment these students put into their projects."

Thank you to Les Nelson for volunteering your time to a worthy cause, and congratulations to all the participants of the science fair. A job well done!



COLORADO MEDICATION TAKE BACK PROJECT

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and a consortium of concerned organizations have launched a pilot program offering a secure and environmentally responsible way for people to dispose of unwanted medicines.

Eight secure collection box locations along the Front Range and two locations in Summit County have been placed for safe disposal of medications.

Medication disposal should be done in a manner that minimizes the chance of misuse and also protects the environment. Flushing medications down the toilet or throwing them in the trash can cause pollution of lakes, streams and water supplies.



"Keeping waste medicines out of the hands of children and drug abusers and out of the environment is an emerging challenge," said Greg Fabisiak, environmental integration manager for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. "We want to offer the public an alternative to flushing unused drugs, which can end up in our water supplies."

For more information about the program or to find a collection box location visit www.coloradomedtakeback.info or contact any of the agencies listed below.

- **CO-HELP at 877-462-2911**
- **King Soopers and City Market, Kelli McGannon, 303-778-3251**
- **Tri-County Health Department, Gary Sky, 303-220-9200**
- **Denver Health at Denver Public Health, Dee Martinez, 303-436-6615**