



White City Water Improvement District

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GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT JUNE 2019

Summer Temperatures and Watering Tips:

This past Winter and Spring have seen an abundance of snow and rain. As a consequence, the "drought" that has been so much a part of the mountain west is no longer in place. Seasons turn, however, and with the coming of June and the warmer months to come, it is time to ensure your outdoor watering is both efficient and economic. In that regard a typical Utah household will, according to the Utah Department of Natural Resources, use twice as much water outside as necessary. Further, White City Water Improvement District ("WCWID"), while grateful for its plentiful water supply, wants all of its water users to not "waste" water. To accomplish this, we encourage all of you to take time to check your outdoor sprinklers to ensure they are creating a uniform watering pattern. You can do this by placing same size containers, (such as plastic cups or cans) in grid pattern around your lawn and then run all the sprinklers for ten minutes. The depth of water in each container should be the same. If not, your sprinkler heads may need adjustment. *(A typical pop-up sprinkler head will place approximately 1/4 inch of water in 10 minutes. A Rotor Head sprinkler will apply 1/8 inch. - The key in uniformity of application.)* When you know your sprinklers are adjusted properly, follow the guidelines found at the website: conservewater.utah.gov for how often watering is needed. Last, but not least, avoid watering outside between 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM when, due to heat, much of the water you are applying will evaporate without accomplishing what your desire - a vibrant and healthy lawn and garden. At the same time, don't forget to water your plants as it takes an overabundance of water to bring them back to life when previously ignored.

Staff Changes and New Hires:

At the end of last year, Rhonda Withers, WCWID's Assistant Manager, retired after nearly 18 years with the water district. She was a valued employee and we hated to see her leave. As result of her retirement, WCWID restructured to continue the outstanding service provided to the water users.

Ryan Johnson's responsibilities as Operations Manager have been increased to take over reporting and documenting the district's water data for the State Division of Drinking Water and other tasks previously performed by the assistant manager. In addition, Ryan will continue to supervise and manage operations and maintenance of water infrastructure and oversee the Operations staff consisting of **James Lucas, Assistant Operations Manager, Danny Bowles and new hire David Winger**. [All employees in the Operations Department have been certified by the State of Utah as Level IV Water Distribution operators.]

Elaine Christensen, another long-term employee, has been promoted to Office Manager and supervises and manages the administrative functions of the district, such as human resources, accounts payable and receivable and interactions with WCWID customers. She oversees the administrative staff of **Cindy Hanni and new hire Allan Perry**. As General Manager/General Counsel of WCWID, I could not be happier with the staff of the water district. Each and every one of them is trained and committed to provide you with the best service possible and each is committed to do what is needed to ensure WCWID's continues to be one of the best, if not best, public water supplier in the State of Utah.

So, you can better know your staff, it is our view the water users own the water system, I thought I would start sharing a short biographical sketch in these newsletters. This month, the new hires:

Allan Perry, WCWID's financial clerk, grew up in the White City community and attended Alta View Elementary School, Eastmont Middle School, and Jordan High School. Following high school, and spending time in Brazil on a mission for his church, Allan attended Utah State University where he earned a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture and Environmental Planning. He then worked out of state for a couple of years on environmental review for utility projects before returning home to work for a bank. He owns a home in the White City Metro Township and is a member of the municipal council. Allan and his wife enjoy living in this part of the valley and being involved in our community. He is excited to now be working for WCWID and we are pleased to have him as a member of the Administrative staff.

Winger is the newest member of our Operations team. He grew up in Riverton and attended Riverton High school. David has over a decade of construction experience working for both A-Core concrete cutting and Sandy City public works. David has been with White City water for 6 months now and has excelled in learning the system, as well as passing the Level IV water distribution operation certificate test. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his 2 children, taking them camping and fishing. David has already been a valuable asset to the operations staff in his short time with the district and we consider ourselves lucky to have him.

WCWID Election Moved to General Election Cycle:

Pursuant to Utah Code §17B-1-306(13), the election for trustees to serve on the WCWID Board of Trustees has been moved to the General Election cycle starting in November 2020. When first created, WCWID's elections were on the General Election cycles occurring in even numbered years. Subsequently, the Legislature changed all local district elections to the Municipal Election cycles occurring in odd numbered years. In 2014, the Legislature changed its mind and amended the code to allow for some local districts to go back to the General Election cycle if it could result in "potential cost savings, a potential increase in voter turnout, or for another material reason." (See citation above.) WCWID applied for the change because it serves residents in Sandy City, White City Metro Township and unincorporated Salt Lake County. The change of WCWID's election to 2020 will avoid confusion that might result if the election were to occur at the same time as the Sandy City and White City Metro Township elections scheduled for this upcoming November 2019. The Lt. Governor agreed to the application and election has been moved. WCWID encourages its residents to participate in their upcoming municipal elections.

Additional Steps to Protect Water System From "Backflow":

Two months ago, I wrote about WCWID's program to protect our culinary water supply from contamination that can arise from "backflow" feeding into the water distribution system from homes, businesses and sprinklers. Starting this summer, WCWID will take an additional step to prevent "backflow" contamination. WCWID will start to change out "setters" upon which meters are set in the meter barrels at various homes within the district. The new setters (copper pipes that connect to each side of a meter) will have contained within them a dual check valve which will only allow water to flow one direction from the water main to the house. The valve will act as an additional backflow prevention device and, when used with other backflow assemblies placed on newer sprinkler systems, will act as safeguard for the system.

One consequence of the new setters is that water pressure that builds up in home as a result of water heaters will not be able to dissipate by flowing into the general water system. Homes with PRVs are already a "closed system" and the new setters will simply be an additional safety feature for the district. With a "closed system". water pressure will have to be dealt with internally in a home by use of an "expansion tank". A more detailed letter describing the meter setter change out program will be sent to homeowners prior to the change out. If you have any questions about the program or whether or not your home has a PRV or other pressure relieving mechanisms, please call the office and ask for either Ryan Johnson or James Lucas, both of whom are certified Backflow Administrators. They will try to answer your questions or refer you to a licensed plumber for assistance.

ENJOY THE GOOD WEATHER OF SUMMER AND BE WISE IN YOUR WATER USE.

Thank you.

Paul H Ashton, General Manager/General Counsel