

Grizzly Flats CSD Newsletter July 2015



CONSERVATION NUMBERS

Thank you to all of you for your conservation efforts! We know it's not always easy to conserve water, but being mindful of water waste will help us reach our conservation goals this summer!

DAILY AVERAGE WATER PRODUCTION (gallons per day)

	2013	2015	Monthly Conservation %
May	103,703	79,897	23%
June*	133,397	90,776	32%

**not the final numbers for June, but the average daily usage as of June 28, 2015*

Our community has always responded to calls for conservation and we have seen dramatic reductions in customer demand when we needed it most.

OUTDOOR WATERING (CORRECTED SCHEDULE)

GFCSO potable water may only be used for outdoor watering **TWO (2) days** per week. This includes but isn't limited to watering lawns, landscapes, gardens, and fruit trees. This also includes drip systems and timed watering devices. Please be sure to adjust these devices if you have them installed. If you need to supplement your watering days, using buckets or other containers to capture unused water is a great idea! Think of all that water flowing down the drain while you wait for hot water in the shower or at your kitchen sink. Capture it and use it to water those outside areas that need it the most!

Homes with addresses ending in an **EVEN** number (0, 2, 4, 6, and 8) shall limit outdoor irrigation to **Wednesdays and Saturdays**.

Homes with addresses ending in an **ODD** number (1, 3, 5, 7 and 9) shall limit outdoor watering to **Thursdays* and Sundays**.

**Some of you may have noticed an error in the newsletter mailed out with your June bills. Customers whose addresses end in an odd number should be watering on Thursdays, not Tuesdays. We apologize for the error! If you need further clarification, feel free to contact our office.*

UPDATE ON THE WATER SUPPLY

As of today (June 29, 2015), our reservoir is full and spilling. With your conservation efforts, we continue to be able to meet our water demand with the flows in Eagle Ditch. Since we are still early in the season, we are asking you to continue your conservation efforts! Our water system is most vulnerable in late summer and early fall.

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has issued curtailment notices, but they haven't included our diversions yet (though that may change as we get further into summer). Those notices can be found here:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/watew_issues/programs/drought/water_availability.shtsh

A curtailment notice for us would mean being totally reliant on the water storage in our reservoir, which is only about 3 months' worth. It is an issue that we are following very carefully.



2015/2016 BUDGET

Our Budget process is underway. Our Budget & Finance Committee, along with District staff, put together a budget for this coming fiscal year. The Board of Directors will be asked to approve the budget at our next board meeting scheduled for July 10, 2015. Copies of the proposed budget may be picked up at our office during normal business hours (Monday – Friday, 9am – 2pm).

IT'S A GFCSO ELECTION YEAR!

Our District has odd year elections, so you will be seeing postings from us at the Grizzly Flats Post Office and on our website for our election coming up in November. Our Board of Directors serve as volunteers and are not compensated for attending meetings. Candidates must have their primary residence within our District boundaries and be available to attend board meetings and committee meetings as necessary. If you are interested in serving as a Board member, contact our office for more information.

CONSTRUCTION HAS BEGUN!

BACKWASH TANK REPLACEMENT

Our backwash tank replacement project started last week! We expect construction to take about 90 days. The new 50,000 gallon tank will replace two older tanks that are currently being used. The current tanks are 40-50 years old and have extensive corrosion damage.

How does this affect you? Our Treatment plants are cleaned with a process called a “backwash”. Your water flows through a filter. That filter catches the impurities in the water and makes it safe for you to drink. That filter must be cleaned every 10 – 30 hours, depending on the amount of water that is produced. Water is pumped backwards through the filter to clean it. That “backwash” water is then emptied into the backwash tanks. The new tank will give us the ability to recycle some of this water and use our backwash system more effectively. **We do need to keep water production low so we don't overwhelm the backwash system while it's under construction. So while you**

are conserving water for the state, you are also helping us get this project completed!

CATHODIC PROTECTION SYSTEMS

We are installing these systems in three of our steel potable water storage tanks (Clearwell, Winding Way and Forest View tanks).

Steel naturally reacts with water and oxygen, releasing energy and returning to its more stable chemical state, iron oxide. When this oxidation/reduction reaction occurs to steel we call it corrosion. Cathodic protection provides electrical current and stops the corrosion cycle. Installing these systems on our tanks will extend the life of our tanks and keep them in better condition.

How are we paying for this? GFCSO obtained a grant from the Department of Water Resources through its Prop 84 Drought 2014 Grant Solicitation. The grant will allow us to replace our backwash tank, install the Cathodic Protection Systems, replace 300 meters, install air release valves in Eagle Ditch and initiate a Leak Detection Program in our underground distribution system.

The total project cost is \$507,911. We are receiving \$492,051 in grant funds (97%) and will contribute \$15,860 in matching funds (3%) made up of mostly in-kind labor. We were able to use our status as a disadvantaged community to reduce the amount we had to match for this grant.

OFFICE SERVICES

Just as a reminder to our customers, the GFCSO Office does offer some limited office services if you need them:

- **Copies** - 15¢ per page
- **Fax** (incoming & outgoing) - \$1.00 for the first page and 15¢ all pages thereafter.
- **Notary Services** - \$10 per signature. Our General Manager is a Notary, but due to her job duties, she is not always in the office. If you are in need of a Notary, please call first to make sure she is in!

