

2009 Water Conservation

The 2009 Irrigation Season is upon us and beginning April 1, 2009, Stage 2 conservation will take effect. Please see the watering schedule for your watering days and times.

Board Resignations and Appointments

On January 13, 2009, the Cherokee Metropolitan District Board of Directors filled two vacancies left through the resignation of Ted Schubert and M.B. Anderson. Appointment process details were posted on our website following their resignation. Interested applicants were required to submit letters of interest by December 26, 2008.

Cherokee Board of Directors	
President	Steve Hasbrouck
Vice President	Dave Hacker
Treasurer/Secretary	Gayle Jones
Director	Robert Lovato
Director	Sean Byers

Seven applicants submitted letters and attended a special board meeting on January 6, 2009, to state their position and interest to serve on the board. Secret ballot votes were cast by the current board and David Hacker and Sean Byers were appointed to fill the vacant positions.

Cimarron Eastridge Park Tragedy

The recent events at Cimarron Eastridge Park are a sobering reminder of violence that can occur anyplace at anytime. It is also a time to remember the important role we all play in keeping the community safe.

Our efforts can help prevent such events from happening in the future. By staying observant and reporting suspicious or unusual activities to local law enforcement agencies, we can do our part to keep our neighborhoods safe. Our staff is also committed to the cause, as District field employees are encouraged to report any unusual activities observed while on duty.

With law enforcement resources likely to decrease in the coming years, it is more important than ever to remain vigilant. Should you observe any suspicious activities, please contact one of the following agencies.

Emergencies:
Call 911

**Non-Emergencies
Suspicious Activity:**
El Paso County Sheriff:
390-5555

Watering Schedule

Stage 2

April 1 – October 31, 2009

Odd Addresses

Even Addresses

Tue/Sat

Wed/Sun

Duration: Maximum of 2 hours

Time of Day: Before 9 a.m. After 6 p.m.

Trees, Flowers, Shrubs, Gardens: Any Day

Time of Day: Before 9 a.m. After 6 p.m.

Car Washing: Any Day/Anytime

Watering schedule is based on available supply and irrigation demand and is therefore subject to change.

Sod Permits

Availability:

- April 1— May 15, 2009
- September 1— September 30, 2009

Requirements:

- \$50.00 permit fee
- Sod/Seed proof of purchase
- Area of sod/seed in square feet
- Soil amendment proof of purchase
- Drawing/Plot Plan indicating sod/seed areas

Limitations:

- Permits issued the day of purchase
- No post-dated permits
- Four weeks of daily watering
- Watering must take place before 9 a.m. and after 6 p.m.
- 1,500 square foot maximum for the life of the property



Attend a Board Meeting

April 14, 2009
May 12, 2009
June 9, 2009
July 14, 2009

Time: 5:30 p.m.
Location: Cherokee Metro
Office
6250 Palmer Park Blvd

Feather Reed Grass

Calamagrostis x acutiflora

Check out our new Xeriscape Demo Garden signs this summer. Now identifying your favorite water-wise plants is a cinch!

Sticking to It: Proper Disposal

You recently received a refrigerator magnet enclosed with your monthly statement. The brainchild of the Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority – a collection of area water and wastewater utility providers, including Cherokee – they stress the importance of proper drug and personal care product disposal. It's important to remember these items should never be flushed or disposed of in any drain.

Although, the long-term impact and effect of prescription drugs and personal care products on our water supplies are still being researched, we have the ability to minimize any negative impact through proper disposal.

With our new wastewater treatment facility and recharge basin coming online in 2010, it is essential to implement these practices. If you have misplaced your magnet, we have a limited number available at our office. Feel free to stop by and pick one up!

For more information, contact the El Paso County Waste Collection Facility at 520-7878, or log on to www.elpasoco.com and search "Solid Waste Management"

water, returns

In 2008, Cherokee hosted a countywide pilot-program known as *Water Returns*. Nine District residents attended five, half-day workshops focusing on water-wise and sustainable landscape design and implementation.

Following the workshops, participants applied their new knowledge to their landscapes. Projects varied from simple retrofits to full-scale renovations.

See the results for yourself!



Before



After

Photos courtesy of M.B. Anderson

Simply Complex: Rainwater Capture

A spring shower hits the District and you capture the runoff in five gallon buckets to put to beneficial use, seems like a good idea, right? While rainwater capture sounds like a simple way to provide you with extra water, the legal aspects of rainwater harvesting make it complex.

Under Colorado water law, nearly every drop of water that falls from the sky already belongs to a water right owner in the state. As precipitation reaches the earth, it enters stream systems and permeates the ground, replenishing lakes, reservoirs and underground aquifers.

Allowing homeowners to capture runoff prevents the return of water to these systems and potentially harms water right holders. With many senior water rights in Colorado already over-appropriated and long-term effects yet to be determined, lawmakers have taken a cautious approach in dealing with this issue.

One proposal—House Bill 1129—is aimed at changing this longstanding rule by allowing rainwater capture systems, along with pilot projects throughout the state to study the impact on water rights and stream systems. For more information visit the Colorado General Assembly at www.leg.state.co.us



Bright Idea!

Redirect downspouts toward plants and trees in your garden.
Only capturing rainwater is illegal in Colorado.

Cherokee will be participating again in 2009 and have selected five residents for this year's program

We'll keep you up to date on our participants' progress in hopes of inspiring your own project!

We'd like to recognize and thank 2008 program participants and welcome 2009 participants to the *Water Returns* Community.

You can be part of *Water Returns* by signing up for the Extended Community Newsletter! Visit cherokeemetro.org and look for the *Water Returns* logo!

A Special Thanks To:

2008 Participants:
Doug & Sandi Aiken
Dewey & Judy Compton
Catherine Crawford
Pat Howe
Gayle Jones
John Pawelski
Karen Peabody
Frank & Terri Spitzer