

Pinery Pipeline

May/June 2011

Pinery Water & Wastewater District – 303.841.2797

www.pinerywater.com



To sit in the shade on a fine day and look upon verdure is the most perfect refreshment.

~Jane Austen



The Beauty of Xeriscaping

Our District is not unique, many Colorado communities are continuing to be faced with increased demands on existing water supplies. Consequently, there is an increased focus on water conservation, not just in times of drought, but in anticipation of future population growth and depleting water resources.

Water cannot be considered a limitless resource. An ongoing philosophy of water conservation through creative landscaping can be ecologically efficient as well as just plain beautiful.

The term xeriscape is derived from the Greek word xeros meaning dry, combined with landscape, thus xeriscaping. Did you know that the term was first coined in 1981 by the Front Range Xeriscape Task Force of the Denver Water Department? The overall goal of xeriscaping is to create a visually attractive landscape that uses plants selected for their water efficiency.

Is xeriscape the same as zero-scaping? No, zero-scaping uses primarily rocks, cactus, yucca, and decorative items. Xeriscape includes lush, beautiful plants that can create an oasis type feeling!



Properly maintained, a xeriscape can easily use less than one-half the water of traditional landscape, including blue grass. Once established, xeriscaped areas also require lower maintenance and provide amazing beauty. We invite you to check out the District's xeriscape garden at our office on Old Schoolhouse Road.

So this summer, get creative... add a touch of xeriscape beauty to your property and enjoy a lower water bill as an added bonus.

Xeriscaping... saves time, money and water!

In the News...

In the past month, much has been printed in the local media regarding water deals that have been closed outside of the typical bidding process. Our District has *not* been involved in any of these deals.

The Pinery District's Board is working hard to ensure that future water supplies will be available to customers. Many of the projects under consideration have been written about in the *Pinery Pipeline* over the past several months. The Directors understand that the newly assessed water supply project fee is a burden to each and every home owner in the District, however it is crucial to funding future projects – water availability has a direct correlation to home value. As aquifer production diminishes, the need for new wells and resources escalates – all of which comes at a price.

In the future, information will be added to the District website to track incoming funds associated with this fee, as well as updates on funded projects.



INSTEAD OF DUMPING.....

Stop by one of the Tri-County Health Household Chemical Roundup Sites:

**May 14 – Parker at 17801 E. Plaza Drive
August 13 – Highlands Ranch at 3270 Redstone Park Circle
September 17 – Castle Rock Utilities at 175 Kellogg Court**

**9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m.
Open to all Douglas County residents**

Acceptable items for disposal include house, garden and pool chemicals • Paint and paint products • Automotive fluids • Vehicle and household batteries • Items containing mercury • Fluorescent light bulbs & CFL's • Passenger vehicle and pickup truck tires (removed from rim)

For Additional Information: www.tchd.org/householdchemical.htm

Douglas County Supports WISE Agreement

On April 12, 2011, the Douglas County Board of County Commissioners voted unanimously to approve a Resolution supporting the WISE (Water Infrastructure and Supply Efficiency) partnership between Denver, Aurora and the South Metro Water Supply Authority – of which the Pinery Water and Wastewater District is a participant.

The Commissioners wished to express their support of the WISE partnership and recognize that the success of WISE is a key element to furthering the Board's goal that Douglas County have a sustainable and dependable water supply of adequate quality and sufficient quantity.

Bingham Lake Closure

Bingham Lake continues to be closed to all forms of boating as a precaution to protect the Lake from Zebra and Quagga Mussels, New Zealand Mudsnaills and Rusty Crayfish species. These invasive species would significantly increase the District's maintenance costs of Bingham Lake if it were to become contaminated. The primary function of Bingham Lake is for water storage and the Board of Directors has elected to close the Lake until the spread of these invasive species in the State is better understood. For more information on invasive species, please see the following websites:

<http://100thmeridian.org> or <http://nas.er.usgs.gov/taxgroup/mollusks/zebramussel>

