

CHEROKEE CHANNEL

SUMMER 2006

Your Water Utility Information Source

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Cherokee Metropolitan District



6250 Palmer Park Blvd
Colorado Springs, CO 80915
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Monday – Friday
Office: 719-597-5080

Attend a Board Meeting

5:30 p.m. at the above address on:

August 8, 2006

September 12, 2006

October 10, 2006

November 14, 2006

Cherokee Ridge Golf Course



1850 Tuskegee Place
Colorado Springs, CO 80915
Shop – 719-597-2637
Starter – 719-597-2643
Maintenance – 719-597-8386

Hours:

Regulation Course:

Mon – Sun: 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Par 3 Course:

Mon – Sun: 7 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Driving Range:

Mon – Sat: 7 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Sun: 7 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Call for a tee time!

Or check out:

www.golfexperience.com/cherokeeridge/

NEED TO DIG?

THINK SAFETY FIRST! CALL UNCC
TOLL FREE @
1-800-922-1987 TO HAVE UTILITY
LINES LOCATED
AT YOUR HOME!

THE CHANNEL IS BACK!

Our goal at Cherokee is to provide our customers with the best service possible. This can only be achieved through keeping you up-to-date on the latest information regarding your water and wastewater utility, neighborhood parks and the Cherokee Ridge Golf Course. The Cherokee Channel is our way of accomplishing this.

Not only will the Channel keep you updated on important issues, but it will also provide helpful conservation tips, ways you can save on your utility bill and project status updates. Look for a Channel or Special Edition Channel every few months, bringing you the latest news and information about Cherokee.

RESTRICTION UPDATE

Currently, the court ruling affecting the restrictions is in the hands of the Colorado Supreme Court. Cherokee has filed an appeal and arguments to support our cause; we have also requested that the court expedite the appeal in an attempt to resolve the issue quickly. Everyone at Cherokee is working diligently to achieve a resolution. We will update you on the latest information regarding the matter as soon as it becomes available.

Phase I of the mandatory water restrictions are still in full force and will continue until further notice. We greatly appreciate your support and cooperation at this time.

PHASE I RESTRICTIONS:

1. EVEN ADDRESSES MAY WATER WEDNESDAY AND SUNDAY
2. ODD ADDRESSES MAY WATER TUESDAY AND SATURDAY
3. DO NOT WATER DURING THE DAY FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M.
4. DO NOT LET WATER RUN DOWN THE STREET
5. WATERING IS LIMITED TO 4 HOURS ON YOUR ASSIGNED WATERING DAYS

(Note: Cherokee does not encourage you to water the full 4 hours, this is intended to accommodate those in the District with larger lawns.)

Watering of vegetables, flowers, trees, shrubs and car washing is permitted any day of the week, as long as a positive shut-off nozzle is used.

Sod permits are available at our office for \$50.00 and are issued from the date of purchase. The permit allows for daily watering of new sod or seed (up to 2,000 sq ft) for a four week period. Please be sure that your new sod or seed is in place before you purchase your permit; no permits will be post-dated.

RESTRICTION PATROLS

Recently, you may have seen one of our utility operators in your neighborhood. We are conducting regular patrols of the District to ensure that everyone is following the restriction guidelines. To date we have issued 532 violations; many of which are already 2nd and 3rd violations. The Board of Directors has yet to approve penalty fees for 4th and subsequent violations. We do anticipate the fee to be more than the \$100.00 fee charged for 3rd violations.

WHAT'S NEW?

This year we have seen many changes at Cherokee, the first of which was welcoming our new General Manager, Kip Petersen in January. Kip was Cripple Creek's City Manager for ten years, in addition he has many years experience as a planner. We look forward to utilizing his knowledge and experience to guide Cherokee in the future.

**ON THE BACK:
NEW BOARD, XERISCAPING &
GOLF COURSE NEWS**

BOARD ELECTION

The Board of Directors election was held May 2, 2006, with a large number of District residents coming out to cast their vote. The three new members elected are M.B. "Andy" Anderson, Gayle Jones and Ted Schubert. They join current members Robert Lovato and Dave Hacker.

If you are interested in learning more about Cherokee, or you have a suggestion for the Board, we encourage you to attend a Board meeting. They are held the second Tuesday of every month; check out the front of the newsletter for specific dates.

**SERVING YOU BETTER!
Wastewater Treatment Facility**

To meet more stringent environmental regulations, Cherokee is currently working on a new wastewater treatment facility Southeast of Schriever AFB near Ellicott Springs. This plant will treat wastewater from District homes and businesses to meet state and federal environmental regulations. Currently, the site approval application phase is nearing completion and the design phase will commence shortly thereafter. Construction should begin January 2007 and you can expect project completion in early 2009.

Cherokee Website

Currently, we are in the process of developing a website to further inform you of happenings in the District. The website should be completed late 2006 or early 2007. Look for updates on these projects in future editions of the Cherokee Channel.

FROM THE CLUBHOUSE

Both golf courses and the practice facility are in wonderful shape considering the restrictions and thanks are in order for our maintenance department. The good conditions have brought a lot of play for the course.

We are continuing to be busy most weekday mornings with regular play, and evenings are busy with league play.

Weekends are booked heavily in the morning, so if you are thinking about coming out to play, we recommend calling a few days ahead for a tee time! If you are looking to play the regulation nine, we book tee times up to seven days in advance. The par-three course is on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Check-out Todd's Tip

Todd's Tip: The quickest way to drop strokes off your score is to work on all the shots from 150 yards and closer to the green. We have a chipping green that suits all shots less than 20 yards, and our par three is challenging enough for all players! It's a matter of practice, and in golf practice doesn't necessarily make perfect, it just keeps the temper in check!

Todd Laxson, C.R.G.C. Director of Golf Operations.

Turf Tip from Griff Rainford, C.R.G.C. Superintendent

Extended periods of drought lead to poor turf vigor and shallow rooting. Contrary to popular belief and reports in the media, **it is critical to feed turf during periods of heat stress.**

Fertilizer is labeled with three numbers like 13-2-26 or 7-1-14; indicating the amount of N-P-K (Nitrogen-Phosphorus-Potash). During heat/drought stress periods, choose fertilizer formulas that contain a higher percentage of potash and iron (ratios like 1-0-2). Potash and iron are important for hardening off plants. Also choose formulas that contain higher percentages of slow-release nitrogen like: SCU (Sulfur Coated Urea), UF (Urea Formaldehyde), IBDU (Isobutylidine Dirurea) or Natural Organic (Animal Byproducts like meal and manure).

SPECIAL FEATURE: XERISCAPING

While Cherokee is currently under water restrictions you might be thinking that you can't have a beautiful yard; however, there are several options available to enhance and beautify your property; this issue will focus on the benefits of Xeriscaping.

What is Xeriscaping?

Many of you may not know that the term Xeriscaping was created right here in Colorado, that's right, Denver Water fused the Greek word "xeros" (meaning "dry") and landscape to form what we know as Xeriscaping today. Unfortunately, Xeriscaping has received a bad reputation over the years and is perceived as nothing more than a desertification of one's yard. The misconception of "rocks and cactus" has replaced the underlying goal of an overall change in our water management philosophy and the idea of "enlightened conservation." It's important to recognize the true goal of Xeriscaping, which is to understand our environment and to efficiently utilize available resources to create striking, efficient landscapes.

Why Should I Xeriscape?

To answer that you must first understand more about Colorado Springs' weather. Colorado Springs' climate is classified as an Alpine Desert and precipitation in this region averages only 14.76 inches per year. Because of this, we use over 50% of residential water to irrigate our lawns. While Cherokee is restricting water due to legal matters, not drought conditions, it shouldn't relegate us to wasting water when it is available. It is important that everyone in the region practice good conservation efforts to preserve our resource.

How does Xeriscaping help?

Xeriscaping helps by conserving and extending water supplies. Since watering has been restricted to two days a week, your water-thirsty lawn will be the first to suffer. By selecting drought-resistant grass, plants, trees and shrubs; we reduce our reliance on water to maintain a healthy yard. In fact, not only does Xeriscaping reduce water and maintenance costs up to 60%, but it can also increase property value 15% (Colorado WaterWise Council). Xeriscaping provides everyone the opportunity to create unique landscapes that take into consideration our resources and environment.

Where can I learn more?

This is only a small introduction to Xeriscaping, there are a multitude of resources available if you are interested in learning more. Stop by our office where literature is available for your reference, or check out these websites:

- Colorado Springs Utilities – www.csu.org
- Denver Water – www.water.denver.co.gov
- The Colorado WaterWise Council – www.xeriscape.org

