

WET'S NEW??

**An update from the Mountain Water and Sanitation District
September 2005**

Radionuclide Removal Update

The district has received an Enforcement Order from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment regarding radionuclide removal from the district water supply. Under the order, the timeline is for all remediation to be completed by March 31, 2007.

The district has been working with an engineering firm regarding the removal and had come up with a plan, which we presented to the state Water Quality Control Division. However, since the plan affected the district's sludge, it also had to be presented to the state's wastewater division, which found it unacceptable. This wrinkle put us behind in the planning.

Given the estimated costs of the remediation project and the fact that our initial solution was rejected, the Board doesn't believe it is fiscally responsible or practical to make all the improvements by March 2007. Therefore, the Board has instructed its attorney to file an objection to the enforcement order.

With over a million dollars required to comply with water and wastewater regulations, the Board is looking at how to best fund the projects with the least financial impact on residents. The district may have to borrow money to complete these projects, and that would require taxpayer approval.

At the same time, the Board is concerned about ensuring that the drinking water is safe for Kings Valley residents. Therefore, we are going ahead with design plans for radionuclide remediation.

We have signed a contract with an engineering firm to design individual well treatment systems that wouldn't affect the sludge. In addition, the district has turned off the wells that are most out of compliance related to radionuclide content. We are exploring installing a pumping system that would allow the district to use the good wells and permanently stop using the offending wells. This system would pump water from the lower part of the district to the holding tank at the top of the district.

The district also has hired an engineering firm to design a system to remove ammonia from the wastewater, which is also required by state regulation.

New Billing System

The MWSD office has been receiving a lot of calls about the new bills. Please note that the computer program prints out the dates so that the year is first, then the month, then the day.

Getting Ready for Winter

If you plan to be gone an extended length of time over the winter, don't let your pipes freeze and/or burst! Remember, you are responsible to pay for any water that is used in your home, even if it's because of a pipe break. Call the district office, 303-838-1800, if you want your water turned off. This service is free from Oct. 1 to March 31. Someone needs to be home at the time of shutoff and turn on.

Who is MWSD?

Staff

Mitchell Swenson, Superintendent
Don Staal, Assistant Superintendent
Launa Rae Warinner, Office Manager

Board members

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

The Board of Directors meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of every month in the district office. The meetings are open to the public, and all residents are invite to attend. If you wish to be placed on the agenda, please contact Launa Rae Warinner in advance of the meeting at 838-1800.