



May 2009

Newsletter

TODD CREEK VILLAGE
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT
Smart Water Homes



VOICE OF THE VILLAGE

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New District Office

Reminder: We're settled into our new office space next to the Greater Brighton Fire Protection District, Fire Station #55. For your convenience, we also have a payment drop box.

The District open house has been postponed to a later date TBD.

March Average Bill

Average Monthly Todd Creek Village Water Use: 4,000 gallons (potable residential customers)
16,000 gallons (potable commercial customers)

(This information is provided as a guide to help you understand general water consumption amounts.)

Wise Watering – Smart Gardening

Now that irrigation systems are on and landscapes are beginning to green up again, let's do our part in being responsible water consumers. Especially in our semi-arid, drought-ridden climate, it's really up to every consumer to use water resources responsibly today and for generations to follow.

Can we promote your water efficiency?

Last month, our newsletter profiled homeowner Noel Guerrero and the amazing job he did on landscaping his 1-1/2 acre lot with drought-tolerant plants and perennials, lots of trees, and minimal grass to achieve water efficiency, yet still enjoy beautiful surroundings. We'd like to showcase and share ideas of other great Todd Creek Village landscapes. Please send us a brief description of what you've done to your landscape or some tips on how you use water efficiently. Inspiration is easily shared and greatly appreciated! Send your email to: customers@toddcreekvillage.org

Why Water Management is Important

By: Craig R. Miller, Colorado Water Conservation Specialist



Where does the water come from?

- Denver Basin aquifers (Dawson, Denver, Arapahoe, Laramie-Fox Hills) contain an estimated total of 467 million acre-feet of water, 269 million of which are recoverable. These 269 million acre-feet of water are more than 1,000 times the water in the Dillon Reservoir.
- An acre-foot of water is approximately 326,000 gallons of water. This is equivalent to one foot of water on top of a football field (not including the end zones). A family of four uses about 1/2 to 2/3 of an acre-foot of water per year.

Why should you conserve water?

- Across the country, our growing population is putting stress on available water supplies. Between 1950 and 2000, the U.S. population nearly doubled. However, in that same period, public demand for water more than tripled!

New Service: Online Payments

Due to growing customer requests, online payments are now available via our webpage link. Please note: ACH payments have a 55 cent service fee; credit card payments have a 2.5% service fee (charged by the companies, not the District). We are glad to be able to provide this additional option to make the payment of your water bill easier for those who want it!

Your Email is Needed for Water Notifications

We need your email address to be able to communicate quickly when something you may want to participate in is going on. Of course, in the event of any water related issue (such as a line break or water pressure irregularity), a Water Notification Email Alert is the fastest way to reach every one of our 1200+ customers. Please be assured of your complete privacy. This information is solely for our communication purposes to you directly. We appreciate you taking care of this today! Simply send us an email and include your customer account number, address or ID. Thank you!

Visit Our Reverse Osmosis Treatment Plant!

Consider a different and very interesting mini-field trip for your kids over age 7 this summer! Small groups (4-6 people at a time) will be fascinated to see how this highly sophisticated water treatment process works. Kind of looks like you're sterilizing spaghetti! Email: customers@toddcreekvillage.org and put "RO visit" in subject line

TODD CREEK VILLAGE,
Smart Water Homes!

www.toddcreekvillage.org

General Questions
customers@toddcreekvillage.org

NOTE: our new office location:
10450 E 159th Ct.
Brighton, CO 80602

Our mailing address:
PO Box 490
Brighton, CO 80601
303.637.0344

- Americans now use an average of 100 gallons of water each day—enough to fill 1,600 drinking glasses! This increased demand has put additional stress on water supplies and distribution systems, threatening both human health and the environment.
- There's a reason that water has become a national priority. A recent government survey showed at least 36 states are anticipating local, regional, or statewide water shortages by 2013.

We Tend to Overwater

- More than half the water used between May and October is used for landscape irrigation.
- Based on community water use figures, 40% to 50% of that landscape irrigation water is wasted!

Expectations for Bluegrass in Colorado

- Bluegrass does NOT require heavy irrigation – water use depends on expectations.
- Good performance spring and fall, and when weather is cool and rainy.
- Expect brown spots and discoloration during the heat of summer!
- This is especially true if your irrigation efficiency is poor, or soil preparation is inadequate (typical in our landscapes).



Irrigation Efficiency

- Match irrigation application to soil type and root depth. Avoid applying more water than can be contained in the root zone.
- Irrigate according to the requirements of the plants.
- Water lawns and shrub beds/perennial beds separately. (These should be on different irrigation zones.)
- Water trees and shrubs, which have deeper root systems, longer and less frequently than shallow rooted plants.
- Do not over water - most established vegetation does not require more than one inch per week depending on the season and rainfall. Plants will develop deeper roots and ultimately require less watering when not over-watered.
- Watering too frequently may promote some diseases in the landscape.
- Distribution uniformity
- How evenly your irrigation system applies water
- Poor uniformity = excessively wet or dry areas
- "Head-to-head" Coverage – the water from one sprinkler goes all the way to the next sprinkler.
- Watering time?
- Night / early morning is best (10 PM to 6 AM)
- Reduced evaporation
- Less wind
- Avoid hours of peak water demand

The Footprint Test

- The easiest way to determine if your lawn needs water is the simple footprint rebound test. If the plants immediately rebound (upright themselves) after a firm step of the foot, then the plants are not under stress from lack of water.
- If, however, the grass lays flat and does not recover quickly, it's probably time to water your lawn.

Due to our dual-pipe irrigation system of potable and non-potable water use, Todd Creek Village is one of the most water-efficient residential communities in Colorado; however, practicing smart water management is still something all Coloradans must do. We applaud you for your efforts and for choosing to live in a water-efficient community!!

Cost Comparison of Various Liquids to Tap Water

	<u>Cost Per Gallon</u>	<u>Per 1,000 Gallons</u>
TCVMD Tap	\$0.00125	\$12.25
Fiji Bottled	\$8.43	\$8,426.00
Aquafina	\$10.24	\$10,240.00
Perrier	\$11.73	\$11,733.00
Evian	\$18.03	\$18,026.66
Red Bull Energy	\$21.76	\$21,176.00



Why quench your thirst with anything but our high quality, least expensive tap water in an environmentally-safe, refillable container?

Happy Mothers Day!!