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## Want to Receive Your Newsletter Electronically?

The District is now offering a new way to receive our quarterly Newsletter! The e-newsletter will be emailed in a PDF version at the time our paperback newsletters get sent. This system will not flood your inbox with emails, you will only receive emails every quarter when our Newsletter is mailed. Your information will be kept private and you may unsubscribe at any time to start receiving the mailed Newsletter once again. We hope this option serves District customers well, informing you of District happenings in a convenient new way.

If you have any questions regarding the e-newsletter, you can call Tayler Newkirk at our district office, 303-979-2333.

To start receiving your Newsletter electronically, send us an email following these simple steps:

"To" field: info@swmetrowater.org

"Subject" field: "E-Newsletter Sign Up"

"Message" field: Your name & address where you receive the mailed Newsletter

### Festival continued

importance of water at this year's festival. This annual festival was a community event for metro area students and an opportunity for individuals and organizations throughout the state to participate through presentations, volunteerism and sponsorships.

Southwest Metro staff volunteered to assist teachers and students around the campus. Students learned everything from water conservation to how much water is in a single vegetable. These teaching moments truly benefit students in the understanding of where water comes from and why it is vital to not take it for granted. Southwest Metro staff is already looking forward to next years Festival! For more information about the Denver Metro Water Festival, visit the website: http://www.denvermetrowaterfest.org/

Southwest Metropolitan Water & Sanitation District QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

# **District Revamping Current Website!**

Our new and improved website is set to launch in October 2018! We are very excited to bring a fresh and inviting look to our website to better help our customers with all their needs and concerns. Our hope is it will provide a welcoming experience for users. The new design will serve to provide users an easy pathway to find the information they were originally seeking. We are paying careful attention to site navigation and usability as well as functioning communication tools that highlight district news, events and services for the community. Our expectation is this will offer the simplest experience while providing the most requested items with the fewest clicks possible. We look forward to launching our new site come this fall!

## Denver Metro Water **Festival Outcome**

This year marked the 5th annual Denver Metro Water Festival hosted at Metropolitan State University of Denver, Auraria Campus. Hosted by Denver Water, the Suburban Distributors of Denver Water, and the One World One Water Center at Metropolitan State University of Denver, the Denver Metro Water Festival is a unique opportunity to provide unbiased water-related education to sixth graders in Denver Water's extended service area.



### SOUTHWEST METROPOLITAN WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT



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SUMMER | VERSION 2018.2





This year was nothing but a success! The weather was great, the presenters were fantastic, and the students couldn't have been more eager to learn about water. There were ten schools with more than 1,200 students who participated in learning the see *festival* on page 4

# Scott Hand Celebrates 38 Years with the District

Scott Hand started working for Platte Canyon in June of 1980. Scott has been with the District longer than anyone who works here currently, apart from the District Manager, Pat Fitzgerald.

He began his service as an Operator I employee and was later promoted to the operations foreman position. In 2005, he became what is now his current role, Operations Supervisor. As supervisor, Scott oversees six employees charged with operating and maintaining all water and wastewater infrastructure, vehicles and buildings owned by Platte Canyon, Southwest Metropolitan, Bow Mar, Columbine, Lochmoor Water and Sanitation Districts, and Valley Sanitation District. He has obtained the highest levels of certification for water distribution system and wastewater collection system operations offered by the Colorado Water and Wastewater Operations Certification Board.

Scott is well known by many District customers as an employee that goes above and beyond the call of duty when responding to customer service requests, diagnosing problems and effectuating repairs. He knows





the Districts inside and out and is willing to help whoever whenever. He has always been a team player and supporting coworker.

When asking coworker Tony Cocozzella about Hand,

this was his response, "To me he seems like he is everywhere doing everything! He maintains all the work orders, the maintenance trucks, SCA-DA (Supervisory Control and Data Aquisition) that includes reporting, troubleshooting and replacing parts, water pump stations (operations, maintenance of pumps and SCADA), sewer lift stations (maintenance, operations), all the outfall pipes (large sewer collection pipes), the list goes on!"

Scott is a dedicated worker and manages to run a smooth operations team. Outside of work Scott enjoys fishing, being with family and appreciating the outdoors. Some of his hobbies include going to antique car shows and going to the Bandimere car races. We are truly lucky to have such a committed individual as part of our family at Platte Canyon. Thank you for all that you do, Scott.

## **Maintenance Season** Is On Its Way!

It's maintenance season! Summer months mean you might be seeing more of our company trucks and employees around your neighborhood doing annual maintenance. From March to October, our staff will be working on water valves, hydrant flushing, etc. If you have any questions or concerns on what is happening around your neighborhood, please contact the district office at 303-979-2333.



### Construction **Project Updates**

he 2018 Capital Improvement projects are underway! Construction projects set to take place or are already in development for the 2018 year include:

- **Powderhorn Pipe Replacement**project will be replacing 945 feet of 8-inch ductile iron pipe with 945 feet of 8-inch, PVC pipe that was originally installed in 1985. This is located on S. Pierson St. between W. Bowles Pl. and W. Capri Ave. This project desgin is pending.
- Woodmar Village Located on S. Wadsworth Blvd. and W. Peakview Ave., this project consists of abandoning a 10-inch water main on the west side of S. Wadsworth Blvd. and transferring cross street connections to a parallel 16-inch water main at W. Peak-view Ave. This project design is pending.
- Kipling Villas Subdivision This project will be on W. Parkhill Ave. and S. Garland St. This will consist of replacing 228 feet of 12-inch vitrified clay pipe with 12-inch PVC pipe. This pipeline is a sewer maintenance problem which requires cleaning every three months. Staff identified there is a reverse flow causing the flows to back up several reaches of sewer pipe. Re-laying the entire run at proper grade will eliminate this problem and the need for extensive visits to maintain normal operation of the sewer. The design for this project is pending.

If you would like more information on the 2018 Improvement Projects, you can find the Capital Master Plan on our website: http:// www.swmetrowater.org/page.cfm/ ID/11/District Projects

# Drought or No Drought?

In order to respond to persistent and prolonged drought conditions throughout the southern half of the state and along the western border, the Governor activated the Colorado Drought Mitigation and Response Plan for the agricultural sector on May 2, 2018, in most of the southern counties.

All of these counties are experiencing severe, extreme or exceptional drought as classified by the US Drought Monitor, and many have already received some level of drought designation from USDA. If present trends continue, other regions and sectors of the state's economy may also be affected. Those areas will continue to be monitored closely.

October 2017 through April 2018 was the 5th warmest and the 5th driest on record for the state as a whole. Demand is increasing and reservoir storage in the most heavily impacted areas have seen significant decreases in reservoir storage over the last two months. This combined basin currently has 91 percent of normal storage, the lowest storage levels in the state.

As of May 15, exceptional drought, D4, continues to affect southwest Colorado and has also been introduced in the Sangre de Cristo mountains, covering eight percent of the state. Extreme drought, D3, covers 23 percent of the state; severe drought 20 percent and 14 percent is classified as moderate drought. An additional 14 percent of the state is currently experiencing abnormally dry conditions.

Record wettest

- Above normal
- Near norma
- Below norma bottom 33% Much below normal bottom 10%

Record dries

Reservoir storage statewide is at 111 percent of normal, with all but the southwest basins above average. The Arkansas basin is reporting the highest average storage at 129 percent. Front Range water providers mainly draw water resources from areas of the state that received near normal winter precipitation, and are therefore expecting reservoirs to fill, and are not anticipating any water use restrictions outside normal operations.



