THE Pipeline

YOUR CURRENT WATER INFO SOURCE

ACWWA

ACWWA

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Free River

The unusually rainy conditions that have persisted since the beginning of May have been a welcomed sight for the Front Range, which has experienced drier than normal conditions for 4 out of the last 5 years. A weather station located at Cherry Creek State Park has registered 14" of precipitation since May 10th, which is just short of the average amount of precipitation typically received across an entire year. This substantial amount of rainfall over a prolonged period of time, coupled with the runoff of a slightly above average snowpack, resulted in higher-than-average flows in the South Platte River beginning in early May and looking to extend into July. The consistent precipitation and lower temperatures also mean that there are lower demands due to customers not needing to irrigate. The high flows in the South Platte River and widespread, low demands of South Platte River water users resulted in what is called "free river". Free river means that there is enough water in the river to satisfy all water users. In this period of free river, ACWWA has been able to divert almost 3,000 acre-feet of river that it can store and use at a later time. That's almost a year's worth of potable supply for ACWWA's Main Service Area! ACWWA is getting close to filling all of its storage reservoirs and is hopeful for continued cool, wet weather throughout the rest of the summer.

RAIN SENSORS

We all can remember just a few short weeks ago…the rain, more rain, and yet more rain. But, as the hot summer months set in, it's important to realize an inefficient irrigation system can be the source of substantial water waste. Rain sensors are economical, efficient, and easy to install. These straightforward devices are based on a simple objective: operating an irrigation system only when necessary. Rain sensors conserve water and can save hundreds of thousands of gallons of water each year.

When installed correctly, a rain sensor will benefit you by automatically shutting off your automated sprinkler system when extensive or heavy rainfall is occurring. When the sensor dries, the sprinkler controller resumes regular operation.

A rain sensor:
- Conserves water;
- Saves money – less watering means less water you pay for on your utility bill;
- Reduces wear on your existing irrigation system;
- Helps to protect rivers and other bodies of water by reducing runoff, that can carry pollutants, such as oils and fertilizers, into storm drains and groundwater.

ACWWA will rebate residential water account customers up to 50% of the purchase price (maximum $50) on the cost of a rain sensor (installation costs are not covered). Go to: acwwa.com/Water Efficiency/Rebate Program/Rain Sensors (PDF).

IRRIGATION SEASON

If you think you may have a malfunctioning irrigation system, walk your property. If you see pooling water or exceptionally soft ground, you have a leak. If certain areas of your grass are greener, it could indicate a leak. Check all irrigation heads and drip sprinklers to ensure there are no leaks.

If you find you have a leak, **call a plumber or a landscaper** and have it fixed. Once the leak has been repaired, you may qualify for an adjustment to your ACWWA water bill. See qualifications below:

- You must receive a water bill from ACWWA to qualify for a leak adjustment.
    - Any possible credits will be applied directly to your ACWWA water account.
- ACWWA will compare the property's consumption during the leak to the three-year consumption average within the same portion of the calendar year.
- Requests must be submitted within 12 months of repair.
- Requests must be submitted using the Credit Request for Uncontrollable Water Usage form found on our webpage at www.acwwa.com/customer resources/printable forms.
- Proof of repair (either a receipt for services and/or parts) is required.
- You may submit the Credit Request form along with receipts to ACWWA or email them to billpay@acwwa.com.