Major Water Breaks Occurred Over the Last Three Months

Columbine Knolls Subdivision

On March 3rd district staff responded to reports of a significant flow of water coming up from underneath the street located on W. Rowland Place between S. Chase Way and S. Sheridan Ct. After exposing the 54-year-old pipe, it was determined the problem was Electrolysis (corrosion of the outside wall). This required a section of pipe to be removed and replaced with new pipe. Due to the extreme loss of water, severe street damage occurred. It took six hours to restore the water service and the road was repaired a few days later.

Columbine West

On April 29th district staff responded to a call regarding what was thought to be a main break. After exposing the main, it was confirmed and revealed corrosion failure next to a service connection. A section of the main pipe was removed and replaced. The ¾” service connection was then reinstated. The water service was restored in a few short hours and the street repair was concluded on May 2nd.

Columbine Hills

This break occurred on May 21, 2018 at 12:30 a.m. Initially, there was one water break reported. As the water main was being repaired, it was soon discovered there were two water main breaks as well as a significantly damaged sewer main. Crews were able to support the sewer service and water main during hours of sewer back-up prevention efforts. After evacuating the air out of the water main both services were up and running at 7 p.m. that night.

Please note, all water mains are evaluated and prioritized for replacement within the districts Capital Master Plan. This segment is expected for replacement in the near future.

Scott J Morse Pump Station Informational “Pop-Up”

We hosted our very first “Pop-Up” event at the Scott J Morse Pump station on Tuesday, June 12th from 4 pm – 6 pm. The pump station is located on the corner of West Ken Caryl Ave. and South Zephyr Court. Our main goal for this event was to invite our customers in that area to come and interact with their water and sewer service provider. We opened our event to those in the surrounding areas to ask questions and voice their concerns on the project. Our hope was to inform those who were curious about the project and provide more clarity around the project. If you were unable to visit our booth or if you have any questions on the project, please call the District and we will be happy to assist you. Thank you for all those that were interested in attending out first event. We are very thankful for the time we had in the community.
Denver Metro Water Festival Outcome

This year marked the 5th annual Denver Metro Water Festival hosted at Metropolitan State University of Denver, Auraria Campus. Hosted by Denver Water, the Suburban Distributors of Denver Water, and the One World One Water Center at Metropolitan State University of Denver, the Denver Metro Water Festival is a unique opportunity to provide unbiased water-related education to sixth graders in Denver Water’s extended service area.

This year was nothing but a success! The weather was great, the presenters were fantastic, and the students couldn’t have been more eager to learn about water. There were ten schools with more than 1,200 students who participated in learning the importance of water at this year’s festival. This annual festival was a community event for metro area students and an opportunity for individuals and organizations throughout the state to participate through presentations, volunteerism and sponsorships.

Platte Canyon staff volunteered to assist teachers and students around the campus. Students learned everything from water conservation to how much water is in a single vegetable. These teaching moments truly benefit students in the understanding of where water comes from and why it is vital to not take it for granted. Platte Canyon is already looking forward to next year’s Festival! If you would like to know more about the Denver Metro Water Festival, visit the website: http://www.denver-metrowaterfest.org/.

Construction Project Updates

Normandy Estates Subdivision – Located on S. Sheridan Blvd. between W. Coal Mine Ave. and W. Ontario Ave. and in S. Sheridan Blvd. between Dutch Creek Dr. and W. Leawood Dr. Severe metallic corrosion has occurred to existing steel pipe and needs to be replaced. This project will consist of replacing 805’ of 18” steel pipe as well as replacing 680’ of 16” steel pipe originally installed in 1960. This project is in the design stage.

Columbine Manor Subdivision – This project is located in W. Geddes Cir. This project is between North and South Intersections of Platte Canyon Dr. The purpose of this project is to replace 1,378 feet of 6” cast iron pipe originally installed in 1961 due to multiple leaks. The original piping will be replaced with 1,378’ of 6-inch PVC pipe. The project status is ready for construction.

Leawood Subdivision – Located in S. Sheridan Blvd. between addresses 6159 and 6249 S. Sheridan Blvd. The purpose of this project was to rehabilitate five manholes on a 16” sewer main with a specific lining material (Spectrashield) and to replace the steps as well. This project has recently been completed.

Scott Hand Celebrates 38 Years with the District

Scott Hand started working for Platte Canyon in June of 1980. Scott has been with the District longer than anyone who works here currently, apart from the District Manager, Pat Fitzgerald.

He began his service as an Operator I employee and was later promoted to the operations foreman position. In 2005, he became what is now his current role, Operations Supervisor. As supervisor, Scott oversees six employees charged with operating and maintaining all water and wastewater infrastructure, vehicles and buildings owned by Platte Canyon, Southwest Metropol-itan, Bow Mar, Columbine, Lochmoor Water and Sanitation Districts, and Valley Sanitation District. He has obtained the highest levels of certification for water distribution system and wastewater collection system operations offered by the Colorado Water and Wastewater Operations Certification Board.

Scott is well known by many District customers as an employee that goes above and beyond the call of duty when responding to customer service requests, diagnosing problems and effectuating repairs. He knows the Districts inside and out and is willing to help whoever whenever. He has always been a team player and supporting coworker.

When asking co-worker Tony Cococezza about Hand, this was his response, “To me he seems like he is everywhere doing everything! He maintains all the work orders, the maintenance trucks, SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) that includes reporting, troubleshooting and replacing parts, water pump stations (operations, maintenance of pumps and SCADA), sewer lift stations (maintenance, operations), all the outfall pipes (large sewer collection pipes), the list goes on!”

Scott is a dedicated worker and manages to run a smooth operations team. Outside of work Scott enjoys fishing, being with family and appreciating the outdoors. Some of his hobbies include going to antique car shows and going to the Bandimere car races. We are truly lucky to have such a committed individual as part of our family at Platte Canyon. Thank you for all that you do, Scott!!

JULY IS SMART IRRIGATION MONTH!

Smart Irrigation Month is an Irrigation Association initiative to promote the social, economic and environmental benefits of efficient irrigation technologies, products and services in landscape, turf and agricultural irrigation. Below are some summer tips on how to be efficient and conserve water while still maintaining a beautiful yard.

Landscape Watering – One of the most important steps in maintaining a healthy landscape is effective watering. A properly watered lawn and garden is more resistant to pests and other lawn problems. However, much of the water used to maintain our landscapes is wasted through inefficient watering techniques. By developing a water efficient lawn and garden, you can maintain a healthy and beautiful yard that benefits the environment.

July is Smart Irrigation Month! Water Mistakes - Much of the water applied to lawns and gardens never gets absorbed by the plants. Common ways that water is wasted include: Runoff... Applying too much water in too short of a time. Evaporation...Watering in the middle of the day or using sprinklers that spray a fine mist causes much of the water you apply to be lost. Plants do not have enough time to absorb the water before it is evaporated by the sun. Overwatering... Applying too much or too often causes the greatest waste of water.

Watering Correctly - Water more often for shorter periods in the same cycle. Move your sprinkler or set your system to run for three five-minute intervals letting the soil absorb more water. Morning or evenings are the best times to water. Water only when needed.