

# CHEROKEE CHANNEL

Volume 2 / Edition 2

SPRING 2007

*Your Water Utility Information Source*

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## Cherokee Metropolitan District



6250 Palmer Park Blvd  
Colorado Springs, CO 80915  
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Monday – Friday  
Office: 719-597-5080

AFTER HOURS  
EMERGENCIES:

CALL 597-5080

*Have a suggestion or question?*

### Attend a Board Meeting

5:30 p.m. at the above address on:

**March 13, 2007**

**April 10, 2007**

**May 8, 2007**

**June 12, 2007**

## Cherokee Ridge Golf Course



1850 Tuskegee Place  
Colorado Springs, CO 80915  
Pro Shop – 719-597-2637  
Starter – 719-597-2643  
Maintenance – 719-597-8386

Call for a tee time!

Or check out:

[www.golfexperience.com/cherokeeridge/](http://www.golfexperience.com/cherokeeridge/)

### NEED TO DIG?

CALL UNCC TOLL FREE @  
1-800-922-1987 TO HAVE  
UTILITY LINES LOCATED  
AT YOUR HOME  
OR BUSINESS.  
IT'S SAFE! IT'S THE LAW!

## Website accessible soon!

Soon you'll have access to Cherokee like never before. Visit [www.cherokeemetro.org](http://www.cherokeemetro.org) to learn more about the Board, our services and links to other helpful resources. We will be developing online payment options available within the next two years.

## Preventive maintenance keeps sewer lines clean

Sewer backups are a nightmare no one should have to experience. Unfortunately they do happen from time to time. Routine maintenance helps keep lines clean and efficiently working.

Mark Cuchiara, Construction Foreman, supervises all sewer line maintenance. His team uses our Jet-Vac equipment to regularly remove debris and clear blockages. These efforts help prevent damaging backups in businesses and homes. "While we maintain a schedule to clean main lines frequently, problems can occur between cleanings," said Mark.

"Customers should look for the warning signs of potential sewer backups," Mark noted. Signs include slow drainage in sinks, toilets and showers or black debris (grit/sand) around basement floor drains. If you notice any of these signs, day or night, please call 597-5080 immediately. Quick action can prevent backups before they occur. For no charge, our crew will check and if necessary, clear the main line that services your area. However, if the mainline is free-flowing, there may be a problem with your property's service line. Cherokee is not responsible for the repair of these service lines.

## GOLF COURSE WELLS

Four wells, known as the Sand Creek wells, will be relocated from our current wastewater treatment plant to the golf course grounds. The non-potable water taken from these wells will be used to help irrigate the golf course. General use water savings from the project are estimated to be 150 – 180 acre feet per year.

## SUPREME COURT RULING

In early December 2006, the Colorado State Supreme Court upheld Judge Maes' ruling on the use of our northern wells. Both the Board and staff anticipated this outcome. This decision was a major factor in determining this year's water restriction schedule.

**FAST FACT:** An acre foot of water is the volume of water necessary to cover one acre of surface area to a depth of one foot or 325,853 gallons. One household uses on average .42 acre feet or 136,858 gallons per year.

## SPECIAL EDITION CLARIFICATIONS

We have received numerous calls about our last newsletter and would like to address several questions and concerns.

- The \$8.21 monthly Water Service Charge was omitted from the 2007 Budget and Rates section. To calculate your bill, include this amount to determine your total water charge for the month.
- Car washing does not have assigned days, it may be done on any day at any time using a hose equipped with a positive shut-off nozzle.
- Lawn watering during the Winter Stage may be completely restricted depending on water availability.

## RESTRICTION STATUS

STAGE	MONTHS	RESTRICTIONS	ODD ADDRESS WATERING DAY(S)	EVEN ADDRESS WATERING DAY(S)	TIME ALLOWED	WATERING TIMES
WINTER <i>(In effect)</i>	November - March	Once per month	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month	Not to exceed 2 hours per watering day	10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Above 40°F
		Car washing permitted				
STAGE 2 <i>(Effective April 1, 2007)</i>	April - October	2 times per week	Tuesday Saturday	Wednesday Sunday	Not to exceed 2 hours per watering day	Before 9 a.m. After 6 p.m.
		Car washing permitted				

### PENALTY FEES 2007 RESTRICTIONS

Penalty fees will remain the same as last year and are as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup> Violation	Warning
2 <sup>nd</sup> Violation	\$50.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Violation	\$100.00
4 <sup>th</sup> Violation	\$350.00
5 <sup>th</sup> Violation	\$600.00

Subsequent violations will increase \$250.00 for each violation.

### TURF TIP by Griff Rainford Cherokee Ridge Superintendent

I hope everybody enjoyed our snowy winter. Hopefully it will result in a good green up this spring for all your lawns. Don't forget March is our snowiest month.

As we come out of the cold weather the snow should melt more quickly and provide much needed moisture to the turf. Some things to think about as the weather starts to warm up are clean up, aerification and fertilizers.

Raking and aerifying your lawn will help to remove the thatch layer in your turf. The thatch layer can be a nesting ground for insects and turf diseases. By reducing this layer you also make it easier for water and fertilizer to reach the root zone.

As a rule Bluegrass starts growing vigorously when soil temperatures reach 50 degrees. As your lawn comes out of dormancy it will start to green up, usually around late March to mid April your lawn will be looking for nutrients. This is a good time to aerify and fertilize your lawn.

Things really get going in the middle of May after the last frost. Remember to wait to plant flowers until after Mother's Day or if you can't wait have some protection available (old bed sheets work well) if we get a late frost.

### SPECIAL FEATURE: SPRING YARD TIPS

Proper springtime preparation can keep your yard healthy and attractive during the summer months, even with water restrictions. Below are some tips brought to you by the CSU Cooperative Extension. Visit their website [www.ext.colostate.edu](http://www.ext.colostate.edu) for more information.

#### Lawn Care\*

- **Fertilizing:** March to June fertilization is recommended. Be sure to use a mixture of quick- and slow-release nitrogen.
- **Aerating:** This is a highly recommended springtime practice. It is important to water thoroughly the day before aeration to prevent stress. Avoid aerating when hot and dry conditions exist.
- **Mowing:** Keep your mowing height at 3 inches and never remove more than 3/4 inch of grass in any mowing. Do not remove grass clippings. Allowing them to be recycled supplies additional nutrients to the root system.
- **Watering:** Apply smaller amounts of water to allow for maximum absorption. Use the diagram below on each of your watering days to reduce your lawns dependence on water. This schedule will help the root system search for available water deeper in the soil.

#### Trees\*

- Prioritize watering trees since they take years to replace.
- Allow water to soak into the soil slowly to a depth of 12 inches.
- Ten gallons of water for every inch diameter of the tree should be applied.

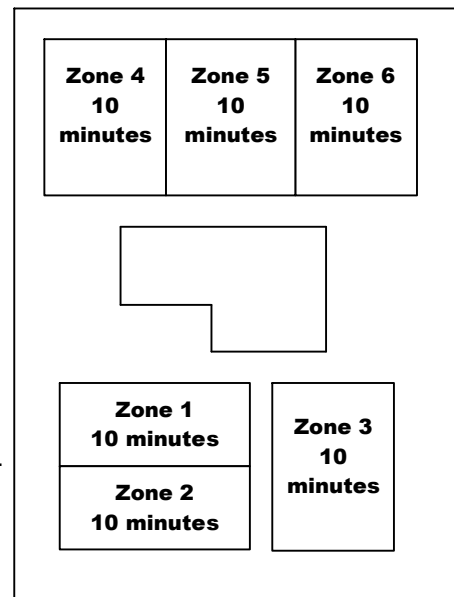
#### Flower Gardens\*

- Select plants and flowers based on their water and sunlight needs.
- Add organic matter or compost 1 to 2 inches deep and till to a depth of 12 inches.
- Add mulch between plants to reduce evaporation and control weed growth.

#### Vegetable Gardens\*

- Amend the soil by adding organic matter before planting.
- Consider installing a drip or soaker system to efficiently deliver water.
- Add mulch to minimize evaporation and regularly check soil moisture to avoid over-application.

Example: Lawn watering schedule



\*Source: CSU Cooperative Extension: Home Landscape Watering During Drought no. 7.240  
by J. Klett

