

# WATER BULLETIN

**JULY 1, 2007**

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Effective June 30, 2007

The Cherokee Metropolitan District has reverted back to

## Stage 2

### **Conservation Schedule**

Stage 2 Water Conservation Schedule allows the irrigation of lawns, twice weekly, based upon the property address. Odd numbered addresses may water lawns on Tuesday and Saturday. Even numbered addresses may water lawns on Wednesday and Sunday. All lawn watering must be conducted before 9am and after 6pm, for no more than a total of two hours per day. An average sized lawn, broken down into 6 zones, with each zone running for 10 to 15 minutes per zone, will be able to irrigate within the established two hour time-frame. The hand watering of trees, bushes, shrubs, flowers and gardens is allowed on any day, but it is strongly encouraged that this also be done before 9am and after 6pm.

**What has the District done to avoid future shortages?** Over the last six months, the District has been negotiating with the City of Colorado Springs to allow the District to use the City=s available capacity of their water distribution system. This will allow the District to deliver a new, short-term source of water to the City, and receive treated drinking water in exchange. These negotiations were completed on Tuesday, June 26, 2007, with the City of Colorado Springs City Council approving a two-year contract which will transport, and treat, up to 500 acre feet of water a year. The District has purchased water from Pueblo West Metropolitan District, which will deliver the water into the City=s water distribution system. The City will treat the raw water and then deliver the District=s water at the existing point of connection between the District=s system and the City=s. It is important to understand that the City is not selling water that Colorado Springs owns, but is simply treating and delivering the water that Cherokee has acquired.

In late 2006, the District was able to acquire an additional source of water known as the Tipton well. This well is located north of Judge Orr Road, and slightly east of the Ellicott Highway and has the right to 225 acre feet of water. The District has awarded a contract to redrill this well, and connect the well into the District=s distribution system. Pipe is currently being installed in the ground and the new well should be drilled and operational within the next 45 days. Additionally, the District has been able to negotiate a one-year

lease of water just east of the Tipton well, which will also be connected to the District's system once the new Tipton well begins production. This water will be delivered to the District's distribution system once a pipeline is laid between the water source and the Tipton well.

Additionally in late 2006, the District was able to cooperatively acquire 200 acre feet of water known as the Kane water right. This water is located adjacent to the District's Sweetwater Well Field south of Ellicott. Approvals are being sought to redrill the well and connect the new well into the District's distribution system.

The District has completed the drilling of a new well, just off of the Cherokee Ridge Golf Course property, which when completed, will allow the District to irrigate a large part of the golf course with non-potable water. The current timetable calls for completion of this project within the next 60 days, after which a substantial amount of water will be freed up to be used by the customers of the District. The District will review the amount of water being generated by this new well and make a determination about the possibility of drilling an additional well based upon available resources.

Cherokee Metro has also placed a contract on an additional water right that is currently being investigated to determine the source's actual water producing capacity, prior to finalizing the purchase. If the testing produces an adequate amount of water, the purchase will be completed and the necessary approvals will be sought to redrill the well and connect its water into the District's distribution system.

The District is aggressively pursuing additional water sources and rights for the District's benefit. Such a process does take time, not only to identify the water available, but to make sure that all the appropriate and necessary legal aspects are obtained. The Board of Directors has established the acquisition of additional water as the highest priority of the District. The District has made substantial progress in obtaining additional water sources since July, 2006, and these efforts will continue for the next several years until such time as there are firm and verifiable water sources.

**What are the legal issues that caused the District to have a physical shortage of water?** There is not a quick or simple answer for this question, but it is important that the District's customers understand the events which have lead to the current situation. Over the next several issues of the Water Bulletin, the District will provide a detailed account of the events and actions, which have resulted in the District adopting restrictive Water Conservation measures.

**-Please Help Conserve Our Water Supply-**