



Winter 2009

# WATER LINES

Green Mountain Water and Sanitation District is governed by a five-member, elected Board of Directors. The Board meets at the District office, 13919 W. Utah Avenue at 6 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. Citizens are welcome and encouraged to attend.  
Office Phone: 303-985-1581 • Web site: greenmountainwater.org

## District proposes new rates for 2009

Each year, the Board of Directors for Green Mountain Water and Sanitation District has to review and analyze the water and sewer rates for the coming year. This year, the Board is faced with tremendous increases to the cost of delivering water and sewer service to the customers of the District.

Denver Water has increased the cost of water charged to Master Meter Districts by 12.7 percent, increasing the rates charged to the district by \$.34 per 1,000 gallons. With all other costs associated with delivering water to customers such as pumping charges, utility charges, fuel cost etc, the District finds that it will be necessary to increase the base rates charged to customers by another \$.12 per 1,000 gallons.

In an effort to help promote water conservation as well as cover the increased cost of water, the Green Mountain Board of Directors has proposed using the tiered water rate structure at the right and also increasing the operations fee. The allowable water usage for the first tier of the water rates will be designed to give customers an average amount of indoor water usage and still allow for some outdoor water usage.

The proposed first tier for water usage will remain the same at 0 to 22,000 gallons. The next tier will be set from 23,000 gallons to 60,000 gallons. This tier was designed to allow for an average amount of outdoor usage. The last tier of 60,000+ is designed as a tool to help signal to customers the need for conserving water. Usage above this average level will be charged a higher rate.

As mentioned above, the Board feels it is also necessary to raise the operations fee charged to customers. This fee is used to cover the cost

Proposed 2009 Water Rates (Gallons 1,000s)		
<b>Residential</b>		
<b>2009</b>		
0-22 \$3.42	23 - 60 \$3.96	61 + \$4.54
<b>2008</b>		
0-22 \$2.96	23 + \$3.50	
<b>Multi-Family*</b>		
<b>2009</b>		
0-11 \$3.42	12 -30 \$3.96	31 + \$4.54
<b>2008</b>		
0-11 \$2.96	12 + \$3.50	
<b>Commercial</b>		
<b>2009</b>		
All Usage		\$3.96
<b>2008</b>		
All Usage		\$3.50
* 3 Units or more. Tiers are allowed usage per unit per tier.		
<b>Penalties for late payments:</b> 5% of past due balance which is greater than \$20.00		

of operating the District's office, a portion of the employee cost, and the insurance cost of all District facilities. To cover increases in these costs, the Board proposes raising this rate by \$1.50 per month. This will amount to an annual increase in this fee of \$18.00.

The District is also faced with a 10 percent increase in what it has to pay the Metro Wastewater Reclamation District for sewer treatment flows, and this will cause a bump in sewer rates for District customers.

These costs to the District for this year will exceed \$1.5 million.

The District is also faced with higher costs for maintaining the existing sewer system because of the use of high pressure jet cleaning, video inspection, and spot repairs of broken sections of older lines in the District. Every year, it uses the high pressure jet truck to clean over 120 miles of sanitary sewer lines. During this process,

# 2009 Construction projects

Each year the District plans construction projects to repair or replace problem water and sewer main lines. These are the projects the District has identified for 2009.

## Water main replacement in S. Braun Drive

The District and the customers on S. Braun Drive have experienced a number of water main breaks on the water line. We will contract to have a new 8-inch water main installed from S. Beech St to W. Mississippi Ct. This water main replacement will require several outages during the replacement process. The contractor will deliver notices for each planned outage to the homeowners affected by the work.

## Pressure reducing valve replacements

The District is in the process of replacing older pressure reducing valves used to control the water pressure on the District's main lines. This involves the construction of a new vault to accom-

modate the new p.r.v.s. and controls. The District's contractor will be working to replace pressure reducing valves at 13150 W. Cedar Dr., 2700 S. Alkire St, and 11991 W. Dakota Dr.

## Spot repairs of the sewer main lines

Each year the District uses the video inspection van to inspect the sewer main lines of the District. While this work progresses, we have identified different sections of the sewer main where a small spot repair of the main line can be done without having to dig up or excavate that location.

The District has the equipment to place a repair or patch made of fiber material reinforced with resin to form a hard plastic-type repair inside the existing line. By repairing these small sections of line, the District can maintain the integrity of the sewer system and save on the cost of doing excavations. This work usually involves several trucks and a large trailer working in the street for one day at each location. The District's crews will be making repairs at over 50 locations this year.

# Trouble with sewer service?

Don't get caught paying for major repair of your sewer service line when it may not be necessary. When you have a sewer backup in your home, the first thing you think about is how do I make sure this doesn't happen again. Many sewer service companies are telling customers that the only way to avoid this is to have the sewer service line completely replaced.

This is a very expensive solution that can end up costing many thousands of dollars. Many times a total replacement of the service line is not necessary. Here are some recommended steps to take before having the service line replaced.

## Call the District

If you have a sewer backup, call the District at 303-985-1581 and stop using water in your home. The District's trained personnel will come out to see if the main line in front of your home is clear. If there is a problem, they will clear the stoppage and restore normal flow.

If the problem is in the service line,

call several different sewer service or roto rooter type companies for their hourly rates and charges for a typical service call.

Ask the company if they offer video inspection services with a recorded tape of the inspection of the service line. A video can answer many of the questions involved in making decisions on how best to repair or replace the line. This can only be done after the service line has been cleared of any blockages that caused the sewer backup.

Before making a decision on having major repair work done, bring a copy of the tape recorded inspection to the District office. The staff will review the tape free of charge.

## Before you have problems

- Check with the company that carries your homeowner's insurance. Many companies offer insurance coverage or special riders for damage from a sewer backup in your home.
- Do not plant deep-rooted trees over or immediately adjacent to sewer service lines.

# Rate Changes

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tree roots, grease and debris are removed from the main lines that carry sewage to the treatment plant. The District's video inspection truck is used to find and locate broken or damaged sections of the sewer mains, document tap locations and determine the general condition of the main lines. These videos are then reviewed to assess the damaged sections of pipeline for repair or replacement.

The District has equipment to make repairs up to 10 feet in length. Major damage or longer repairs require slip-lining or total replacement of the sewer mains. Right now, the District is able to do this maintenance work for approximately one-third of the cost of contracting this work out which saves Green Mountain customers quite a bit of money.

Unfortunately, the costs to maintain, fuel, and man this equipment continue to rise on a daily basis. Therefore, the District needs to increase the sewer rates charged to customers to help cover these expenses and the increases for sewage treatment from the Metro Wastewater Reclamation District.

## Proposed New Rates Sewer Charges

### Residential Customers

\$2.00/1000 to **\$2.75/1000** gallons

### Commercial/Multi-Family

\$2.35/1000 to **\$3.00/1000** gallons

## Operations Fee

### Residential

\$17.00/billing to **\$20.00** per billing

### Multi-Family

\$8.50/billing to **\$10.00** per unit/per billing

### Commercial

\$8.50/billing to **\$10.00** SFRE/per billing\*

### Tamarisk Sub-division Lift Station

\$7.50 to **\$9.50** per billing flat

\*(SFRE based on meter size)

SFRE=Single Family Residential Equivalent

## Pay your water bill on line at: [www.greenmountainwater.org](http://www.greenmountainwater.org)

The District accepts MasterCard and Visa for these payments, and after you get registered, you will be able to view your current water bill and make payments.

## Green Mountain Board of Directors

**Michael P. Lantz**, President; **David B. Anderson**, Vice President ([danderson@greenmountainwater.org](mailto:danderson@greenmountainwater.org));

**Kenneth J. Kroneberger**, Secretary; **Douglas Neil Beck**, Treasurer ([dbeck@greenmountainwater.org](mailto:dbeck@greenmountainwater.org));

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