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Taking the Initiative on Infrastructure Upgrades

Did you know that Citrus Heights Water District (CHWD) delivers water to more than 19,550 service connections? Serving all of those homes, businesses and municipal needs, including fire hydrants, requires a great deal of infrastructure. CHWD has built, maintains and repairs more than 271 miles of pipes carrying water underneath the District’s 12-square mile service area.

Although these pipes can last up to 60 years or more, they cannot endure forever, and must eventually be replaced so we can continue delivering high quality drinking water to you, our customers.

In February of 2012, The American Water Works Association (AWWA) published a report revealing the enormous cost that will be required over the next 25 years to keep American drinking water infrastructure updated. This report, titled “Buried No Longer: Confronting America’s Water Infrastructure Challenge,” places a \$1 trillion dollar price tag for the nation to replace aging pipes

between now and 2035. However, this cost does not all have to be incurred at once.

Keeping water systems up to date may seem like a daunting cost to bear now, but putting it off will only create a greater cost down the road. Although the high demand for upgrades may necessitate rate increases in coming years, it will ensure a reliable water system for the future.

At CHWD, we are taking steps to avoid an infrastructure crisis by kicking-off several large-scale capital improvement projects. Our capital improvement plan forecasts an investment of over \$1 million per year over the next ten years in infrastructure projects both large and small.

(Continued on page 2)



A crew member works in a trench to replace a CHWD fire hydrant. CHWD’s 271 miles of underground pipes not only provide water to homes and businesses, but also serve municipal needs such as fire hydrants.



Replacement work anticipated to begin in fall 2012.

INFRASTRUCTURE (continued from page 1)

Led by Project Manager Paul Dietrich, the District is currently planning several improvement projects. One large scale project is the Livoti Avenue main replacement project, which includes Frances Avenue south to Whyte Avenue (please refer to the diagram on page 1). This project cost is budgeted around \$325,000 and is anticipated to begin in fall of 2012.

Three other small residential projects are also expected to be underway in fall of 2012. Portions of Baird Way, Northlea Way and Kalamazoo Drive will get new main replacements.

Additionally, CHWD is working in conjunction with the City of Citrus Heights to replace a main on Antelope Road east from Lauppe Lane, a new transmission main on Old Auburn Road from Sunrise Boulevard to Soquel Way and a main replacement at the intersection of Auburn Boulevard and Watson Way.

The District has budgeted over \$2.6 million in 2012 for infrastructure replacement projects. By making timely investments, the payoff in terms of reliable service is worthwhile.

For more information on current CHWD projects, please visit www.chwd.org/projects. To view the AWWA study, visit www.awwa.org and look for the link to the "Buried No Longer" report. •

Join Us for the 2013 Budget and Rate Workshop this Fall

For more information on proposed budget and service charges for water service in 2013, you're invited to attend a public workshop in September and a public hearing in November. The workshop, which is held during a CHWD Board of Director's meeting, provides ratepayers a chance to ask questions and give comments on the District's programs and financial plans. Both meetings will be held at the District office at 6230 Sylvan Road, Citrus Heights. See you there!

Workshop

Tuesday, September 11, 2012, 6:30 p.m.

Public Hearing

Tuesday, November 13, 2012, 6:30 p.m.

Weekend Project: Create a Colorful and Water-Wise Landscape!

Add some color to your yard with plants that require little water once established. Remember, these plants will need some extra water when first planted so that roots will grow deep. After that, you can save water and keep money in your pocket by watering only when needed.



Fortnight Lily

These plants are easy to care for and produce flowers with a beautiful pattern of yellow, white and purple from spring through fall.

Japanese Barberry

Choose a red variety, such as the crimson pygmy, to get great contrast with your green plants. These compact shrubs can easily be pruned to make great hedges and borders.



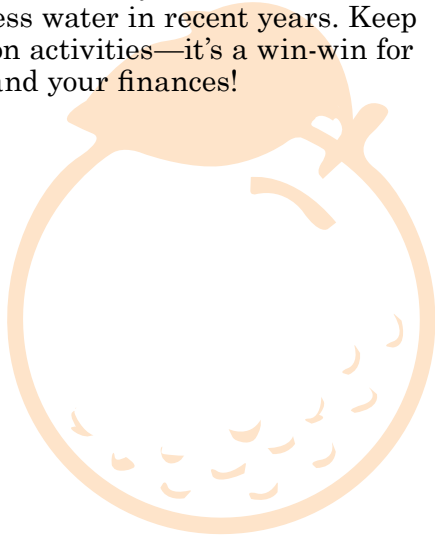
Santa Barbara Daisy

Delicate pink and white flowers add a burst of color to any landscape. Best of all, they bloom almost year-round!

2012 Water Supply Update: Enough to Go Around, but Never Enough to Waste

Although we did not see much rain this winter, water storage and carryover from last year's plentiful supply have left us with an "adequate" amount of water for 2012.

Even though there is enough to go around, annual totals for rain and snowfall are half of what they would be in a normal year. With this in mind, it is important to remain diligent in our water efficiency efforts. Fortunately, CHWD customers have been using less water in recent years. Keep up the conservation activities—it's a win-win for the environment and your finances!



Rex Meurer, CHWD's Water Efficiency Coordinator, conducts a free irrigation efficiency review at a customer's home.

Save Even More Water and Money with a Free Irrigation Efficiency Review

Outdoor overwatering is not only wasteful, but can leave you paying more than you should be on your water bill. How do you know if you are overwatering or that your irrigation system is not as efficient as it could be? Have a trained technician from CHWD evaluate your watering system. Our technician will give you a written report with tips to improve your watering efficiency, including a watering schedule based on your landscape needs.

For your FREE review, call us at (916) 725-6873.

For more water conservation tips visit www.chwd.org/conservation.

David Rossi and David Wright Celebrate Retirement



After a combined 50 years of service, David Rossi and David Wright have retired from CHWD. David Rossi retired in March from his position as Project Manager after 20 years with the District. David Wright, Water Distribution Supervisor, retired in June after 30 years of employment with CHWD. Thank you David Rossi and David Wright for your service and we wish you the best in your retirement!

David Rossi (left) and David Wright (right), recent retirees of CHWD, celebrate the start of the next phase of their lives at a recognition event in June.



Infrastructure Improvement Updates
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ECRWSS

*Postal Customer and Water Consumer in Citrus Heights
Water District*

Conservation Kids Poster Contest Winners Announced!

The youngest generation of water conservationists competed in the 16th annual water conservation poster contest this spring. The theme of this year's competition was "Kids Doing Their Part by Being Water Smart" and students created many original works of art. A total of 638 4th, 5th and 6th graders vied for a chance to win the grand prize of a \$100 award. Second and third place winners earned awards of \$50. The teacher of each winning student also received \$100 for the classroom. Way to go kids and keep up the conservation!

The winners are:

First Place Zach Samuelson, 6th Grade, Woodside Elementary School, Teacher: Susanne Slayton

Runner-Up Faith Matis, 5th Grade, Oakview Community School, Teacher: Kristie Hanson

Runner-Up Ariana Johnson, 5th Grade, Trajan Elementary School, Teacher: Sallee Weston



Congratulations to the 16th annual water conservation poster contest winners (from left to right): Zach Samuelson, Faith Matis, and Ariana Johnson.