8739 W. Coal Mine Ave. Littleton, CO 80123 303-979-2333

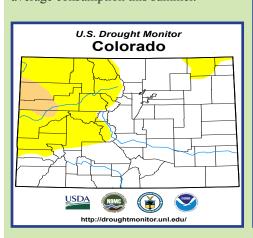


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### **Colorado Drought Update**

fter several generous months of rainfall to start 2017, July delivered below average precipitation and caused an increase in abnormally dry regions in the state. The skies opened back up in August in many areas of Colorado and allowed several regions to be moved out of any drought classification.

Fortunately Colorado's supply reservoirs are currently above both last year's levels and the historic median at this time of the year, despite the ever growing population our great state continues to see and above average consumption this summer.



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#### September 5, 2017 (Released Thursday, Sep. 7, 2017) Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	Broagne conditions (r orconeriou)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	67.49	32.51	3.72	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 08-29-2017	81.29	18.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 06-06-2017	93.84	6.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2017	31.88	68.12	37.21	2.88	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2016	70.49	29.51	2.45	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 09-06-2016	77.40	22.60	1.09	0.00	0.00	0.00

#### Intensity:

D1 Moderate Drought

D2 Severe Drought

D3 Extreme Drought

D4 Exceptional Drough

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author: Deborah Bathke

National Drought Mitigation Center



# District Crews Available 24/7 for Emergencies

o report problems with water service, sewer service, or possible water leaks, please contact Platte Canyon Water & Sanitation District at 303-979-2333 *BEFORE* calling a plumber or another contractor. After hours emergency calls are automatically directed to an on-call maintenance operations employee who will promptly return your call.

Please note that the District <u>does</u> <u>not charge</u> for responding to service calls.



# Your Water

September 2017

Visit us online at www.plattecanyon.org for more infomation about Your Water and the activities of the District.

### **Office Location and Hours**

8739 W. Coal Mine Ave. Littleton, CO 80123 Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### **Construction Project Updates**

For the most up to date

projects, visit our site at

www.PlatteCanyon.org.

information

### Replacement of PRV at West Frost Drive & South Webster Street

The project includes replacement of the six-inch pressure reducing valve (PRV) and piping within the District's PRV vault located at the corner of West Frost Drive and South Webster Street. This project is in the design phase, and once a contractor is chosen, construction should begin in late September.



Location of PRV to be replaced

### **Normandy Estates Sewer Main Rehabilitation**

The extensive rehabilitation of 7,339 feet of eight-inch sewer pipe and reestablishment of 145 service connections throughout the Normandy Estates subdivision is complete. The rehabilitation of 39 concrete manholes continues for the next six weeks.



Normandy Estates Sewer Main Rehabilitation

### South Morning Glory Lane Water Main Replacement

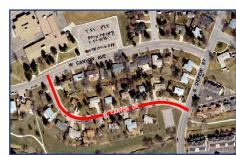
The 1,946 foot run of six-inch cast-iron pipe located on South Morning Glory Lane between South Blue Sage Drive and West Berry Avenue will be replaced with PVC pipe. This project will commence construction in late September.



S. Morning Glory Ln Water Main Replacement

### **West Canyon Drive Water Main Replacement**

Replacement of 994 feet of six-inch cast-iron pipe with PVC pipe along West Canyon Drive between West Canyon Avenue and South Depew Street is complete. Roads in the affected areas have been re-paved.



West Canyon Dr Water Main Replcaement

Page 1

Normandy Estates Sever Main Renamination West Campon Dr. Water Main Representation

# Denver Water Proposes Doubling Recycled Water Use



**7**ith our ever growing water needs in Colorado from increased population both in state and within the 18 other states where our water flows, Denver Water is constantly looking for ways to conserve our reservoirs and utilize the water we can recapture for reuse. One of the largest of these methods is the use of recycled water, or water that has run down our drains and toilets, mainly for use in irrigating crops and parks after several treatment processes. Though this water receives treatment at the Denver Water Recycling Plant, compliant to the drinking water standards of the 1980's, it does not receive the level of treatment and testing our current drinking water does. The additional treatments are often costly and energy intensive while proving to be largely unnecessary for irrigation and heating/ cooling purposes, such as being used in the Xcel Energy Cherokee power plant cooling towers.

A Denver Water plan calls for doubling the current 2.6 billion gallons of recycled water a year to at least 5.2 billion gallons a year by 2020, with a target of 19 billion gallons of recycled water by 2050. These measured goals aim to reduce how much Denver Water would need to siphon from the already strained Colorado River as population grows and temperatures rise.

One of the primary concerns with expanding the use of recycled water is the potential for bacteria to grow within the "purple pipes" (pipes designated only for reclaimed water circulation) and the possible promotion of "antibiotic resistant bacteria" within the system. The other concern that has arisen is the build-up of salts within soils and groundwater from irrigation, already showing its

effects on some plant life in parks utilizing the recycled water.

Weighing the health

concerns and environmental impacts

against our ever expanding needs for water in all facets of our lives has not been an easy process. "If there's reuse potential for that kind of water that doesn't pose any type of health risk or has an acceptable health risk – then it is something we definitely should consider," Larry Wolk, director of the CDPHE (Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment) said recently in an interview. "We won't know until that technical assessment is complete if it an acceptable risk or not. Just because it was OK in 1980 doesn't necessarily mean it is OK today – because we know a lot more, after nearly 40 years, than we knew then.'





ere in Colorado, we all know how important water is in our daily lives. Showers, coffee, the food we eat, and even a simple bottle of water; how could we make it through a day without water? That's exactly the question the Value of Water Campaign is asking with their third Imagine a Day Without Water social media enrichment push.

Join Imagine a Day Without Water on October 12th, 2017 by participating in one of the events listed on imagineadaywithoutwater.org. If you can't make it to such an event, use the #ValueWater on Facebook and Twitter

along with one of the images provided on their website to spread awareness and help educate ourselves and those around us of the importance of water!

Visit www.imagineadaywithoutwater.org

for events in your area, images to share on social media, and resources to help inform yourself and others of how valuable water truly is every day.

# Fall Lawn Care Will Pay Dividends in the Spring



hough it's tempting to break away from lawn care during fall months, remember that if lawn turf is stressed going into winter, the lawn will have problems in the spring. Thus, fall is a good time to get the grass in good shape after a hot summer.

### **Don't Stop Watering**

Many homeowners stop watering in early fall, however, historic rainfall data indicates that about ½-inch per week of irrigation is needed during fall to maintain healthy turf going into winter.

#### Fall Fertilizer Pays off in Spring

Fall fertilization is very important to the health of turf areas. Keep in mind that fertilizer products must be watered in properly to realize the full benefits of late season fertilization.

### **Control Weeds**

Fall is the best time of the year to kill perennial weeds such as dandelions, clover, and thistle. Weed killer is most effective when applied to healthy weeds.

#### **Mowing Matters**

The ideal height for growing turf in Colorado is about 2-½ to 3 inches. Mowing shorter than 2 inches can result in decreased drought resistance and height incidence of insects, diseases, and weeds. There is no reason to mow shorter in the fall. Regular mowing also helps the turf stay healthier.

### **Get Aerated**

Core aeration is also a very important part of the yearly lawn maintenance routine. Aeration relieves soil compactions and allows water and fertilizer to penetrate the ground effectively to benefit roots.

### Denver Metro Water Festival 2018 Already in the Works

he Denver Metro Water Festival is already gearing up in preparation for the 2018 events.

The goal of this event is to provide information on water conservation, the role Colorado's water plays in the western water cycle, and to complement water units within classrooms.

The event is open to sixth-graders in Denver Water's extended service area.



Look for updates in the coming weeks including the anticipated date of the event (likely mid-May 2018). Visit the Water Festival website at <a href="https://www.DenverMetroWaterFest.org">www.DenverMetroWaterFest.org</a> for the latest updates and information for volunteers, teachers, and presenters.

# Recommendations to Avoid or Mitigate Damage from a Sewer Backup

Review homeowners insurance policy to verify coverage for sewer backups.

Do not plant deep rooted trees over, or immediately adjacent to, sewer service pipes.

Do not wash grease, fats, or oils from food preparation down the drain.

Deposit these materials in the trash.

Periodically have your sewer service pipe video inspected by a reputable firm and clean the pipe when necessary.

Do not place valuable personal property on the floor close to the floor drain. Elevate such property at least a few inches off the floor or place it in plastic tubs.

Keep the telephone number for Platte Canyon Water and Sanitation District and a reputable sewer service contractor handy in case you do experience a backup.

A list of licensed contractors can be found on the Districts website at www.PlatteCanyon.org.



## Capital Improvement Plan & 2018 Budget Process

The Platte Canyon Water and Sanitation District staff is currently hard at work preparing the 2018 Capital Improvement Plan. The purpose of this Plan is to prioritize asset replacement and rehabilitation projects over the next ten years and identify projects for inclusion in the 2018 budget.

The District will be holding an annual budget hearing for the 2018 budget on November 17th at 8:30 a.m. at the district

For additional information, check out our website at www.PlatteCanyon.org.

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