

# ENVIRONMENTAL UTILITIES CITY OF ROSEVILLE Today

FEBRUARY 2005

WATER • WASTEWATER • RECYCLED WATER • STORMWATER • SOLID WASTE

## Grants Help Fund Vital Roseville Programs



*Standing are: Congressman John Doolittle and EU Director Derrick Whitehead. Seated are: Army Corps of Engineers Colonel Ronald Light, El Dorado Irrigation District President George Wheeldon, RWA Executive Director Ed Winkler, San Juan Water District Director Ken Miller, and Mayor Pro Tem Rocky Rockholm.*

Many thanks to Congressman John Doolittle and his staff!



*Roseville's six-million gallon tank, one of several reservoirs which stores fresh drinking water.*



*The Diamond Creek Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well.*

Through federal and state grants, Roseville has been able to accomplish several important measures in the past few years and is able to plan for the future. Congressman John Doolittle and his staff have provided invaluable help and support in Roseville's quest to secure federal funding, which recently resulted in a grant to help fund the water meter retrofit program. The \$1.54 million grant is the result of the Water Resource Development Act of 1999, which also provided \$800,000 to evaluate options for a redundant municipal and industrial water supply intake on Folsom Lake. Congressman Doolittle was thanked for his efforts on Roseville's behalf at a grant signing celebration held this past fall with officials from local, state, and federal water-related agencies.

Grants resulting from the Water Resource Development Act are among several the city has been awarded in the recent past to help strengthen its water and environmental programs. Congressman Doolittle also helped Roseville obtain a grant to rehabilitate a six-million gallon water storage tank. In addition, the city received \$2.8 million from State Water Bonds, with \$700,000 used to build the Diamond Creek Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well and \$2.1 million used to fund the Antelope North Pipeline connecting Roseville with the Cross Basin Pipeline as a redundant water source and to enhance conjunctive use capabilities. Additional grants include one the city has applied for and received annually to help fund its water conservation efforts. The city is continuing to pursue grants from federal and state sources to augment its programs.

### Education Center Pairs Energy and Environment

When the ROSEVILLE UTILITY RESOURCE EDUCATION CENTER opens in early 2007, students and adults will gain an innovative community facility dedicated to teaching about how we effect our environment and ways we can make less impact. The center's design team includes museum-planning firm LORD Cultural Resources Planning & Management Inc., an international firm with a client list that includes many of the world's leading museums and galleries. LORD's track record of bringing people and information together in meaningful ways helps ensure the center will achieve its aims and provide a lasting community asset.

The center is part of the Mahany Library, and is a joint effort of Roseville's Environmental Utilities, Roseville Electric, and the city's Parks, Recreation, and Libraries departments. In addition to indoor and outdoor exhibits, the complex will offer meeting areas and rooms for educational programs. Additional funding will be raised through corporate and individual sponsorships.

To find out about becoming a sponsor, contact Kathryn Kitchell at 774-5770 or e-mail [kkitchell@roseville.ca.us](mailto:kkitchell@roseville.ca.us).

## Green Waste Pilot Program Set for Expansion

Green waste—grass clippings, prunings, leaves and weeds—make up about 40 percent of all residential waste Roseville sends to the Materials Recovery Facility. While it is biodegradable, green waste contributes to filling up the landfill more rapidly. To help reduce our landfill waste, Roseville piloted a green waste program last year to 7,000 homes. The test program showed that each home generated an average of almost 670 pounds of green waste for a total of 2,340 tons collected and diverted from the landfill.



The program's success and enthusiastic customer response has led the Solid Waste Utility to expand the program to more neighborhoods, covering an additional 10,000 homes in 2005. Residents chosen to participate will receive information about the program and will be issued a green 90-gallon waste container, free of charge. The containers will be emptied every other week, with standard trash pickup continuing on a weekly basis. If the second pilot program proves equally successful, the division eventually plans to expand the program to all Roseville homes. **For more information on the green waste pilot program, call 774-5780.**

## Free Composting Bins Offered

**Good News:** The Solid Waste Utility has found a novel way to recycle its retired trash cans by turning them into compost bins.

**Better News:** The composting bins are free to Roseville residents who want to compost their grass clippings and leaves.

**Best News:** We'll deliver your free compost bin at no charge. Just call us at 774-5780.

If there are no bins available, we'll put your name on a waiting list and get one to you as we continue to convert retired trash cans.



### What do I do when my trash can needs repair ?

If your trash can is cracked and leaking, has a lost or broken wheel, or is otherwise damaged so that it does not function properly, call us at 774-5780. We'll either repair or replace the trash can for you at no charge.

## Congratulations to our HEROES!



**Charles Aycock,**  
Electronics Maintenance

Every month, the Customer Service Recognition Committee honors members of our team who have been nominated by their peers, fellow city employees or customers to receive the Honoring Excellence and Rewarding Outstanding Employees (HERO) award.

In October, **Charles Aycock**, an electronic maintenance coordinator who has been with the city for 10 years, was nominated by fellow employee Vince Neill, an operator at the Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant, for Charles' assistance during a plant power outage. On October 22, 2004 a Mylar balloon became entangled in the power lines, causing a complete loss of power to the wastewater treatment plant. Although Charles was not on call, Vince reached him at a Sacramento Kings' game Charles was attending with his son. Charles stayed on the telephone and talked Vince through the steps necessary to bring power to the plant. Later that night, Charles came out to the plant to help bring it back on line—with no operating violations.

November's HEROES award goes to **Adam Roberts**, who has been working with the Solid Waste Utility since last January as a refuse maintenance worker. Adam's great attitude and his willingness to go the extra mile to help his fellow employees have earned him nominations every month since the HEROES program began. He is always the first to respond when another driver or the office staff needs help with something. Adam has been described as courteous, conscientious, helpful, positive and responsible. It doesn't matter if it's a trash can that was missed on the pickup rounds or a hydraulic leak on a truck, Adam is there as quick as he can be and eager to help.

Charles and Adam have been recognized for their outstanding customer service and will have their names engraved on our HEROES plaque, which is on display at the Corp Yard.



**Adam Roberts,**  
Solid Waste Utility

✓ If there's an Environmental Utilities Department employee who has provided you with outstanding service, we'd love to hear about it. Please call us at 774-5770 to nominate the employee for recognition as our department's monthly HERO.

## Wishing You Were in Hot Water?

Some Roseville residents experience long delays waiting for water to warm up at the faucet. Distance from the hot water heater and pipes that run through chilly attics send cold water already in the pipes through the faucet and down the drain at the rate of about 9,000 gallons per household each year. Though you can collect that water and use it to water house and garden plants or use the cold water to brush your teeth, an average household still wastes thousands of gallons of water each year waiting for hot water.

Three solutions on the market can help ease or eliminate the problem—

**Demand or tankless hot water heaters** use a heating device to deliver instant hot water. They can be powered by propane, gas or electricity and are available in different sizes, depending on whether they are used to replace a standard water heater or just to boost hot water to a remote sink or appliance. Because energy is not used to keep water hot in a storage tank, on-demand systems generally take less energy to operate than conventional water heaters.

**Hot-water recirculating systems** use a pump to keep hot water moving through the pipes at all times so it's there when you turn on the faucet. Though a recirculating system does save a tremendous amount of water, be aware that it can use as much power as a full-size refrigerator to operate.

**Hot-water recirculating pumps** are activated by the person at each use. The pump sends water in the pipes back to the water heater to reheat, instead of letting it run down the drain. Since it's only activated when someone is ready to use hot water, it is more energy efficient than a full-time system.

Some home builders offer new water-heating solutions as options, so be sure to ask if you are buying a new home. For existing homeowners, be aware that each solution requires some plumbing and electrical work. The city has not researched the various systems and offers no suggestions on which system to consider. The best way to learn about the different technologies available is to research the options and talk to your plumber.



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Comments and suggestions are welcome—please send to the attention of Kathryn Kitchell.

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