



White City Water Improvement District

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GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT JULY 2020

Construction of New Building Moves Forward:

The new Administrative Building for the White City Water Improvement District is moving forward. Footings and foundation walls, together with start of the elevator shaft have been formed and concrete is in the process of being poured. The privacy fence which has been installed by the contractor, Wasatch West Contracting LLC, makes it difficult for our customers to track the construction. Everything, thus far, is on schedule and we hope to occupy the new building on or around the end the year. The old administrative building, which does not meet seismic standards will then be torn down in the spring of 2021 to make way for additional parking and landscaping. We are looking forward to the completion of the new building and the advantages it will bring not only to WCWID's staff, such as it being seismically sound, but also to the residents of WCWID.

WCWID's elected Board of Trustees, are committed to providing pristine deep well water to the water users, using cost-based rates and no property taxes, WCWID is also committed to being a good neighbor and to make the new building a welcome addition to the neighborhood and community.

For the Twenty-Fifth Year, the Board of Trustees Have Voted to Not Impose a Property Tax:

WCWID is a local district under the Utah Code, Title 17B, Chapter 2a, Part 4. It is governed by a five-member elected Board of Trustees, each of whom are elected at-large. As a government entity, WCWID could impose property taxes to meet expenses. Almost all local districts do so. WCWID, however, has chosen since its purchase of the old White City water system in 1995 to **NOT IMPOSE PROPERTY TAXES, BUT TO INSTEAD RELY UPON COST-BASED WATER RATES** to meet its financial obligations. This past month, Salt Lake County asked if WCWID wanted to continue that policy, and the Trustees voted unanimously to do so. Once again, when you see your property tax bills, you do not pay any property tax to WCWID. Further, because WCWID considers itself to be owned by the water users (the water users having voted overwhelmingly to purchase to the old water system using bonds), the Board of Trustees has not raised your water rates for the last 13 years.

Summer Temperatures and Watering Tips:

With the coming of Summer, it is time to ensure your outdoor watering once again is both efficient and economic. In that regard, according to the Utah Department of Natural Resources, a typical Utah household will use twice as much water outside watering, as necessary. WCWID is blessed with a plentiful water supply that does not require chemical treatment, and we encourage the wise use of that 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, as discussed in the past, try to avoid watering outside between 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM, due to heat, much of the water you are applying will simply evaporate without accomplishing what you desire - a vibrant and healthy lawn and garden. At the same time, don't let your yards and gardens go without water and care. Weeds will simply grow and when you decide to "clean up" by once again watering, you will end up having to use an excess of water to save your plants. Be a good neighbor and water wisely and consistently.

WCWID Election Has Been Moved to General Election Cycle:

Pursuant to Utah Code §17B-1-306(13), the election of trustees to serve on the WCWID Board of Trustees has been moved to the General Election cycle starting this upcoming November. 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, once again, 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 be different from the municipal cycle, will eliminate confusion that might exist with some voters that might confuse the Metro Township election and the District election as both entities have "White City" in their name. [The community was initially developed and built by Kenneth White, who named his development after himself in 1955.] This year, Three of the Five Trustees are up for election. The three incumbents, Paulina Flint, Robert Johansen and Christy Seiger-Webster are running for re-election and Tracy Holt has also filed a notice of candidacy. The election will be held by mail and registered voters will be asked to vote for three of the four candidates to serve four-year terms starting in January 2021. More details about the upcoming election will be provided in future newsletter. WCWID encourages its residents to participate in all the upcoming elections, from Presidential, Governor, to Local District elections.

Additional Steps to Protect Water System From "Backflow":

A few months ago, I wrote about WCWID's program to protect our culinary water supply from contamination which can arise from "backflow" feeding into the water distribution system from homes, businesses and sprinklers. In addition to other steps taken to protect the water system, WCWID is taking an additional step to prevent "backflow" contamination. WCWID is starting 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.

As explained before, one consequence of the new setters is that water pressure that builds up in home because 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." 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