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For more information visit website:
www.utsd.org

Board meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month at 2:00 pm. Visitors are always welcome. Agendas are posted in advance at the UTSD Administration Building, 2196 Mall Road, Estes Park.

The Upper Thompson Sanitation District is a governmental enterprise corporation funded primarily through user rates and plant investment fees (PIFs imposed on new customers who connect to our collection system). The District does not impose a mil levy. Effective January 1, 2010, the District's residential and commercial non-metered user rate will be adjusted to \$324 per year per Single Family Equivalent (SFE). The District's metered commercial user rate will remain at \$6.25 per 1,000 gallons. The plant investment fee (PIF) will increase to \$8,700.00 per SFE.

Why is the Rate Increase Necessary?

In 2010, the District will need to increase revenue to ensure its continued high level of wastewater treatment and implementation of its 10-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The CIP was developed in close association and after detailed review of the District by the engineering firm of Richard P. Arber Associates. Capital improvement projects that the District's rates will fund in 2010, include:

- Continued replacement and rehabilitation of aging infrastructure, such as the recent collection system pipeline slip lining projects that allow the District to rehabilitate and reuse existing sewer collection system pipes rather than replace them. The District currently maintains over 90-miles of collection system piping.
- Installation of a septage/vault waste receiving station piping connection to allow the District's plant to continue to be a discharge location for locally generated high strength septage/vault waste.
- Paving of the roadway along the north side of the wastewater treatment facility for ease of staff, delivery, and waste hauler access.
- Implementation of electrical improvements to bring the existing electrical system up to date with current code requirements and eliminate the potential for electrical and equipment failures. Electrical improvements include replacement of the existing transformer, motor control centers, switchgear, and control panels in a new building. This equipment was originally installed in 1976.
- Implementation of control improvements to provide equipment automation, energy conservation, and increased operator control.
- Purchase of a jet truck for cleaning sewer lines.
- Development of a hydraulic model of the collection system to assist with identification of future improvements.
- Maintain cash reserves to cover unforeseen costs, upcoming regulatory requirements and other emergencies.



Generator Installation

What Was Completed in 2009?

- Replacement of the emergency generator at the wastewater treatment facility and the Fish Creek Lift Station.
- Replacement of the aging influent screens at the two influent pump stations.
- Replacement of the original clarifier and equalization basin mechanisms originally installed in 1976.
- Repair and replacement of aging concrete structures and basins originally installed in 1976.
- Purchase of a television truck for use with evaluation of existing sewer lines.



Influent Screen

Future Rates

The costs for collection and treatment of wastewater are rising as a result of tightening regulations, and increasing power, fuel, and equipment replacement costs. Each year, the District will re-evaluate the rate study prepared by Arber Associates. We will continue to review our rates annually and adjust them accordingly to meet the costs, while also ensuring our rates are fair and as low as efficient wastewater treatment service will allow.

Administration

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Board of Directors

Roy Marvin - *Chairman*
 Ron Kuhns - *Treasurer*
 Chris Eshelman
 Larry Pettyjohn
 Mike Kearney

Wapiti Meadows



Wapiti Meadows Wetlands

The Wapiti Meadows is located immediately north of the District's wastewater treatment facility. The Meadows is a seasonal wetland during periods of snow melt and runoff. The District began discharging treated wastewater effluent to augment the Meadows seasonal water supply in the late 1990s. The District continued discharge of wastewater effluent to the Wapiti Meadows Wetland under a five year temporary permit issued in 2004 by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The CDPHE granted a second five year temporary permit in June 2009. The District will continue to evaluate the water quality during the next five years and determine what if any site improvements such as fencing, may be necessary to allow the Wapiti Meadows Wetlands to remain as a permanent wetland. Alternatively, the District would be required to eliminate discharge to the Wapiti Meadows Wetland, thus allowing the wetland to return to a meadow / seasonal wetland.

The District has operated with no violations of the discharge permit in 2009.

Grease Interceptors

Grease interceptors are necessary for the proper handling of liquid wastes containing greases, oil, or solids, or any flammable wastes, sand or other ingredient which may be harmful to, cause obstruction of, or interfere with the operation of the wastewater collection system and/or wastewater treatment facility. All newly constructed or existing food service establishments shall install an approved external grease interceptor.

Effective January 1, 2010, food service establishments not equipped with an approved external interceptor will have a non-compliance surcharge added to their user fees. This fee will be tiered over a three-year period. Year one will incur an annual 50% user rate surcharge. Year two will incur an annual 75% surcharge. Year three and beyond will incur an annual 100% user rate surcharge. The surcharge will be calculated by multiplying the customer's annual user rate by the appropriate % and adding that amount to the customer's annual sewer bill.

Through December 31, 2009, the District will participate in the costs associated with purchase of a grease interceptor. The District will reimburse the customer for the purchase price of the approved grease interceptor. All other costs associated with the installation and maintenance will be the sole responsibility of the customer. The District's participation is limited to pre-existing food service establishments. All food service establishments compliant or non-compliant shall be responsible for the maintenance of their sewer service line and any problems that may relate to that line.

An open house for the public has been scheduled for Saturday, December 5, 2009 between 1:00 PM and 3:00 PM at the Administration Building. District staff will provide guided tours of the facility and be available to answer questions regarding the treatment process and operations.



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