

## **WET'S NEW??**

### **An update from the Board of the Mountain Water and Sanitation District**

#### **GOOD NEWS/BAD NEWS**

The Good News... in April , MWSD paid off \$690,054.67 in bonds to the USDA, which means you'll see a reduction in your property tax bill next year. The USDA required us to pay off the Series 1981 bonds based on our sound financial picture.

The bad news is that the payoff has severely cut into our reserve funds for capital improvements, and that may create serious financial concerns in the near future. That's because we are under state mandate to remove radionuclides – radium and uranium – from our water and ammonia from our wastewater. The MWSD Board is currently working with consultants to determine the best removal methods and will then develop a financing plan. Depending on the costs involved, we may need to request taxpayer approval for additional bonded indebtedness to pay for these mitigation efforts. Stay tuned!!

#### **SORRY, NO OUTDOOR WATERING... BY COURT ORDER!**

Yes, we know it's been a wet and soggy spring, and yes, our wells are fat and happy. But NO, you still can't do outside watering. That's because the outside watering ban comes not from the MWSD based on annual rain or snowfall, but from the water court ruling.

The decree issued in 1983 by Colorado District Court, Water Division, granting MWSD water rights, states "The District shall enact and enforce rules and regulations prohibiting outside irrigation, street cleaning and car washing. Said rules and regulations may not be modified without prior approval of this Court."

#### **NEW BILLING SYSTEM**

Our old, tired billing software is being put to rest after numerous crashes. We are purchasing a new program, which will result in very minor changes in the amount billed for water and sewer use, usually 10 cents per bill or less.

The significant change is that we will be billing on total gallons used during the billing period rather than Average Daily Use. Because billing periods vary depending on the number of days in the month, some of your monthly bills may be less than before and some more. But it all works out in the end.

The bills will continue to show the charges for water and sewer separately. These charges are apportioned to more closely reflect the actual costs involved, but there is no rate increase.

**PLEASE, NO PAINT DUMPING**

Did you know that when you dump paint in your sewer, you create havoc at the sewer treatment plant? That's because we use a biological media to treat the sewage, and paint kills our microscopic bugs. So, please don't dump paint in the sewer lines. Instead, try pouring leftover paint on newspaper and putting the dried solids in your trash. Our bugs thank you!!

Who is MSWD?

Mitch Swenson, Superintendent  
Launa Rae Warinner, Administrative Assistant  
Don

**Board members**

Sandy Drennan, President  
Chuck Morey, Vice President  
Marilyn Saltzman, Secretary  
Ken Pfohl, Treasurer  
Dave Watts,

MSWD Water Trivia  
2005 Number of taps  
Number of wells  
Annual usage