



## CHEROKEE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

6250 Palmer Park Blvd, Colorado Springs, CO 80915-1721  
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### IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION FOR ALL BUSINESSES

#### **PRETREATMENT MAY BE REQUIRED FOR YOUR INDUSTRIAL DISCHARGE**

This letter is information and notice to all businesses that non-domestic wastewater may require pretreatment prior to discharge into the District sanitary sewer system. State and Federal regulations prohibit industrial users from discharging non-domestic waste that damages the sanitary sewer system. Certain commercial and industrial wastes can be toxic and may **NOT** be suitable to be discharged without pretreatment. District staff and resources are available to help any and all businesses determine if a particular waste can be discharged, and it is better to be sure of compliance than find out later that you're liable for damages and/or criminal charges.

The dumping of detrimental waste disrupted the normal operation of the treatment plant. These discharges may have been disposed of for some time, or maybe even years, but because of the more sensitive nature of the new mechanical wastewater treatment plant, impacts have the potential to be more damaging than in the old lagoon style plant. **All Commercial and industrial businesses are required to report any and all discharges that are non-domestic.**

The District is analyzing samples on non domestic waste that has been dumped in an effort to identify the contaminants and the location of origination; all the while damages to the wastewater plant continue to be costly. This process will take time and the District prefers to prevent the harmful discharges as soon as possible. We appreciate the cooperation of the many businesses that have already provided information and have been approved as part of our pretreatment program. If you are discharging any waste that is not domestic wastewater, please contact us as soon as possible. If you contact us we will help determine if the discharge is permissible. Or if not, a simple treatment technique can help make it compliant. **At this time, we do not anticipate penalizing anyone, but it is imperative that industrial discharges not yet reviewed by Cherokee pretreatment staff be identified, included in a pretreatment plan if necessary, and all illegal dumping eliminated.**

State and federal law requires investigation into all toxic loads, and the District is proceeding with that investigation. This letter is formal notice that you need be conscious of your commercial wastewater discharge and informed of its chemical make-up, and any required pre-treatment. This letter is an element of our curtailment plan and investigation. The District would prefer to work with our valued business customers to resolve the issue at an early stage prior to involving state and federal agencies.

Turn Over to Page 2

If you have information on an illegal discharge to the District's wastewater collection and treatment system, you can remain anonymous, but it is imperative that you step forward and help to eliminate the problem. We would appreciate and encourage your questions, comments and / or tips with respect to any illegal discharges.

As a business owner, operator, or manager, please take the time to become positively sure you are fully aware of your staff's operational procedures and actions. In some cases, management or ownership are not aware of the illegal industrial discharges, but the law has clearly stated that ignorance is not a defense and owners operator and managers may be held liable for actions of the employees, know or unknown. So it is of the utmost importance that you are fully aware of your operations activity.

**If you are discharging anything other than domestic wastewater, you need to contact our pretreatment coordinator, Tyler Drennan to further discuss your situation.**

We appreciate your understanding and support during this investigation. It is important to remember and understand that we all share ownership in the Districts water and wastewater assets and their protection should be most important to all of us who depend on the system to remove and treat the wastewater flows. Please contact us at 597-5080 if you have any doubt regarding anything your business is currently discharging.

Please direct your comments, questions and inquiries to the District's Pre-Treatment Coordinator, Tyler Drennan at 719 597-5080.

Sincerely,



Sean P. Chambers  
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