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Mount Werner Water District, City of Steamboat Springs Embrace Conservation

Community to Receive Water-Saving Tips

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, Colo. (July 6, 2006) – In partnership with the City of Steamboat Springs, the Mount Werner Water & Sanitation District has launched a campaign encouraging the community to conserve water. The City and District expect the campaign to help the community save money in current service charges and future infrastructure expenses.

The campaign will include a leafleting element with a focus on raising awareness among homeowners who irrigate their lawns and gardens. The leaflets will list facts about water use, with tips for people who want to help reduce the community's use of water.

For example, up to 60 percent of household water is used for outdoor purposes such as irrigation; and homeowners should set their sprinkler systems to operate after 8 p.m. and prior to 6 a.m.

“Water usage nearly triples during the summer months primarily because of irrigation,” said Jay Gallagher, District manager. “The demand for water spikes during the hottest seven-to-10 days of the summer, and this demand strains the community's water treatment capacity.”

Virtually all residents of Steamboat Springs use water treated at the Fish Creek Filtration Plant, which is co-owned by the City and the District.

"We encourage the residents, property managers, and business owners of Steamboat Springs to consider the real benefits of water conservation," said Ken Brenner,

president of the Steamboat Springs City Council. "Wise use of our water resources will ensure a sustainable future for our community."

Effective conservation is a key component in managing the community's treatment capacity and capital resources. The City and District asks water users to check their domestic systems for leaks and incorporate water-efficient appliances.

Other leaflet tips include the following:

- Avoid watering on windy days.
- Water only when your lawn is thirsty.
- Water in several short sessions, spaced 30 minutes apart.
- Clean sidewalks with a broom instead of a hose.

Gallagher has begun addressing community groups on the importance of water conservation, providing tips on ways that everyone can participate. He welcomes the opportunity to speak about water conservation, and he invites community groups to call him at 970-879-2424 to schedule a meeting or ask questions. The Steamboat Springs Water Division encourages people to call 970-879-2060 to provide input on the topic of water conservation or to collect additional water-saving tips. Also, people can visit www.mwwater.com/conservation.html for a complete list of tips.

About Mount Werner Water & Sanitation District

The Mount Werner Water & Sanitation District treats and distributes water for the mountain resort area of Steamboat Springs and, under agreement with the City of Steamboat Springs, provides water to the City Water District for distribution to its customers. Under agreement with the City, the District also provides the infrastructure for the collection of wastewater from the resort area which is routed to the City's interceptor line that leads to the City's wastewater treatment plant west of Steamboat Springs. The Mount Werner Water District, formed in 1965, is a Special District pursuant to State Statute and is a political subdivision of the State of Colorado. An elected five-member board of directors governs the District.