

Pinery Pipeline

November/December 2010

Pinery Water & Wastewater District – 303.841.2797

www.pinerywater.com

A Regional Perspective on Rueter-Hess Reservoir



Our neighbor to the north, Parker Water and Sanitation District is in the final stages of construction for Rueter-Hess Reservoir. For those of you who haven't noticed, the dam can be seen from Chambers Road just south of Main Street in Parker. This project has been a monumental undertaking and completion is slated for early next year. The original plan was for an off stream reservoir that would store 16,200 acre-feet of water; construction began in 2004. Several water providers in the area expressed interest in buying capacity in the reservoir and Parker Water and Sanitation District proceeded to permit a larger dam for the site. The larger, 72,000 acre-foot reservoir received its permit in 2008 and construction on the enlarged dam began later that same year.

The Town of Castle Rock, Castle Pines North Metropolitan District, and Stonegate Metropolitan District all have acquired storage capacity in the reservoir. Other water providers in the area may acquire storage in the future as regional water projects may necessitate.

When filled, the reservoir surface will be 1,200 acres or about 1.5 times the size of Cherry Creek Reservoir. The deepest point will be 184 feet and there will be 14 miles of shoreline. To construct the dam, over 15,000,000 cubic yards of dirt will have been placed in the dam, as well as 30,000 cubic yards of concrete and 5,600 tons of steel will have been utilized.

Rueter- Hess Reservoir has been a long term project and a significant achievement for the Parker Water and Sanitation District.



It's Not the Water & It's Not Your Dishwasher

We have recently received several inquiries about film or soap scum on glasses and silverware coming out of customers' dishwashers. In an article published recently by 9News, they state that "several of the nation's leading detergent makers reformulated their products and reduced an ingredient called phosphate. This is what's causing the film." Phosphorus was the ingredient used to soften water and enhance the cleaning process.

Environmentalists have argued that phosphorus gets into the water system, producing algae which deprives fish and plants of oxygen.

Buying a new dishwasher will not resolve the problem. It is recommended that you add a cup of distilled vinegar to your dishwasher cycles to help combat the issue.



Changes in the District Board

A big "Thank You" to Bob Greene for his fourteen years of contribution as a District Director. His position as Treasurer was at times challenging, but Bob was truly committed to always doing what was in the District's best interest.

Introducing New District Board Members:

Heidi Tackett: Heidi Tackett recently joined our Board as a Director in August 2010. She and her family moved to the Pinery, from Aurora, in August 2002. Her work background is in healthcare – she was previously a Senior Account Manager for PacifiCare Health Systems – and her consulting business focuses on project management. She has always been active in the business, school, and homeowner communities. Her service includes the Aurora Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for six years, serving as Chairperson from 00-01; the Leadership Aurora Board for six years, serving as Chairperson from 94-96; the Lake Shore Homeowners Association Board for three years; the Aurora Citizen's Advisory Budget Committee for five years; and service on all of the School Accountability Committees in the Ponderosa feeder area since 2003. Heidi lives in the District with her husband, Gary, their son, David, and their daughter, Rachel.

Rod Bergholm: Rod and his wife, Sandy, have lived in the District for almost thirty years. Rod brings to the Board a broad background of public utilities experience having worked in engineering, operations, finance and auditing with US West as Executive Director–Provisioning. He currently works as a consultant. He is a member of IEEE and a registered Professional Engineer. In his free time, Rod enjoys working in his yard, reading, listening and playing music, fishing, and spending time with his wife, four children and eleven grandchildren.

It Certainly Was a Dry Fall!

Upon reviewing data from three nearby weather stations, here are some of the observations regarding recent months:

- August 2010 had less rain than any other August in the time period from 2000 to current.
- September 2010 tied for the driest month in the same time period.
- September 2010 had an average high temperature of 83 degrees. The average high temperature for September 2003 (the other dry September) was 68 degrees.



As bi-monthly billings were compiled for this period, the District observed that the extreme dry conditions and high temperatures were reflected in many of our customers' water usage.

Due to unusually dry soil conditions, the District has experienced several water main breaks. Please keep an eye out... if you see signs of a break and contact the District at 303-841-2797.

Sewer Rate Calculations Coming

This is just a reminder that your annual sewer rate is calculated based on your winter water usage. During the months of either January/February or February/March (depending on your meter reading cycle), if your usage is more than 6,000 gallons, you will be charged the higher sewer rate for the remainder of the year.

Please check the District's website at www.pinerywater.com for rate information.

